



Court of Appeals of Georgia

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Georgia Court of Appeals Traveling to University of Georgia Law School

Atlanta, September 14, 2022 – The Court of Appeals of Georgia continues its program of outreach across the state with an off-site oral argument session at the University of Georgia School of Law on September 28, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. The Court is committed to increasing confidence in the judiciary by making its judges more accessible to the public, and has scheduled additional offsite sessions in Valdosta, Coffee County, and Blue Ridge.

Presiding Judge Christopher McFadden, Judge Elizabeth Gobeil, and Judge Ben Land will hear arguments at UGA Law in four appeals. The first appeal involves a suit against several major video programming providers – Netflix, Hulu, Disney, DIRECTV, and Dish – seeking franchise fees for the use of public rights of way. Other appeals involve ineffective assistance of counsel issues in a child molestation case, the validity of service, and a discovery dispute involving a third party.

The judges will hold a question-and-answer session for the students following the arguments, which will be Judge Land’s first on the Court of Appeals. Judge Land served as a superior court judge in the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit and was sworn in to the appellate court on July 20, 2022.

“Judge Gobeil, Judge Land, and I are looking forward to holding oral arguments at our law school alma mater, the University of Georgia School of Law. We are pleased to be able to further the court’s civic engagement by giving the law school community and other visitors an opportunity to see the court at work,” said Presiding Judge McFadden.

The judge continued, “We are grateful to Dean Bo Rutledge and his outstanding administration and staff for being such gracious hosts, and we are looking forward to returning to our law school and meeting current students and faculty.”

The Court of Appeals is Georgia’s intermediate appellate court, with fifteen judges who serve in panels of three. Oral arguments are not heard in all cases. The parties must ask to be heard, and the Court grants only about a third of the requests.