Justice Teaching Institute

Application

April 7-11, 2013

A Florida courts training seminar for secondary public and private school teachers

Sponsored by
The Florida Supreme Court

55% of Florida citizens surveyed could not name even one of the branches of government

Only 34% of those surveyed claimed to be at least generally familiar with Florida's court system

Nearly 40% of the survey respondents wanted more information about Florida courts and procedures

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Are you surprised by these results of a statewide public opinion research project completed by the Florida Judicial Management Council? The Florida Supreme Court was. The Court responded by implementing the Justice Teaching Institute for secondary public and private school teachers. The 2013 Justice Teaching Institute will be held April 7-11, 2013 at the Supreme Court Building in Tallahassee.

This Institute offers an up-close examination of the workings of the judicial branch of government. Through meetings with Supreme Court Justices and other judges, interactive activities, simulations, and group discussions, participants will explore the concept of justice, debate topical legal issues, and develop techniques and strategies for teaching students and other educators about the nature, history, organization, and process of the Florida justice system. Participants will conduct mock court proceedings and observe the presentation of an actual case.

Application Deadline: February 15, 2013

Justice Teaching Institute

What is the Justice Teaching Institute (JTI)?

JTI is a law-related education program sponsored by the Florida Supreme Court, with The Florida Bar, The Florida Bar Foundation, and the Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc. also providing support. Participants experience a wide range of sessions with Supreme Court Justices and other judges and participate in many interactive activities. As participants encounter relevant examples of the justice system in action, they will be better equipped to convey information to the classroom so that students will see the importance of the judicial process. For additional information, visit our web site at: http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/education/index.shtml

Who Can Apply?

Any secondary level teacher (grades 6 - 12) in Florida may apply. Twenty-five secondary level public and private school teachers, chosen from numerous applicants by a selection committee, participate each year.

What are the Program Highlights?

Participants will enjoy exercise with Justices, a tour of the Supreme Court, mock oral arguments, interactive activities, and an opportunity to network with educators from around the state who are interested in the justice system. Participants are honored with certificates recognizing them as Justice Teaching Institute Fellows, signed by all Justices.

What is the Participant's Cost?

In accordance with state guidelines, the Institute covers related travel expenses incurred by participants and the cost of a substitute teacher.

Will Participants Receive In-Service Credit?

TEC credits for the Institute may be available. Please check with your school district.

Following the Institute, Participants will be Better Equipped to:

- ⇒ Teach others with confidence about the nature, history, structure, function, and processes of the courts and judiciary;

- ⇒ Implement strategies for effectively teaching legal concepts and systems; Utilize technology to teach law-related subjects;
- ⇒ Identify legal research resources available to assist in preparing and presenting law-related lessons and activities; and
- ⇒ Apply constitutional knowledge and principles to judicial decision making.

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2013 JTI Application

Name _____ Home Phone ( ) _____

Full Home Address _____

_____

School Name _____ School Phone ( ) _____

Full School Address _____

_____

Public/Private School _____ County _____ Judicial Circuit _____

Fax ( ) _____ E-mail _____

Number of years experience as a teacher _____

(We encourage new as well as experienced teachers to apply and participate.)

Grade (s) you currently teach _____ Number of students impacted per year _____

Subject(s) you currently teach _____

Composition of student population _____

Are you presently involved in Justice Teaching as a school contact? ☐Yes ☐No

What is required of FSCJTI participants? FSCI Fellows (participants) must agree to facilitate training for 10 other teachers in their school or district after attending the Institute or develop a courts unit for classroom use.

If selected, do you agree to these requirements? ☐Yes ☐No

Application Process: Your application should be submitted by U.S. Mail (not facsimile or electronic transmission), by February 15, 2013 to: Justice Teaching Institute, Attention Justice R. Fred Lewis, Supreme Court Building, 500 South Duval Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1900. An incomplete application will not be considered. Please include the following:

- √ Completed application form
- √ Resume, including an indication of any teaching awards or honors you have received

Special Accommodations:

Please identify any special accommodations needed during the Institute:

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Justice Teaching Institute
Florida Supreme Court
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1925

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Justice Teaching Institute

Comments from Justice Teaching Institute Participants

"The most beneficial result for me personally was MOTIVATION...to return to school and spearhead some education efforts both at school and with the judges and bar association."

"I feel a real and personal connection to government after participating in this institute."

"The most informative seminar I have ever attended."

"What a unique opportunity for a classroom teacher."

"I have a newfound respect and understanding of our justice system."

Applications from previous JTI Fellows will not be considered. Please encourage other teachers to apply. For more information about the Supreme Court of Florida, State Courts System, and the Justice Teaching Institute, visit our web site at http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/education/index.shtml. For any program questions, please call The Florida Law Related Education Association at (850) 386-8223.

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