



Annual Report 2019

The Sacramento Federal Judicial Library & Learning Center Foundation

Message from the President

The year 2019 marks several important milestones in the life and progress of the Sacramento Federal Judicial Library and Learning Center Foundation (the “Foundation”) and in its collaboration with and support of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals’ Kennedy Learning Center located in the Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse in Sacramento, California.

With the Foundation’s support, the Kennedy Learning Center’s sixth year of operations and activities included frequent school visits to the Center and the federal courthouse, moot court experiences for students ranging from second graders to law students, the teacher institute in Sacramento, art and essay contests for Sacramento-area high school students, installation of a new exhibit direct from the Supreme Court of the United States, and perhaps most significantly of all, a commitment of very substantial resources from the Ninth Circuit to improve the Center’s exhibit and conference space. In 2019, the Center hosted over 4,000 students, teachers and community leaders, and we touched another 2,500 students through classroom visits. The 28 teachers who attended the summer institute in Sacramento teach high school classes that reach another 1,400 students. We continue to expand our impact.

None of this could happen without the substantial, ongoing contributions from our donors, and the small army of volunteers who support our efforts. From organizing school visits and speakers, to marketing events, to arranging for catering, to setting up tables and chairs at the Center, everything we do depends directly and indirectly upon help from others on the Foundation Board, judges from both the federal and state benches, lawyers and other staff from chambers and agencies within the courthouse, lawyers and teachers within the community, and other entities in the Sacramento area who have joined us in promoting civic education.

I close with one other significant milestone from 2019. The combination of donations to the Foundation and direct and indirect support from the Ninth Circuit has now surpassed the \$1 million mark. This represents an altogether fitting recognition of the accomplishments and contributions of the Center’s namesake, the Honorable Anthony M. Kennedy, who retired from the Supreme Court of the United States on July 31, 2018, after 40 years of public service. His vision of the importance of civic education and civil discourse to the future of our democracy continues to inspire us and others in our endeavors. We salute his life and the meaning and inspiration he has brought to millions of people around the world.



Courtney J. Linn
Board President

Why Civic Education? The Value Proposition

Constitutional democracy's success depends upon a respect for the rule of law and a common understanding of the values of our society. Yet, in past decades, our schools have seen their funding for civic education decrease, and our society has begun to value sound bites, slogans and personal attacks more than facts, history and civil discourse. This cultural shift threatens to undermine the foundation of our nation.

Without an understanding of our common values and an accepted mechanism for civil, meaningful discussion of public issues, it becomes more difficult to determine what actions are for our common good or in our common interest. Now, more than ever, we need to recommit to civic education, particularly targeted at teenagers and young adults in our local communities, to demonstrate and teach the important benefits and values of our democracy, the role courts play in that democracy, and civil public discourse.

Federal judges, as members of the least political and most independent branch of government, can join hands with local classroom teachers and community leaders in responding to this crisis in civic education and public discourse. This cross-disciplinary collaboration is the best way of translating the lessons taught by federal courts in resolving important public controversies into language, stories and curricular units that can be used by middle and high school teachers to reach and influence their students.



(LEFT TO RIGHT) SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE WILLIAM B. SHUBB; JUSTICE ANTHONY M. KENNEDY; DISTRICT JUDGE KIMBERLY J. MUELLER; FRANCIS M. "MAC" GOLDSBERRY; NINTH CIRCUIT LIBRARIAN ERIC WADE; FORMER CIRCUIT AND COURT OF APPEALS EXECUTIVE CATHY A. CATTERSON

Programs and Activities

Student Programs

- **Courthouse Field Trips** are hosted by the Kennedy Center on a regular basis and coordinated with the judges and staff of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California.
- **Classroom Visits** are conducted by judges and lawyers who volunteer their time as part of Operation Protect & Defend, a civic education program that has been visiting classrooms since 2002.
- **Moot Court and Mock Trial Programs** are frequently conducted at the courthouse with the Center coordinating the use of courthouse facilities.
- **Art & Essay Contests** are sponsored by both **Operation Protect & Defend** and by the **Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals**. Winning art is displayed in the Kennedy Center.

Teacher Programs

The **Sacramento Summer Institute**, one of the Center's first programs, brings local high school teachers together for an intense, four-and-a-half-day professional development seminar held in the Center. Its early success inspired judges in the Fresno courthouse to create a **Fresno Summer Institute**.

During 2019, a new teacher-focused program – called a **Teach-In on Trending Topics** – was rolled out. A Teach-In helps high school teachers understand the legal ins and outs of particularly newsworthy topics of governmental and civic significance so they may bring that deeper understanding to their own classrooms.

In September of 2019, the Center developed, at the suggestion of Board Member Ellen Wong, a model Constitution Day assignment for high schools teachers. The **“Constitution Café Drafting Assignment”** is designed to engage each student in examining and understanding a small piece of the exact text found in the United States Constitution, furthering Justice Kennedy's oft-repeated suggestion that everyone should read the Constitution itself every now and then as a reminder of our unique brand of constitutional democracy.



BUST OF JUSTICE ANTHONY M. KENNEDY AT THE KENNEDY LEARNING CENTER

Conferences & Meetings

The Kennedy Center was host to some 40 additional meetings and events during the year which attracted 1,700 visitors.

Courthouse field trips and meetings

Throughout the academic school year, the Center arranges for visits from high schools, middle schools, elementary schools, and home school groups. The Center also hosts public education events and meetings sponsored by government and related agencies. In 2018, the Center had over 4,000 visitors.

A typical classroom field trip to the Robert T. Matsui United States Courthouse includes a greeting by a judge, a tour of the Kennedy Learning Center by the administrator, one or more presentations by court personnel and lawyers discussing judicial processes, and a visit to an active courtroom. Special arrangements can be made for students to participate in a mock trial. For most students, this is the first time they have seen a real courtroom (other than on television or in the movies) and had an opportunity to see judicial proceedings in action.

On an annual basis, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California organizes an **“Open Doors”** program for high school visitors. For the 2019 program, which was supported by over 70 volunteers, the court opened its courtrooms to almost 850 students from 17 schools. The Center’s facilities are open to these visitors, and the Center helps to coordinate the unusually high number of courthouse guests.

The Center also hosts meetings and events for the Sacramento Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, including its **“Night to Honor Service,”** a Federal Defender speaker series, and United States Attorney trainings and workshops.

Visits and Events by the Numbers

- **37 School Visits**
1,800 Students
200 Presenters
- **40 Meetings and Events**
1,700 Guests



Operation Protect & Defend: Classroom Visits



Operation Protect & Defend (“OPD”) is a civics education program designed by lawyers and educators which has been operating since 2002. Teams of attorneys and judges go out to local high schools to teach a curriculum of legal cases and concepts intended to increase student awareness of civic responsibility. The program seeks to:

- Connect students to the U.S. Constitution and American history;
- Educate future voters and jurors;
- Explore issues of U.S. citizenship (rights and responsibilities); and,
- Encourage students to become active citizens.

OPD also conducts an arts and essay contest with awards announced at its annual dinner. The dinner for 2019 was held at the Golden 1 Center in Sacramento, and the keynote speaker was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California, the Honorable Tani Cantil-Sakauye (shown below).

OPD By the Numbers

- **2,500 Students**
- **93 Classrooms**
- **16 Schools**



Moot Court and Mock Trial Programs

Some of the most intensive courthouse experiences occur during moot court competitions and mock trials.

The University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law sponsored the 2019 National Ethics Mock Trial Competition. Working with the Kennedy Learning Center as host, McGeorge invited 350 students from 17 law schools around the country to participate in this competition. It is the only law school-sponsored competition that features both an ethical component in the issues to be tried and scoring based on the participants' observation of ethical and civility principles. The competition provides an opportunity for student trial lawyers to develop and display their knowledge and skills of professional responsibility in trial work. Trials are judged by distinguished members of the bench and bar, including judges of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California, Superior Courts of California, and members of the Anthony M. Kennedy and Milton Schwartz Inns of Court. An amazing 120 volunteer judges participated.

Mock trials are also a way for much younger students to experience the thrill and discipline of courtroom advocacy. As part of their visit to the Kennedy Learning Center and the courthouse, four schools worked hard to provide the mock trial experience for their students. Certainly, one of the more creative approaches was a "Three Little Pigs Mock Trial," originally done for 2nd graders and then repeated with some bigger kids. Following impassioned advocacy on both sides, the Big Bad Wolf was convicted.

Moot Court By the Numbers

- 22 Schools
- 600 Participants



Sacramento Summer Institute

The Sacramento Institute, in its sixth year, focused on the decision by the Supreme Court of the United States in *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*, 438 U.S. 265 (1978). Twenty-eight teachers attended.

The list of speakers attests to the high quality of the institute program. The week was kicked off by Chief Judge Emeritus Morrison C. England, Jr., and Courtney Linn, President of the Foundation Board. **Judicial speakers included:** Associate Justice (ret.) Kathryn M. Werdegar (California Supreme Court); Judge Consuelo M. Callahan (Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals); Senior Judge Jeremy Fogel (who is also the Executive Director of the Berkeley Judicial Institute); Senior Judge William B. Shubb of the Eastern District; and Magistrate Judge Allison Claire of the Eastern District. **Federal Officials included:** McGregor Scott (United States Attorney) and Heather Williams (Federal Defender). **Academic speakers included:** Professor Ashutosh Bhagwat (UC Davis); Professor Leslie Jacobs (McGeorge School of Law); Professor Clark Kelso (McGeorge School of Law); and, Dean Erwin Chemerinsky (UC Berkeley Boalt Hall). **Additional speakers included:** Bradley Benbrook (Benbrook Law Group); Brian P. Goldman (Partner, Orrick); Gary K. Hart (California State Senator (ret.)); Catherine Hawke, J.D. (American Bar Association); Kari C. Kelso, Ph.D (Administrator, Kennedy Learning Center); Todd Lewis, M.Ed. (Coordinator, Summer Institute); Ting Lan Sun, Ph.D (Foundation board member); and, Kevin Williams (Summer Institute presenter and coach).



Exhibit and Capital Improvements

Board members brought good news to the Center in the form of a new exhibit and the funding of significant capital improvements.

Judge Kimberly Mueller worked with the Supreme Court of the United States for the acquisition of a copy of a seven-panel display titled, “Reading the Law: Legal Education in America.” The exhibit traces the history of legal education from “The English Tradition,” to the “Legal Apprentices,” to “Schoolhouse Studies,” and finally to the “Making of the Modern Law School.”

In another piece of good news, Ninth Circuit Librarian Eric Wade has committed over \$200,000 in funding for important capital improvements that expand and improve the Center’s display and exhibit areas, including:

- Re-carpeting the entire learning center with carpet accents to draw visitors in and through the space.
- Enlarging the area currently referred to as the reading corner to accommodate larger groups and to enable the installation of student-sized judge’s bench.
- Reconfiguring the entrance to the workroom between the offices to increase display space near the entrance to the learning center.



2019 Financial Statement

The Board administers two separate funds, one supporting Foundation’s programs at the Kennedy Learning Center, and the other supporting activities of Operation Protect & Defend. The table below shows the fund balances at the beginning and end of calendar year 2019 along with significant categories of income and expenses.

	Foundation Account	OPD Account	Combined Accounts
Fund Balance 1/1/19	\$ 55,221	\$ 6,105	\$ 61,236
Income			
Donations	\$ 12,356	\$ 45,165	\$ 57,311
Expense			
Program Services	19,739	42,925	62,664
Administrative	2,932	1,595	4,527
Fundraising	204	154	358
Total Expense	22,875	44,674	67,549
Net Inc/Expense	(10,519)	491	(10,238)
Fund Balance 12/31/19	\$ 44,702	\$ 6,596	\$ 51,298

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Members of the Foundation's Board of Directors who are federal judges or federal employees serve in an ex officio capacity, and do not participate in fundraising activities of the Foundation. The Foundation abides by strict protocols for fundraising in accordance with judicial canons and ethical rules.

Foundation Benefactors

Total cash contributions and grants to the Foundation for 2019 were \$60,937. Over the past five years, cash contributions and grants have exceeded \$400,000.

Gold (\$10,000 and above)

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