Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 17, 2020

We the People: Santa Clara County Judicial Officers Leverage Technology to Educate 5th Grade Students about the Constitution

Santa Clara County Superior Court celebrates National Constitution Day with two virtual events.

In celebration of Constitution Day (September 17th), judicial officers from the Santa Clara County Superior Court are visiting more than 1,500 students across the county to speak with them about this historic document. In contrast to years past, when the Court facilitated in-person classroom visits, the Court has moved the program for 2020 entirely online using a virtual meeting format.

"I am thrilled that we were able to transition one of our long-standing outreach events to a virtual platform for elementary students. In a year unlike any other, we remain committed to connecting with students to teach them about the Constitution, their rights, and the three separate, but equal, branches of government," said Hon. Julia Alloggiamento, Chair of the Court's Community Outreach Committee.

Constitution Day became a national observance in 2004. Federal law mandates that all publicly funded educational institutions provide educational programming on or near September 17th about the U.S. Constitution.

"Live" Virtual Event:

Judicial officers met with twenty one schools and over 1,500 students in an effort to educate the youth on the history and importance of the Constitution. After each presentation, the students were provided an opportunity to interact with and ask questions of the judicial officers.

Prerecorded Video:

The Court recognizes that much of the learning for students in Santa Clara County is now asynchronous due to the pandemic and public health concerns. Therefore, in addition to the "live" virtual event, the Court is very pleased to offer educators and their students the opportunity to view a prerecorded presentation in which local judicial officers elaborate on what the Constitution is, what it means, and how it is used in the daily lives of judicial officers. This online video can be viewed by visiting the Court's YouTube page or going directly to the video found here: Constitution Day 2020 Video.

"This year we're honored to include cameo videos from members of the executive and legislative branches of government, both federal and state. We're excited for this well rounded group to share their thoughts on the Constitution with students. We're grateful to Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis, Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, and Assemblymembers Kansen Chu, Evan Low, and Robert Rivas for their participation and support of this program," said Hon. Audra Ibarra, Co-Chair of the Legislative Liaison Committee.



Constitution Day 2020

Virtual Event

The Santa Clara County Court would like to offer 5th grade educators and their students one of two opportunities to take part in an online educational event in September.

"Live" Virtual Event with a Judicial Officer

Students will be able to observe a presentation by a judicial officer in the school's preferred virtual platform, e.g., Zoom, Skype, Teams. After the presentation, the students will have the opportunity to interact with and ask the judicial officer questions.

The event will last approximately 30 minutes.

Prerecorded Video Presentation

Students will be able to watch a prerecorded presentation made by one of the Court's judicial officers. The video will follow along the same PowerPoint presentation as the live event and will elaborate on what the Constitution is, what it means, and how it is used in the daily lives of our judicial officers..

The video will last approximately 35 minutes.

Prerecorded Presentation is available at https://youtu.be/VIHurApIX6M