



The Institute for Justice's Legal Intensive

The Premier One-Day Public Interest Law Program

Institute for Justice HQ – Arlington, Virginia

Saturday, January 25th

Friday, January 24th

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Welcome Reception

Students are invited to join us for a casual reception to meet fellow attendees, along with IJ speakers and clients.

Saturday, January 25th

8:30 – 9:00 am

Arrival and Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 am

Student and Speaker Introductions

This Intensive is going to have a lot of time for discussion and collaboration, so we'll start off with some introductions and get to know each other.

9:15 – 9:50 am

History of Strategic Public Interest Litigation

IJ Attorney Kirby West will trace the history and evolution of public interest litigation and how IJ has advanced liberty through our work.

9:50 – 9:55 am

Break

9:55 – 11:35 am

IJ's Principles and Pillars

In this next session, IJ attorneys Kirby West and Ari Bargil 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.

11:35 – 11:45 am

Break

11:45 am – 12:30 pm

Deep Dive: Zoning

IJ aims to protect property rights by challenging abusive zoning practices that restrict housing development and hinder small-business growth. In this session, Ari will outline our progress and litigation strategies to combat unconstitutional zoning restrictions, which contribute to the affordability crisis and stifle economic freedom. This session will lay

the groundwork for our discussions later in the day.

12:30 – 1:30 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. Also, we'll take a quick group photo!

1:30 – 2:00 pm

Making Your Case in the Court of Public Opinion

IJ's Director of Media Relations, Andrew Wimer, will share how we litigate cases in the court of public opinion.

2:00 – 2:10 pm

Break

2:10 – 3:15 pm

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

Now that you have the foundation down, Kirby, Ari, and Andrew will 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 convince the Supreme Court to accept review. You will 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.

3:15 – 3:25 pm

Break

3:25 – 4:05 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 zoning case. Ari will lead an IJ “litigation discussion,” just like the ones IJ attorneys have each month to vet potential cases. We will provide you with a mock case memo to review a week prior to the event, which will lay out the facts of the case. We will then vet the case together as a group.

4:05 – 4:15 pm

Break

4:15 – 5:30 pm

Practitioner Breakout Sessions

Your Turn: Crafting a Discovery Strategy

In this session, you will work with Kirby and Ari 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.

5:30 – 5:40 pm

Break

5:40 – 6:40 pm

Client Panel

To wrap up the day, we'll hear directly from our IJ clients—Chasidy Decker, Jennifer Heath Box, and Stephanie Wilson. We'll also have food available during the client panel, so feel free to grab a bite while listening to their stories!