

The Institute for Justice's Legal Intensive

The Premier One-Day Public Interest Law Program

Austin, TX

March 23rd

Friday, March 22nd

6:00 – 7:30 PM

Welcome Reception and Opening Remarks

816 Congress Ave Austin, TX 78701

Students are invited to join us for a casual cocktail reception to meet fellow attendees and our IJ speakers and clients. Managing Attorney Arif Panju will give opening remarks.

Saturday, March 23rd

8:30 – 9:00 AM

Arrival and Breakfast

816 Congress Ave Austin, TX 78701

9:00 – 9:50 AM

Liberty's Workshops: States as Laboratories of Change

To kick off the day, Arif will delve into the wide-spread impact of IJ's litigation, legislative, and activism efforts across Texas – a microcosm illustrating how concentrated efforts in a localized area can lead to monumental change. Join us to uncover the stories, the victories, and the ongoing fight for justice and liberty.

9:50 – 10:00 AM

Break

10:00 – 11:20 AM

IJ's Principles and Pillars

In this session, Arif and IJ Attorney Christie Hebert will walk you through IJ's primary areas of litigation and how our public interest strategy has changed the law in important areas like property rights, free speech, economic liberty, educational choice, and immunity and accountability.

11:20 – 11:30 AM

Break

11:30 – 12:20 PM

Making Your Case in the Court of Public Opinion

IJ's Director of Media Relations, Andrew Wimer, will delve into the dynamic intersection of law, communication, and the media. In this session, we will explore the strategic communication and media tactics essential for effectively educating the public about legal cases and litigating in the court of public opinion.

12:20– 1:10 PM

Lunch

Do you have any burning questions about IJ or constitutional legal issues? Ask away! Our team is here to share their war stories and insights as we sit for a casual lunch together.

1:10– 2:10 PM

Public Interest Law: Advancing a Legal Strategy in the Real World

Now that you have the foundation down, Arif, Christie, and IJ Senior Attorney Jeff Rowes will teach you what it takes to change the law on the state and federal level – from putting together your first case to strategically developing a string of cases to create a circuit split and hopefully convincing the Supreme Court to accept review. We'll delve into case and client identification, pioneering legal doctrines, and how to create tangible change for everyday Americans' freedoms, irrespective of court outcomes.

2:10 – 2:30 PM

Break

2:30 – 3:10 PM

Your Turn: Crafting an IJ Case in Real Time

In this session, you will take what you learned and apply it to a mock potential case. Christie will lead an IJ “litigation discussion” just like the ones IJ attorneys have each month to vet potential cases. One week prior to the event we will provide you with a mock case memo to review which will lay out the facts of the case. We will then vet the case together as a group.

3:10 – 3:15 PM

Break

3:15 – 4:20 PM

Practitioner Break Out Sessions:

Your Turn: Crafting a Discovery Strategy

In this session, you will work with Christie and Jeff to develop a discovery strategy for the case we discussed in the earlier session.

Your Turn: Crafting a Media Strategy

In this session, you will work with Andrew to craft a media strategy for the case we discussed in the earlier session.

4:20 – 4:30 PM

Break

4:30 – 5:30 PM

Client Panel

To wrap up the day, we’ll hear directly from IJ clients.