

The Review



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THE APPEALS COURT WELCOMES TWO NEW JUSTICES TO THE BENCH



**JUSTICE CHRISTOPHER P.
HODGENS**

Justice Hodgens graduated from the College of the Holy Cross with a



JUSTICE PAUL H. SMYTH

Justice Smyth graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Amherst College and then earned his Juris

Bachelor of Arts in History. He then earned his Juris Doctor from New England School of Law with honors in 1992 where he served as Coordinating Editor of the New England Journal on Criminal and Civil Confinement.

After graduating law school, Justice Hodgens began his career as a law clerk for the Milford District Court, then the FDIC. From there he went on to become an Assistant District Attorney with the Worcester County District Attorney's Office. He served as Appeals Division Chief from 2002 to 2007 and from 2018 to 2022 served as Litigation Integrity Division Chief.

Justice Hodgens was appointed to the Appeals Court in December 2022 by Governor Charlie Baker.

You may watch Justice Hodgens's [ceremonial first Appeals Court oral argument sitting here.](#)

Doctor from the University of Virginia School of Law.

After his graduation from law school, Justice Smyth began his career in the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office. He went on to become an Assistant U.S. Attorney and a faculty member at the Department of Justice National Advocacy Center, and eventually became Chief of the Springfield branch office. In 2015 he was appointed Associate Justice of the Pittsfield District Court, and he was elevated to First Justice in 2018. He presided over the Berkshire County Drug Court from 2017 to 2022.

Justice Smyth was appointed to the Appeals Court in December 2022 by Governor Charlie Baker.

You may watch Justice Smyth's [ceremonial first Appeals Court oral argument sitting here.](#)

NOW **LIVESTREAMING:** ALL APPEALS COURT ORAL ARGUMENTS FROM JOHN ADAMS COURTHOUSE

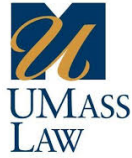
The Appeals Court is pleased to announce that it is now livestreaming all oral arguments held in its two courtrooms, the Allan M. Hale Courtroom and the Christopher J. Armstrong Courtroom. This is in addition to the livestreaming of Zoom-based arguments, which the court has been doing since the Covid-19 pandemic began.

To see oral argument livestreams, as well as past recordings, [go to the Appeals Court's YouTube channel, located here](#) Livestreams in progress will be featured at the top of the landing page. To find past arguments, you can use the search tab within the channel to search by date, party name, or docket number. (For best docket number searching, use the full docket number, including leading zeroes -- e.g., 2023-P-0123.)



THE APPEALS COURT CONDUCTS

SEVERAL OFF-SITE SITTINGS THIS FALL



As part of a continuing effort to broaden public awareness, understanding, and accessibility of the Massachusetts court system, the Appeals Court conducted a record number of off-site sittings during the Fall of 2022. The sittings took place at the following locations:

October 6, 2022, at **University of Massachusetts School of Law, Dartmouth** (Chief Justice Green, Justices Henry and Englander). *-See photos above.*

October 12, 2022, at **Western New England School of Law, Springfield** (Justice Meade, Justice Singh, and Justice Walsh).

November 3, 2022, at **Massachusetts School of Law, Andover** (Justice Neyman, Justice Desmond, and Justice Grant).

November 9, 2022, at **University of Massachusetts, Amherst** (Justice Meade, Justice Sullivan, and Justice D'Angelo).

Appeals Court court officers, representatives from the Clerk's Office, law clerks, and interns also attended the sessions to assist at the off-site proceedings. At the law schools, students and faculty were in attendance and several of the sessions included a question and answer period with the Justices after the oral arguments were completed.

The remaining Appeals Court Justices continued to hear oral arguments in cases on appeal at the John Adams Courthouse during those months.

"Discovering the Law with Lucy Rivera" interviews Appeals Court **JUSTICE VICKIE HENRY**

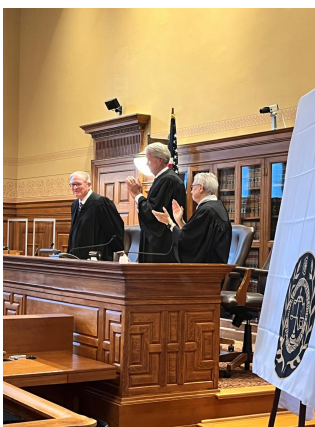
Appeals Court
Associate Justice
Vickie L. Henry
demystifies the
appellate process in



Massachusetts and discusses important appellate court procedures in this interview with Attorney Lucy Rivera. [**Watch the video here.**](#)



SPECIAL SITTING OF THE APPEALS COURT HONORING **RETIRED CHIEF JUSTICE CHRISTOPHER J. ARMSTRONG**



On September 29th at the John Adams Courthouse, a special sitting was held for the presentation of a portrait in honor of Christopher J. Armstrong, the fourth Chief Justice (ret.) of the Massachusetts Appeals Court. Chief Justice Mark V. Green presided, and retired Associate Justice Cynthia J. Cohen provided a tribute. At the end of the event Chief Justice Green announced that the courtroom, formerly known only as Courtroom 3, is now renamed the Christopher J. Armstrong Courtroom.



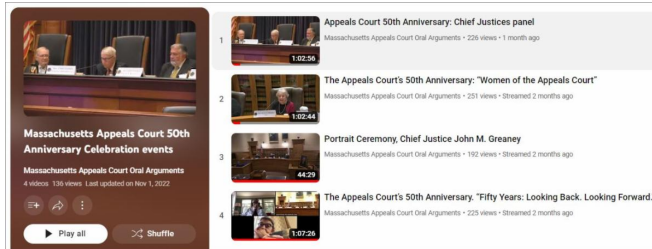
JUSTICE BLAKE NAMED DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF NAWJ

Congratulations to Appeals Court Associate Justice Amy L. Blake for recently being named District Director of the National Association of Women Judges (NAWJ).

NAWJ is a dynamic gathering of women judges who are dedicated to preserving judicial independence for women, minorities, and other historically disfavored groups, while increasing the number and advancement of women judges, and providing cutting-edge judicial education.



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: APPEALS COURT'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY



In October the Appeals Court celebrated the 50th anniversary of its creation in 1972. The court marked the occasion with two days of festive gatherings, exhibits, and panel discussions. Several events were recorded and posted to the court's

[**YouTube channel.**](#)

[**Please click here to go to the 50th Anniversary Special Edition of The Review newsletter,**](#) which describes the festivities and contains links to the video recordings.

LOOKING FOR BACK ISSUES OF THE REVIEW? VISIT THE [**ARCHIVE HERE**](#)



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