



The Institute for Justice's Legal Intensive

The Premier One-Day Public Interest Law Program

Institute for Justice HQ – Arlington, VA

Saturday, November 7th

Friday, November 6th

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, including Joe Marino, Ashley Fore, and Josh Roman. Mr. Marino's case goes to argument at the U.S. Supreme Court the following week.

Saturday, November 7th

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 Public Interest Law

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 session, we'll 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, and immunity and accountability. We'll also share some exciting news about the evolving focus of our work in several of these areas and what it means for IJ's litigation moving forward.

11:35 – 11:45 am

Break

11:45 – 12:30 pm

Deep Dive: Litigating a Constitutional Case at Every Level

In Litigating at Every Level, we'll give a behind-the-scenes look at how IJ fights for our clients at every level of the judicial system, from the district courts to the state supreme courts to the U.S. Supreme Court. A case that reaches the Supreme Court starts years earlier

in a district court, with choices nobody recognizes as historic at the time. Featuring three IJ cases in which the Court recently granted certiorari — U.S. Department of Labor v. Sun Valley Orchards, Leonard Hoffmann v. WBI Energy Transmission, and Jouppi v. Alaska — our speakers will show you how a constitutional claim travels from an initial filing all the way to the nation's highest bench: how litigators build a record, preserve issues for appeal, and frame arguments for different courts and audiences. Through interactive discussion and real case analysis, our attorneys will share strategies for identifying strong constitutional claims, advocating in the courtroom and the court of public opinion, and turning individual cases into lasting protections for people nationwide.

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: The People Behind the Cases

The conference day ends where IJ's work starts: with our clients. We'll hear directly from IJ clients. Joe Marino (U.S. Department of Labor v. Sun Valley Orchards), Ashley Fore (Atmore Retaliation), and Josh Roman (Texas Construction Dumpsters Monopoly) on the part that never makes it into the opinions: what it actually costs to sue your own government, and why they did it anyway.