

## Connecticut Appellate Court to Visit Wilton High School on April 15 as Part of Its “On Circuit” Program



The [Connecticut Appellate Court](#) will visit [Wilton High School](#) on Tuesday, April 15, as part of its “On Circuit” program, which provides students the opportunity to hear actual court cases argued in “real time.”

Through the program, students, educators, and the public gain a greater understanding of the appellate process. The Appellate Court has heard arguments at [several high schools, colleges and universities since the program](#) began in 1996.

Presiding Judge Ingrid L. Moll, Judge José A. Suarez, and Judge Hope C. Seeley will hear one criminal and one civil case during the Appellate Court’s visit to the school.

- **When, where & what:** Tuesday, April 15, 2025, in the David F. Clune Center for the Arts, 395 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT. Each case will take one hour, consisting of 40 minutes of oral argument plus a 20-minute question-and-answer session with the arguing attorneys. The first argument will start at 9:15 a.m., and the second at 10:15 a.m.
- **First case to be heard:** The 9:15 a.m. case is [State v. Ryan E. Ragalis](#), a criminal case out of the New London Judicial District. At issue is whether the defendant’s right against double jeopardy was violated by his convictions of assault in the second degree and assault in the second degree with a motor vehicle. Another issue is whether evidence was sufficient to convict the defendant of assault in the second degree and assault in the second degree with a motor vehicle. A third issue is whether the trial court improperly instructed the jury that injury did not need to be “long term” to meet the definition of “serious physical injury.”
- **Second case to be heard:** The 10:15 a.m. case is [Katy Duclos v. Sylvia Hayes](#), a civil case out of the New Haven Judicial District. At issue is whether the trial court properly rendered summary judgment in favor of the landlord in action brought by the tenant’s guest seeking money damages for injuries allegedly suffered in a fall on the apartment’s unlit front porch.
- **Cameras:** Any media organization wishing to submit a camera request should contact the External Affairs Division at 860-757-2270.
- **Quote regarding visit:**
  - *Presiding Appellate Court Judge Ingrid L. Moll: “Judge Suarez, Judge Seeley, and I are looking forward to holding an Appellate Court ‘On Circuit’ session at Wilton High School on April 15. We are grateful for the invitation and appreciate the efforts of*

*Principal Robert O'Donnell, Assistant Principal Joshua Marko and all the faculty and staff for making the necessary arrangements and accommodations. We also greatly appreciate the efforts of teachers Anthony Presta and David Wilock in preparing the students for this experience. The 'On Circuit' sessions are a wonderful opportunity for students and others to learn about the appellate process and our system of justice. And you never know whether there's a future judge in the audience – in fact, Judge Suarez and I are Wilton High School alumni and look forward to returning to our alma mater.”*

- *Principal Robert O'Donnell: “Wilton High School is excited and honored to host the Connecticut Appellate Court proceedings. We know that this will be an exceptional learning experience for our students and teachers. We are always seeking to develop our students' understanding of the governmental process, including the judicial branch. We want our students to be civically engaged citizens of the world.”*

**Contact information:** External Affairs Division, Connecticut Judicial Branch, 860-757-2270.