



Media Advisory

Alaska Court System, 303 K Street, 5th Floor Anchorage, AK 99501

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ALASKA SUPREME COURT TO HEAR CASE AT COLONY HIGH SCHOOL **“Supreme Court LIVE” Event Fosters Understanding of the Justice System**

Anchorage, Alaska (October 5, 2016) – The Alaska Supreme Court will visit Colony High School on Wednesday, October 19, from 9:00AM–11:00AM for the *Supreme Court LIVE* educational program. *Supreme Court LIVE* brings Supreme Court oral arguments in actual cases to student audiences at Alaskan high schools. Designed to help students better understand the justice system, this unique learning opportunity debuted in 2010.

The court will hear oral argument in a pending case before an audience of high school students. The case – *Robert Riddle, dba Fairbanks Pumping and Thawing v. Eric Lanser*, involves a dispute between property owners. Robert Riddle, the owner and operator of a septage hauling company, stored septage on land he used to grow crops and raise livestock, and he also applied some of the septage as fertilizer. Eric Lanser purchased nearby land and constructed houses on the property. Lanser and some of the landowners complained about the odor from the storage facilities and farm, and asked a judge to order Mr. Riddle to stop the odor. Mr. Riddle raised a defense based on a law protecting farms. After a trial, a superior court judge ruled the law did not protect Mr. Riddle, and issued an order for him to stop or minimize the smell. Mr. Riddle appealed to the Alaska Supreme Court seeking to reverse the lower court’s ruling.

Volunteer attorneys from the Alaska Bar Association and staff from the court system are visiting Mat-Su area schools in the days preceding the program to help students understand the appellate process and the case itself, using a case summary and information from the court’s website: <http://courts.alaska.gov/outreach/index.htm#scl>. The program will include question-and-answer sessions with the attorneys arguing the cases, and with members of the Supreme Court.

The program is open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to arrive at least 30 minutes early to allow time for security screening. Members of the media wishing to use cameras or other electronic equipment should file an Application for Court Approval of Media Coverage <http://courts.alaska.gov/forms/tf-945.pdf> with Appellate Clerk Marilyn May by October 17, 2016 at the email address or fax number noted above.

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