



Hon. Joseph F. Bianco
Circuit Judge
United States Court of Appeals
for the Second Circuit
Co-Chair

Hon. Victor Marrero
District Judge
United States District Court
for the Southern District of New York
Co-Chair

THE HONORABLE ROBERT A. KATZMANN

JUSTICE FOR ALL

COURTS AND THE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

The Civic Education Project of the Federal Courts of the Second Circuit

PRESS RELEASE

Law Day Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New York, May 2, 2022 –*The Robert A. Katzmann Justice for All: Courts and the Community Initiative*, the civic education project of the federal courts of the Second Circuit launched by then-Chief Second Circuit Judge Robert A. Katzmann in 2014, will begin its Law Day 2022 celebration today. Law Day is held annually across the country around May 1st to commemorate the role of law in our society and to cultivate a deeper understanding of the legal profession.

Each year, *The Robert A. Katzmann Justice for All: Courts and the Community Initiative* sponsors Law Day programs through outreach efforts to teachers and students. Several events throughout the month of May are planned around the circuit to celebrate this year’s national Law Day theme, “Toward a More Perfect Union: The Constitution in Times of Change.” On May 3rd, *Justice For All*, in partnership with the Eastern District of New York and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, will host simultaneous naturalization ceremonies for approximately 490 citizenship candidates at the Brooklyn Cyclones Maimonides Park and the Long Island Ducks Fairfield Properties Ballpark. Margo K. Brodie, Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York and Joseph F. Bianco, United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit will preside over the Brooklyn ceremony and the Long Island ceremony respectively.

On May 4th teams of judges and lawyers will virtually visit 22 classrooms across New York state, including schools in each of New York’s four federal districts. In the Northern District of New York, over 300 students will meet with federal judges and lawyers both virtually and in-person throughout the first two weeks of May. In Connecticut, students will participate in both virtual and in-person programming throughout the month, including: a school visit to the New Haven courthouse to observe a court proceeding; a virtual career panel; virtual discussions about the Law Day theme; an observation of a naturalization ceremony; meeting with a federal judge on a high school campus; and reading with a federal judge in several elementary school classrooms.

In partnership with the New York Public Library, and in celebration of Law Day, *Justice For All* is conducting a three-part virtual career panel series. There are three one-hour panels on April 27th, May 11th, and May 25th. The first panel consisted of EDNY Chief Judge Brodie, a federal prosecutor (Maria Cruz Melendez), and a federal defender (Deirdre von Dornum); the second panel will be a U.S. Secret Service Agent, a recently retired FBI Special Agent-in-Charge, and a Special Inspector from the U.S. Marshals Service; and the third panel will be a courtroom sketch artist, a court reporter, and a U.S. Pretrial Services Officer. Additionally, on May 18th, a Second Circuit judge will be presenting a “Views From the Bench” program at the Hudson Park branch of the New York Public Library.

Additionally, to coincide with Law Day celebrations during May 2022, *Justice For All* will announce the winners of the 2022 Essay Contest in Honor of Second Circuit Judge Robert A. Katzmann, organized in partnership with the New York State Bar Association Commercial & Federal Litigation Section. Consistent with the Law Day theme, the theme for the essay contest is the Equal Protection Clause, focusing on the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Equal Protection Clause over time. *Justice For All* received 123 essay submissions from New York high schoolers. Winners will be presented with their awards by a Second Circuit judge, and the first-place essay will be published by the New York State Bar Association Commercial and Federal Litigation Section.

To learn more about *The Robert A. Katzmann Justice for All: Courts and the Community Initiative*, please visit <https://justiceforall.ca2.uscourts.gov/>, call us at (212) 857-8930, or e-mail us at justiceforall@ca2.uscourts.gov.

About Law Day

Law Day is an annual celebration first held in 1957 when former American Bar Association President Charles Rhynes envisioned a special day to mark our nation's commitment to the rule of law. The following year, President Dwight D. Eisenhower issued the first Law Day Proclamation. Law Day was made official when Congress issued a joint resolution designating May 1 as the official date for celebrating Law Day.