



Supreme Court of Illinois

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MEDIA ADVISORY -- September 7, 2012

CHIEF JUSTICE KILBRIDE AND THE ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT JOIN THE ILLINOIS JUDGES ASSOCIATION IN ANNOUNCING CELEBRATION OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

WHO: Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas L. Kilbride; Justices Charles E. Freeman, Robert R. Thomas, Rita B. Garman, Lloyd A. Karmeier, Anne M. Burke and Mary Jane Theis;

Cook County Associate Judge Rita M. Novak, president, Illinois Judges Association (IJA);

Illinois Appellate Court Judge Carol M. Pope, IJA past president

WHAT: News Conference

WHEN: **Wednesday, September 12, 2012 – 12:30 p.m.**

WHERE: Appellate Court Courtroom, Supreme Court Building, 200 E. Capitol Avenue, Springfield

Chief Justice Kilbride and Supreme Court Justices will join Judge Rita M. Novak in announcing a unique program celebrating the 225th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Other members of the Illinois judicial, executive and legislative branches also will attend.

The centerpiece of the IJA's program, titled "Project 225", is to have Illinois judges give presentations to 225 high school civics classes statewide largely during the week of September 17-21 and continuing through the end of the month.

In 2007, Chief Justice Kilbride met former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor at a conference and heard her lament about the lack of civics education in the nation's schools. Since that time, the Chief Justice has sought to take steps in a personal way to reverse that trend, which included traveling to schools within the Third Judicial District, explaining the judicial system in Illinois.

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(FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Joseph Tybor, director of communications to the Illinois Supreme Court, at 312.793.2323, or Chris Ruys at Chris Ruys Communications, Inc. at 312.337.7746)