**Judicial Review & the Oregon Supreme Court**

**What Happened at the Hearings?**

**Part 5**

**In this section:**

* 1. Suggestions for contacting the Justices & opportunities to visit the Court and other Oregon Courts
	2. Analysis & Extension ideas following the Oral Argument
	3. Oral Argument Analysis Handout for Students
	4. Post-Unit Survey for Students

***Note to Teachers:***

Reflection after the hearing experience will be an important way to wrap up the event. We provide several ideas for how to do that with your students as well as some follow up activities with Oregon Courts. Finally, the post-unit survey for students are the same questions as the pre-unit survey and will hopefully give you quality information on how this experience and event provided a learning opportunity for your students.

**Thanking the Oregon Supreme Court**

You can write to the Justices of the Oregon Supreme Court! We recommend sending them a thank you for coming to do Oral Arguments in your District. You can write to any one of them who was at the hearing or you can write to the whole Court.

The names of the justices and the mailing address of the Court:

Chief Justice Martha Walters

Justice Thomas Balmer

Justice Christopher Garrett

Justice Lynn Nakamoto

Justice Meagan Flynn

Justice Rebecca Duncan

Justice Adrienne Nelson

Oregon Supreme Court
1163 State Street
Salem, OR 97301

**Touring the Oregon Supreme Court**

There are regularly offered tours for students of the Supreme Court in Salem. You can go to their website and sign up for a tour:

<https://www.courts.oregon.gov/courts/appellate/supreme/Pages/tour.aspx>

**Court Tours by Classroom Law Project**

Classroom Law Project offers a Court Tour Experience throughout the school year. Teachers can sign up their classes to come to downtown Portland at any time during the year on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays. The students get to see the Gus Solomon Federal Courthouse, the Mark Hatfield Federal Courthouse, and the Multnomah County Circuit Court. After an introduction briefing by an experienced Court Tour Guide, the students are able to explore the courts, attend trials and hearings in progress, and sometimes even get to chat with judges! It’s a fantastic field trip and experience for any class looking into the realities of the legal and justice system.

<https://classroomlaw.org/student-programs/courthouse-tours/>

Oregon Supreme Court Oral Arguments

Follow up Activity ideas

Students can complete the **Follow-Up Analysis** worksheet to help them prepare for:

1. **A Socratic Seminar** - based on their pre, during, and post- notes about the hearings the students can answer a question together through discussion:

*Is appealing to the Supreme Court an effective way for Oregonians to challenge Oregon laws? Why or why not?*

*Is it okay for a Supreme Court of a small number of people to have the power to interpret the laws of the state (judicial review power)? Why or why not?*

1. A **Reflective or Persuasive Essay** on either of the two cases based on further research or simply the work done prior to and during the hearings
2. A simulated **Congressional Hearing** or **Townhall Meeting** where students prepare brief testimony about the laws in question and how they believe they should be most fairly interpreted
3. A **Moot Court** hearing on other Supreme Court cases to have the experience themselves of the appellate process.

You can find how-to guides and materials for each of these strategies at [www.classroomlaw.org/resources](http://www.classroomlaw.org/resources)

Oregon Supreme Court Oral Arguments Name:

**Oral Argument Follow Up Analysis**

*After you’ve observed an Oregon Supreme Court Oral Argument, reflect on your experience and what you observed & learned:*

1. Which case did you find more interesting & why?
2. What did you find most interesting about the Justices themselves?
3. Do you think the process you observed was an effective way to decide the meaning of Oregon Laws? Why or why not?
4. What might you change about a Supreme Court hearing if you could?
5. Do you feel confident that the Oregon Supreme Court can use their power of **judicial review** effectively for the state? Why or why not?

Oregon Supreme Court Oral Arguments Name: \_

**Now that you’ve Seen a Supreme Court Hearing:**

**Post-Hearing Survey**

**Directions:** Answer the questions below honestly. There is no grade attached to this but it will help you see how much you learned from this experience.

1. Explain the difference between a trial and an appellate (or Supreme Court) oral argument:
2. Who makes decisions about facts in a case?
3. Who makes decisions about law in a case?
4. How do cases get to the Supreme Court?
5. What makes an argument persuasive or not?
6. What is judicial review?
7. What do you know about the Oregon Supreme Court?
8. What are you still curious about the Oregon Supreme Court or judicial system?