

**PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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**MASSACHUSETTS APPEALS COURT TO HOLD SITTING IN
NORTHAMPTON ON THURSDAY, JULY 29, 2010**

What: A panel of three Associate Justices of the Massachusetts Appeals Court will hear oral arguments in six appeals in a special session to be held at the Northampton Superior Court Courthouse located at 15 Gothic Street. The Northampton sitting is part of the Appeals Court's continuing outreach to communities outside Boston, where the Court generally holds its sittings. The session is open to the public.

Oral arguments for each case take approximately thirty minutes. Seating is on a first come, first served basis. The SJC Rule for cameras in the courtroom will apply. Interested media representatives should contact Tina LaFranchi in advance of the sitting.

When: Thursday, July 29, 2010
9:30 a.m.

Where: Northampton Superior Court Courthouse
15 Gothic Street, Northampton

Background: Established in 1972, the Appeals Court is an intermediate court of general appellate jurisdiction. Most appeals from the several Departments of the Trial Court are entered initially in the Appeals Court; some are then transferred to the Supreme Judicial Court, but a large majority will be decided by the Appeals Court. The Appeals Court also has jurisdiction over appeals from final decisions of three State agencies: the Appellate Tax Board, the Department of Industrial Accidents and the Commonwealth Employment Relations Board. More information about the court and the cases scheduled for argument may be obtained from the court's recently updated website, <http://www.mass.gov/courts/appealscourt>