



The Institute for Justice's Legal Intensive

The Premier One-Day Public Interest Law Program

Vanderbilt Law School – Nashville, TN

Saturday, November 15th

Friday, November 14th
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, November 15th
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 – 9:50am

History of Public Interest Law

First, we'll 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, we'll walk you through IJ's primary areas of litigation and how our impact litigation strategies have 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 – 12:30 pm

Deep Dive: Food Freedom, Home-Based Businesses, and Licenses to Work.

IJ defends economic liberty by challenging government restrictions that prevent entrepreneurs from earning an honest living. In this session, we will highlight our Nashville litigation protecting home-based businesses and our work securing the right to sell cultivated meat, while also addressing broader challenges to licensing laws that limit opportunity. This session will lay the groundwork for later discussions on how protecting economic liberty fosters innovation, entrepreneurship, and consumer choice.

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.

1:30– 2:00 pm

Making Your Case in the Court of Public Opinion

Our media relations team will discuss how we shape public understanding and advocate for our cases outside the courtroom, demonstrating strategies for litigating 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, 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 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 case. Our speakers 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 Break Out Sessions

Your Turn: Crafting a Discovery Strategy

In this session, you will work with IJ attorneys 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 our Media Relations team 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 IJ clients.