



Media Advisory

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Color of Justice at Mt. Edgecumbe High School in Sitka November 7-8, 2016

Diverse Judges and Attorneys Encourage Youth to Pursue Legal and Judicial Careers 90 High School Students to Attend This Year's Program

Anchorage, Alaska (November 1, 2016) – On November 7-8, 2016, the Alaska Court System, Mount Edgecumbe High School, and Sitka Bar Association will host the *Color of Justice* program. Color of Justice is a law-related education program founded by the National Association of Women Judges designed to promote diversity in the legal profession and judiciary by encouraging diverse youth to consider careers as lawyers and judges. Nearly 90 students from communities and villages across the state will attend two days of workshops and other activities presented by representatives from Gonzaga University School of Law, Seattle University School of Law, and University of Washington School of Law. The program is also supported by the Alaska Bar Association, Alaska Federation of Natives, Alaska Native Justice Center, Council on Legal Education Opportunity, Law School Admission Council, and the Northwest Indian Bar Association. The two-day program will take place at Mount Edgecumbe High School.

Color of Justice sessions will include "*MentorJet: A Speed Mentoring Experience*," where students will meet with nine diverse lawyers, judges, and justices, including Senior Supreme Court Justice Dana Fabe, Chief Tribal Judge Peter Esquiro of the Sitka Tribe of Alaska, and Mount Edgecumbe graduates and attorneys Nicole Borromeo and Peter Boskofsky. *Mentor Jet* is scheduled for Monday, November 7, 2016 from 5:00-6:30PM. "*Constitutional Cranium*," a quiz show on constitutional knowledge, a "*You be the Judge*" program, and an Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) case study on Alaskan tribal courts are some of the programs that will take place throughout the day Tuesday.

Increasing diversity on the bench is important to fostering public trust and confidence in our justice system, according to Senior Justice Fabe. Color of Justice serves this goal, she says, "*by affirming for our young women and youth of color that the judiciary is a career path that is open to them.*" In a [recent opinion piece](#), Mt. Edgecumbe and Gonzaga University School of Law graduate and mentor Peter Boskofsky explained how Color of Justice can spark students' interest in law and promote diversity.

Members of the news media are invited to attend and cover *Color of Justice* events in Sitka, which are detailed in the attached program agenda. Further information is available by calling the contact number above.

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