



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE of PENNSYLVANIA COURTS

# MEDIA ADVISORY

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*PA Supreme Court Hosts Teachers Institute on the Judiciary*  
**Clarion-Area Teachers to Learn about the Court System**

**HARRISBURG, October 7, 2010**—The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Commission on Judicial Independence and the Pennsylvania Coalition for Representative Democracy (PennCORD) will present a Teachers Institute on the Judiciary on Tuesday, October 12, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Riverview Intermediate Unit #6, 270 Mayfield Road, Clarion, PA. **Media coverage of the sessions is invited.**

Teachers from 15 schools (*see attached list*) are expected to attend an intensive and interactive day of learning and discussion about the state and federal courts and constitutions (*see attached schedule of events*). Opening remarks will be provided by Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Emeritus Flaherty.

Conference highlights include a 1 p.m. mock Supreme Court argument that will include teachers in the roles of justices, sitting with Chief Justice Emeritus Flaherty, former Superior Court Judge Maureen E. Lally-Green and Erie County President Judge Ernest DiSantis.

Another feature will be a roundtable discussion at 9:45 a.m. titled, “Judges on Judging” with, Chief Justice Emeritus Flaherty, Judge Lally-Green, Judge DiSantis and Clarion County Magisterial District Judge Amy Long

The goal of the conference is to promote and encourage greater emphasis on civics education in the classroom and to foster a better understanding of the role of courts and the judiciary in a democratic society. The Institute is jointly sponsored by the Supreme Court’s Judicial Independence Commission, PennCORD and Pennsylvania Bar Association.

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## **Schools Participating in the Teachers Institute on the Judiciary**

ABRAXAS FOUNDATION INC  
ABRAXAS SCHOOL  
ALLEGHENY-CLARION  
BROOKVILLE AREA SD  
BROOKVILLE AREA SD  
CLARION AREA SD  
CLARION-LIMESTONE AREA  
CRANBERRY AREA SD  
FOREST AREA SD  
KEYSTONE SD  
NORTH CLARION COUNTY  
REDBANK VALLEY SD  
RIVERVIEW IU  
SOMERSET AREA SD

### **Agenda**

8:30 a.m.	Registration and Pre-test
9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introduction by Chief Justice Emeritus John P. Flaherty
9:10 a.m.	Warm-Up Exercise
9:45 a.m.	Roundtable: Judges on Judging
11:00 a.m.	Changing Roles: The Old, Modern and Contemporary Courts and their Impact on Federalism
1:00 p.m.	Mock Pennsylvania Supreme Court Argument
2:45 p.m.	Evaluation and Post-test