Institute for Justice's Law Student Conference Saturday, June 8th – Sunday, June 9th

*Friday, June 7th: IJ Headquarters, 901 North Glebe Road Suite 900 Arlington, VA 22203

*Optional depending on travel plans

3:00 – 4:30 PM Attendee Arrival & Hotel Check-In

5:00 – 7:00 PM Welcome Reception & Opening Remarks

Saturday, June 8th: Headquarters, 901 North Glebe Road Suite 900 Arlington, VA 22203

8:15 – 8:45 AM Continental Breakfast

8:45 – 8:55 AM Student & Speaker Introductions

8:55 – 9:30 AM History of Public Interest Law & IJ's Contribution

To kick off the day, we'll trace the history and evolution of public interest litigation, including IJ's contributions and how young lawyers have made a big impact in that work.

9:30 – 10:35 AM IJ's Principles and Pillars: Property Rights

Why can't the government just take all your stuff? We'll discuss IJ's work explaining the answer to this question (a question that still baffles many government officials) in the context of eminent domain, civil forfeiture, zoning, the Fourth Amendment, and beyond.

10:35 - 10:45 AM Break

10:45 – 11:35 AM IJ's Principles and Pillars: Free Speech

The Free Speech Clause of the First Amendment is one of the most litigated provisions in the Constitution, and there are way more potential First Amendment cases than any one group could ever possibly litigate. How does IJ decide which cases are worth our time and energy? We focus on valuable categories of speech that have the greatest potential to educate, inform, and persuade. We'll discuss our current casework, highlighting how our cutting-edge legal theories are promoting free speech across the country.

11:35 – 11:45 AM Break

11:45 – 12:30 PM Balancing Public Use and Private Property Rights: Government Takings and Police Power

Under the federal and individual state constitutions, the government may "take" private property for a public use, but only if it pays the property owner "just compensation." Many people are familiar with this concept in the context of eminent domain, where the government decides to condemn property to build a road, school, or park. But the principle applies equally when the government "takes" property by using its so-called "police power" to intentionally destroy or commandeer it for government use. The costs of policing—which benefits the public as a whole—should be borne by the public as a whole, not unlucky innocent property owners. In this session, we'll discuss the right to compensation for intentional destruction of property.

12:30 – 1:35 PM Lunch & Group Photo

1:35 – 2:30 PM Public Interest Law: Advancing a Legal Strategy in the Real World

Now that you have the foundation down, we'll teach you what it takes to change the law—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. You'll learn how to find cases and clients, advance cutting-edge legal doctrines, and how—whether or not we win in court—we can achieve real-world results that help everyday Americans enjoy more freedom.

2:30 - 2:35 PM Break

2:35 – 3:15 PM Your Turn: Crafting a Case in Real Time

In this session, you'll take what you learned and apply it to a potential IJ case. An IJ attorney, will lead a "litigation case discussion" just like the ones IJ attorneys have each month to vet potential cases. One week prior to the event, our team will send all attendees a mock litigation memo to review in order to prepare for this session.

3:15 – 3:25 PM Break

3:25 – 4:15 PM IJ Question & Answer

Scott Bullock, President and Chief Counsel Dana Berliner, Senior Vice President and Litigation Director Moderated by Kat Wrench, Litigation Outreach Manager

4:15 – 6:30 PM Break until Dinner

6:30 – 9:30 PM Dinner at Officina: 1120 Maine Ave SW, Washington, DC 20024

Sunday, June 9th: Headquarters, 901 North Glebe Road Suite 900 Arlington, VA 22203

8:15 – 8:45 AM Continental Breakfast

8:45 – 9:45 AM Short Circuit Live Recording

9:45 – 10:35 AM IJ Communication Strategies: Advocating in the Court of Public Opinion We'll share our strategies for working with the media to litigate cases in the court of public opinion.

10:35 - 10:45 AM Break

10:45 – 11:35 AM IJ's Principles and Pillars: Economic Liberty

The American Dream turns on the idea that we are all free to work, that anyone with a good idea and a lot of elbow grease can climb the economic ladder by giving people what they want. But that Dream is under attack, with the government enacting and enforcing arbitrary and burdensome restrictions too often meant to shield entrenched businesses from new competitors. We'll identify some of the worst threats to economic liberty IJ has encountered, and how IJ has fought back to empower not just its clients, but all Americans.

11:40 – 12:30 PM Project Highlight: Project on Immunity and Accountability

IJ's Project on Immunity and Accountability is devoted to a simple idea: If we the people must follow the law, our government must follow the Constitution. We'll walk you through IJ's efforts to hold government officials accountable.

12:30 - 1:25 PM Lunch

1:25 – 2:10 PM IJ's Principles and Pillars: Educational Choice

IJ litigates educational choice cases all over the country. We'll will give an overview of our current litigation and the kinds of programs we defend, highlight the real-world implications of this important work, and preview the issues we see on the horizon for upcoming educational choice programs.

2:10 - 2:15 PM Break

2:15 – 4:00 PM Practical Skills Break Out Sessions:

From Theory to Practice: Building a Winning Public Interest Case

In this session, we'll discuss the tools and strategies in a public interest litigator's toolbelt to build a winning public interest case.

From Theory to Practice: Crafting a Media Strategy

In this session, you'll craft a media strategy for the case we discussed in the earlier session.

From Theory to Practice: Prepping for Trial

In this session, you'll craft a trial strategy for the case we discussed in the earlier session.

4:00 - 4:10 PM Break

4:10 – 5:10 PM Client Panel and Final Address

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

5:10 – 6:00 PM Dinner