



Volume 1, Issue 2 Spring, 2019

# APPEALS COURT HOLDS TWO "OFF-SITE" SITTINGS IN APRIL

Every year, the Appeals Court conducts off-site sittings in various locations throughout the Commonwealth as part of a continuing effort to broaden public awareness, understanding, and accessibility of the Massachusetts court system. On April 1, the Appeals Court sat at Western New England University School of Law in Springfield. Again, on April 4, there was a sitting at Suffolk University Law School in Boston. There are currently off-site sittings of the Appeals Court scheduled in Worcester today (Law Day), in Barnstable on June 5, and at UMass-Dartmouth Law School, Mass School of Law-Andover, UMass-Boston and UMass-Amherst in the Fall.



**Above:** Justices Meade, Massing and Lemire speak to students after hearing arguments at Suffolk University Law School.

**Right**: Justices Kinder, Singh and McDonough hear oral arguments at WNEU School of Law.



## APPEALS COURT JUSTICES PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL JUDICIAL OUTREACH MONTH

The ABA Judicial Division's Judicial Outreach Network Committee urged active and retired judges nationwide to invite their communities into their courthouses and to go out into their communities during National Judicial Outreach Month (NJOM) to meet with the public and talk about the "Rule of Law" and the work courts do every day. March, 2019 marked the 3rd year of NJOM and many Appeals Court Justices spent their time off the bench visiting schools and speaking to students around the Commonwealth. Chief Justice Green and Associate Justices Maldonado, Henry, Desmond, Sacks, Singh, Wendlandt, McDonough, and Englander all supported this valuable initiative.

**Below Left:** Justices Desmond and McDonough speak to students at Harvard Kent Elementary School, Charlestown.

Below Right: Chief Justice Green speaks to students at Keith Middle School in New Bedford.





### APPEALS COURT JUSTICES DALILA WENDLANDT & SYDNEY HANLON REPRESENT THE COURT AT STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY

In 1947, the Massachusetts Legislature enacted a program called Student Government Day (originally Good Government Day) which is traditionally held on a Friday in April. This is an informative program about state government, that includes students participating in the role of elected or appointed officials to "observe the processes of government." The program provides educators and students from Massachusetts public and private high schools with many opportunities to learn first hand about state government. As part of this year's program, Associate Appeals Court Justice Dalila Wendlandt represented the Judiciary at the Massachusetts State House.

After welcoming the students on behalf of Chief Justice Gants, Chief Justice Green and the entire judicial branch of government, she explained that the robe she donned was a physical reminder that that what judges do is not in furtherance of their own individual interests or



beliefs, but as servants of the law as they best understand it. She invited the students to pretend to be judges and to "reflect on (i) the unique aspects of our system of justice in which we strive each day to make the courtroom a place where each person is equal under the law regardless of race, religion or background, and (ii) the need for an independent judiciary to protect the fundamental rights of those whose voices may not be popular and to face the difficult decisions judges make each day."

Following Justice Wendlandt's remarks at the State House, students were welcomed into the John Adams Courthouse where they met with Appeals Court Justice Sydney Hanlon in the Supreme Judicial Court 7 Justice courtroom.

## THE APPEALS COURT WELCOMES ITS NEWEST ASSOCIATE JUSTICE KATHRYN E. HAND

Justice Kathryn E. Hand was sworn in as an Associate Justice of the Appeals Court on April 1, 2019 by Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. On Monday, April 8, Justice Hand was "inducted" by her colleagues in a ceremony marking her first appearance on the bench of the Appeals Court. By tradition, when a new justice joins the Appeals Court, the court employs an expanded panel of five judges for the first case heard by а newly-appointed member of the court. Justice Hand was joined by Chief Justice Mark



Green and Justices Ariane Vuono, Gabrielle Wolohojian and Peter Agnes.

Justice Hand was originally appointed to the Barnstable County District Court bench in 2006, and was elevated to Presiding Justice for that county in 2015. From 2013 until her appointment to this court, she served as Regional Administrative Justice (RAJ) for the Trial Court in Region 1, managing 24 judges and nine District Court divisions. She also served as Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Southern District from 2015 until her appointment to the Appeals Court.

#### WOMEN MAKING HISTORY

On February 4, 2019, for the first time in Appeals Court history, a panel of justices was comprised of three

women of color.

Right: Justices Maldonado, Singh and Wendlandt







# MASSACHUSETTS APPEALS COURT

John Adams Court House One Pemberton Square Boston, MA 02180 <u>appealscourt@jud.state.ma.us</u>

Visit our Website