



# Supreme Court of Illinois

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## **ILLINOIS APPELLATE COURT TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENTS AT DANVILLE AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE APRIL 10**

The Illinois Appellate Court for the Fourth Judicial District will be hearing oral arguments on two cases on Wednesday, April 10 at Danville Area Community College. Arguments are scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. in Room 306 in Vermilion Hall.

Supreme Court Justice Rita B. Garman from the Fourth Judicial District said that bringing the Appellate Court oral arguments to Danville is an opportunity to allow students and other citizens a firsthand look at the Illinois judiciary at work.

"I am extremely pleased that Danville Area Community College will be the site for oral arguments for the Fourth District Appellate Court," Justice Garman said. "This is a unique opportunity for students and those interested in the law to observe the Appellate Court."

Ordinarily, oral arguments before the Fourth District Appellate Court are heard in Springfield. This will mark the first time that oral arguments will be held at a community college within the 30-county boundary that comprises the Fourth Judicial District.

The Appellate Court has held oral arguments at Illinois State University in Bloomington/Normal and Quincy University in Quincy. The Appellate Court also has held oral arguments at the University of Illinois College of Law.

"It is such an honor to be chosen as the first community college to host the Appellate Court," said Dr. Alice M. Jacobs, president of Danville Area Community College. "Our faculty is pleased to be able to offer this rare opportunity for students to experience the real-world application of the concepts they study in class. The students recognize and appreciate this unique opportunity, as well."

Students from the college's political science and communications departments have been invited to attend the oral arguments and interact with the presiding justices at a luncheon following the sessions.

Fourth District Appellate Justices Thomas R. Appleton, M. Carol Pope and Lisa Holder White will be hearing the two cases.

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The Appellate Court in other districts has held oral arguments at law schools, universities and colleges across the state. In 2010 and 2011, Chief Justice Thomas L. Kilbride requested Illinois Appellate Justices hold oral arguments at colleges and universities throughout the Third Judicial District.

The civil case to be heard is Mowen v. State of Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs. The case is in regards to an employment law matter out of Sangamon County.

The criminal case to be heard is People v. Stephen Wachholtz. It involves the appeal of a possession of a controlled substance case out of Livingston County.

Following the arguments, the Appellate Court justices will take the case under advisement and issue their written ruling at a later date.

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