



Press Release

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ALASKA SUPREME COURT TO HEAR CASE AT LATHROP HIGH SCHOOL **“Supreme Court LIVE” Event Fosters Understanding of the Justice System**

Anchorage, AK, November 9, 2022 - The Alaska Supreme Court will visit Hering Auditorium at Lathrop High School on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, from 10:45AM – 12:45PM for the Supreme Court LIVE educational program. The court will hear oral arguments in a pending case before an audience of high school students.

The case, *State of Alaska v. John William McKelvey*, centers on aerial surveillance of private property. The Alaska State Troopers received a tip that McKelvey had a grow operation on his property located in rural Fairbanks. After flying over the property and taking pictures with a telephoto lens, the Troopers obtained a search warrant. The central issue in this case concerns the validity of the search warrant and whether the Troopers’ use of aerial photography violates the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution and the Alaska Constitution’s rights to privacy and freedom from unreasonable searches.

Volunteer attorneys from the Alaska Bar Association are visiting Fairbanks area high schools in the days preceding the program to help students understand the appellate process and the case itself, using [case summaries and information from the court’s website](#). The program will include question-and-answer sessions with the attorneys arguing the cases, and with member of the Supreme Court. The program is open to the public and will also be live-streamed on [KTOO’s Gavel Alaska](#). Attendees are encouraged to arrive at least 30 minutes early to allow time for security screening. Members of the media wishing to use cameras or other electronic equipment in the auditorium should file an [Application for Court Approval of Media coverage](#) with Appellate Clerk Meredith Montgomery by November 18, 2022 at the email address or fax number noted above.

Background: Supreme Court LIVE brings Supreme Court oral arguments in actual cases to student audiences at Alaskan high schools. Designed to help students better understand the justice system, this unique learning opportunity debuted in 2010, and has brought cases to Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, Palmer, Sitka, and Utqiagvik.

About the Alaska Court System: The mission of the [Alaska Court System](#) is to provide an accessible and impartial forum for the just resolution of all cases that come before it, and to decide such cases in accordance with the law, expeditiously and with integrity.