Justice Teaching Institute
Application

February 18-22, 2018
A Florida courts training seminar for secondary public and private school teachers

Sponsored by
The Supreme Court of Florida

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

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 2018 Justice Teaching Institute will be held February 18-22, 2018 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 processes of the Florida justice system. Participants will conduct simulated appellate proceedings and observe the presentation of an actual case.

Application Deadline: December 1, 2017
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. providing support and faculty assistance. 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 or contact staff@flrea.org.

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 sessions 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;
⇒ 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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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
Name of the Justice Teaching Volunteer assigned to your school: _______________________________

What is required of JTI participants? JTI 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), to be received by December 1, 2017 to: Justice Teaching Institute,
Attention: Justice R. Fred Lewis, Supreme Court Building, 500 South Duval Street, Tallahassee,
Florida 32399-1900. An incomplete or untimely 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 as well as any specific dietary
requirements or food allergies that we should be aware of in planning for the program:
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Other comments:
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 contact The Florida Law Related Education Association, Inc. at staff@flrea.org.

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