

Welcome!

INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE

LAW STUDENT CONFERENCE

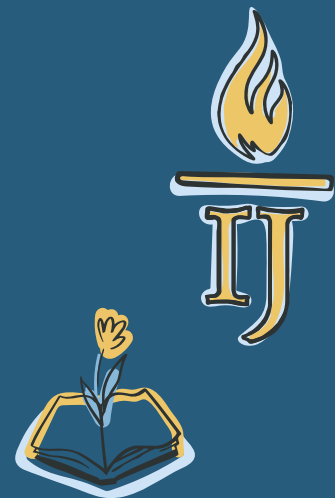
— 2025 —

AGENDA

Saturday, May 31st,
& Sunday, June 1st

IJ Headquarters

901 N. Glebe Road, 9th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203



* FRIDAY, MAY 30th

IJ Headquarters, 901 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor, 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, MAY 31st

901 North Glebe Road, 2nd Floor, Arlington, VA 22203

8:15 – 8:45 AM

Continental Breakfast

8:45 – 8:55 AM

Student & Speaker Introductions

8:55 – 9:35 AM

History of Public Interest Law & IJ's Contribution

Speaker: Sam Gedge, *IJ Senior Attorney*

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.

9:35 – 10:40 AM

IJ's Principles and Pillars: Property Rights

Speakers: Diana Simpson, *IJ Senior Attorney* and Mike Greenberg, *IJ Attorney*

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.



10:40 – 10:50 AM

Break

10:50 – 11:40 AM



IJ's Principles and Pillars: Free Speech

Speakers: Ben Field and Betsy Sanz, *IJ Attorneys*

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.

11:40 – 11:50 AM

Break

11:50 AM – 12:35 PM



SWAT: Government Takings and Police Power

Speakers: Jeffrey Redfern, *IJ Senior Attorney* and Dylan Moore, *IJ Attorney*

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.

12:35 – 1:35 PM

Lunch

1:35 – 2:30 PM



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

Speakers: Diana Simpson, *IJ Senior Attorney*; Mike Greenberg, *IJ Attorney*; and Justin Wilson, *Vice President for Communications*

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

Speakers: Jeffrey Redfern, *IJ Senior Attorney*, and Dylan Moore, *IJ Attorney*

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's Principles and Pillars: Educational Choice

Speakers: Michael Bindas, *IJ Senior Attorney*

IJ litigates educational choice cases all over the country. We'll 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.

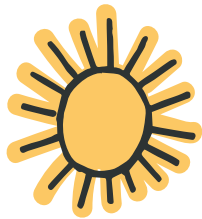
4:15 – 6:30 PM

Group Photo & Break until Dinner

6:30 – 9:30 PM

Dinner at Buena Vida: 2900 Wilson Blvd Suite 103, Arlington, VA 22201

**Including a CJE Fireside Chat with John Wrench and external speaker, John Bryan*



SUNDAY, JUNE 1st

901 North Glebe Road, 2nd Floor, Arlington, VA 22203



8:15 – 8:45 AM

Breakfast

9:45 – 10:35 AM

IJ Communications Strategy: Advocating in the Court of Public Opinion

Speaker: Justin Wilson, *Vice President for Communications*

We'll share our strategies for working with the media to litigate cases in the court of public opinion.

9:35 – 9:45 AM

Break

9:45 – 10:35 AM

IJ's Principles and Pillars: Economic Liberty

Speakers: Erica Smith Ewing, *IJ Senior Attorney*, and Katrin Márquez, *IJ Attorney and Elfie Gallun Fellow*

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.



10:35 – 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 AM – 11:35 AM

Project Highlight: Project on Immunity and Accountability

Speaker: Patrick Jaicomo, *IJ Senior Attorney*

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.

11:35 – 11:40 AM

Break

11:40 AM – 12:25 PM

IJ Question & Answer

Scott Bullock, *President and Chief Counsel*

Dana Berliner, *Senior Vice President and Litigation Director*

Moderated by Devon Lussier, *Student Outreach Coordinator*

12:25 – 1:20 PM

Lunch

1:20 – 3:40 PM

Practical Skills Breakout Sessions:



➤ **From Theory to Practice: Discovery and Deposition Strategies**

Speakers: Bobbi Taylor and James Knight, *IJ Attorneys*

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

➤ **From Theory to Practice: Anatomy of a Compelling Complaint**

Speakers: Kirby West, *IJ Senior Attorney*, and Jared McClain, *IJ Attorney*

In this session, we'll walk you through the essential steps of drafting a clear and effective legal complaint. Learn how to establish jurisdiction, define your claims, and present your facts in a concise, persuasive manner.

➤ **From Theory to Practice: Crafting a Media Strategy**

Speaker: Justin Wilson, *Vice President for Communications*

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**

Speaker: Will Aronin, *IJ Senior Attorney*

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

3:40 – 3:50 PM

Break

3:50 – 4:50 PM

Client Panel and Final Address

Moderator: Patrick Jaicomo, *IJ Senior Attorney*

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

4:50 – 5:50 PM

Group Photo & Dinner at HQ