

Connecticut Appellate Court to Visit CREC Academy of International Studies April 25 as Part of its “On Circuit” Program

The [Connecticut Appellate Court](#) will visit [CREC Academy of International Studies 6-12](#) in Bloomfield on Thursday, April 25, 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.

The Hon. William H. Bright, Jr., Chief Judge of the Appellate Court, will serve as presiding judge; Judge Robert W. Clark and Judge Dawne G. Westbrook will join him. The judges will hear two civil cases.

- **When, where & what:** Thursday, April 25, 2024, in the CREC Academy of International Studies 6-12 Auditorium, 1551 Blue Hills Ave. 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 11 a.m., and the second at noon.

- **First case:** [David Belton v. Endri Dragoni](#) is out of the New Haven Judicial District. At issue is whether the defendant police officers are entitled to governmental immunity from liability for intentional torts.
- **Second case:** [Lloyd Carty v. Merchant 99-111 Founders, LLC](#) is out of the Hartford Judicial District. At issue is whether the trial court improperly granted summary judgment in favor of the defendant landlord.
- **Cameras:** If a media organization wishes to submit a camera request, please contact the External Affairs Division at 860-757-2270.
- **Quotes regarding visit:**
 - *Chief Judge William H. Bright, Jr:* "Judges Clark, Westbrook and I are looking forward to holding an Appellate Court ‘On Circuit’ session at CREC Academy of International Studies 6-12. We are grateful for the invitation and appreciate the efforts of Principal Yesenia Hernandez, Assistant Principal Tom Craig and all the faculty and staff for making the necessary arrangements and accommodations. We also greatly appreciate the efforts of Attorneys Alexis Beyerlein and Julie Lavoie for 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."

- *Assistant Principal Tom Craig:* “The faculty and staff of the Academy of International Studies are very excited to be hosting a session of the Connecticut Appellate Court on our campus. We feel that it is a fantastic opportunity for our students to witness government in action and allow them to participate in the process of law in an engaging and relevant way. We are honored to host Judge Bright, Judge Clark and Judge Westbrook along with their staff. We also thank Attorneys Alexis Beyerlin and Julie Lavoie for coming to the school to prepare our students so they can understand and appreciate the court cases that they will be witnessing. Our whole school is looking forward to this unique and important experience.”

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