



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pennsylvania Supreme Court Recognizes Law Day; Highlights Importance of the Rule of Law

HARRISBURG – Chief Justice of Pennsylvania Debra Todd marked Law Day, honoring the role of the rule of law in Pennsylvania and across the nation.

In 1958, President Dwight D. Eisenhower declared May 1 as the first “Law Day,” recognizing that the guarantee of fundamental rights of individuals under the law is “the heart and sinew of our nation” and distinguishes our governmental system from those that “rule by might alone.” Three years later, in 1961, Congress designated May 1st as Law Day.

“On Law Day, the Justices of our Supreme Court reflect on the shared commitment to the rule of law that binds us together,” said Chief Justice Todd. “It is the very principle that ensures fairness, protects individual rights, and holds all of us, individuals and institutions alike, accountable to the same standards.

“In Pennsylvania, our courts work every day to uphold these ideals. From magisterial and trial courts to our appellate courts, judges and court staff are dedicated to delivering justice that is fair, impartial, and accessible to all. Law Day also highlights the vital role legal professionals play in people’s lives in real and immediate ways.”

The American Bar Association’s theme for Law Day 2026, ‘The Rule of Law and the American Dream,’ serves as a reminder that the American dream itself relies on the strength of our legal system.

While Law Day highlights the practice of law, Chief Justice Todd emphasized the importance of civics education in maintaining a strong legal system.

“Civics education, respect for the judicial process, and engagement with the courts are essential to preserving the rule of Law,” Chief Justice Todd said.

“This Law Day, I encourage all Pennsylvanians to take time to learn more about our courts, our Constitution, and the rights and responsibilities we share, especially as we celebrate America250 and the 250th Anniversary of our Pennsylvania Constitution.”

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