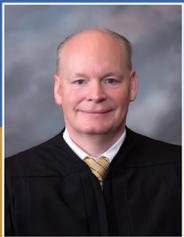


Kansas
Judicial Branch

Kansas Supreme Court

Special Session in Great Bend



6:30 p.m.

APRIL

6

Great Bend Events Center

3111 10th St., Great Bend
Informal public reception to follow

**SCAN ME
FOR MORE**



or visit
www.kscourts.org/travel-docket

Supreme Court invites community to special session in Great Bend

The Kansas Supreme Court will hear two cases in a special session in the B-29 Superfortress Ballroom at the Great Bend Events Center, 3111 10th St., as part of its ongoing outreach to familiarize Kansans with the high court, its work, and the overall role of the Kansas judiciary.

It will be the Supreme Court's first visit to Great Bend in the court's 161-year history, and it will be only the 12th time the court will hear cases in the evening.

The court will be in session from 6:30 p.m. to about 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 6. The justices will greet the public in an informal reception immediately following the session.

Supreme Court justices pictured on front, from left to right: KJ Wall; Caleb Stegall; Eric Rosen; Marla Luckert (chief justice); Dan Biles; Evelyn Wilson; and Melissa Taylor Standrige.

Cases to be heard

Appeal No. 123,323: *State of Kansas v. Rachael Hilyard*

Sedgwick County: (Criminal Appeal) A jury convicted Hilyard of first-degree murder in the decapitation death of her boyfriend's grandmother. The district court sentenced Hilyard to a hard-50 life sentence. Hilyard challenges the sufficiency of the evidence to support her conviction and raises other challenges to her conviction and sentence.

Appeal No. 124,415: *Mark A. Bruce v. Laura Kelly, in her official capacity as governor of the State of Kansas; Will Lawrence, in his individual capacity as Chief of Staff to Governor Laura Kelly; and Herman T. Jones, in his official and individual capacities as Superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol*

U.S. District Court: (Certified Question) The case involves two questions of law certified to the Kansas Supreme Court by the U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas. Bruce contends that when his tenure as superintendent of the Kansas Highway Patrol was terminated, he was entitled to return to the rank he held when he was appointed superintendent. Bruce further contends that when his tenure was terminated, he was not returned to rank, but instead was forced to retire, which amounted to a constructive discharge from employment.

Attending the special session

Arrive early to allow time to get through security. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. To ease your check-in, do not bring:

- food or drink;
- large bags, large purses, backpacks, computer cases, or briefcases;
- knives, pepper spray, firearms, or weapons; and
- laptop computers, handheld games, personal digital assistants, or tablets.

Cellphones must be turned off and stored out of sight while court is in session.

Attendees are encouraged to follow Barton County Health Department public health recommendations at the time of the event.

Quiet, please

The audience is prohibited from talking during oral arguments because it interferes with the attorneys' remarks and justices' questions. Talking immediately outside the ballroom is also discouraged. If you arrive after the session starts or must leave before it ends, be as quiet as possible entering and exiting the ballroom.

Informal reception

After the session concludes, the justices will greet the public in an informal reception.

Live video stream

The special session will also be broadcast live online at www.YouTube.com/KansasSupremeCourt.

Supreme Court outreach

Great Bend is the court's 19th destination since 2011, when it celebrated the state's 150th anniversary by convening in the historic Supreme Court courtroom in the Kansas Statehouse.

Since then, the court has traveled to Colby, El Dorado, Emporia, Garden City, Greensburg, Hays, Hiawatha, Hutchinson, Kansas City, Lawrence, Manhattan, Overland Park, Pittsburg, Salina, Topeka, Wichita, and Winfield.

The court started conducting evening sessions when it visited Hays in April 2015. That event drew a crowd of nearly 700 people. A special session in Lawrence in 2019 drew about 800 people.