



News for Immediate Release

May 23, 2024

Commonwealth Court to Hold Special Sessions in Allegheny County

HARRISBURG — The Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania will hold two special argument sessions on Thursday, May 23 in Allegheny County, followed by a panel discussion honoring the Honorable Rochelle S. Friedman.

Session One

TIME: 9:45 a.m.
LOCATION: Supreme Court Courtroom
City-County Building, 8th Floor
Pittsburgh

Panel members include the Honorable Matthew Wolf and Bonnie Leadbetter with the Honorable Michael Wojcik presiding.

Session Two

TIME: 1 p.m.
LOCATION: Mueller Education Center, 5th Floor
Heinz History Center
1212 Smallman Street
Pittsburgh

Panel members include Commonwealth Court President Judge Renee Cohn Jubelirer and the Honorable Lori Dumas with the Honorable Patricia McCullough presiding.

In addition to its usual sessions in Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and Philadelphia, the Commonwealth Court holds sessions several times a year in towns across Pennsylvania to give people the chance to observe the justice system firsthand.

Following the special sessions, the Court and its distinguished guests will gather to honor the life and career achievements of the Honorable Rochelle S. Friedman during a panel discussion *Leading by Example: How Women Shaped the Pennsylvania Judiciary*.

A 25-year member of the Commonwealth Court, Judge Friedman is a pioneer who blazed paths for women in the legal and judicial fields in Western Pennsylvania. Known for her tenure on the Court, her legendary dissents and work defending civil liberties, Judge Friedman's life and career reflect the challenges and success of generations of women in the law.

During the panel discussion, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania Debra Todd, along with the Honorable David Wecht, Renee Cohn Jubelirer, Bonnie Leadbetter, Dan Pellegrini, Kim Berkeley Clark and Maureen Lally-Green will examine how women like Judge Friedman have played a key role in positively impacting and building a legacy of consensus and congeniality for women in the law. The esteemed panel will reflect on what we can learn from the past to continue shaping the future for the next generation of women in the profession.

Attendees to the panel discussion can also join the Court to celebrate the recent donation of Judge Friedman's personal and professional papers to the Rauh Jewish History Program and Archives. Special displays of Judge Friedman's materials and papers will remain on view in the Detre Library & Archives through June 6.

The display is part of a larger exhibit offered by the Heinz History Center and Rauh Jewish History Program and Archives, *A Woman's Place: How Women Shaped Pittsburgh*, showcasing the stories of barrier-breaking Western Pa women who helped shape the region and nation.

The Commonwealth Court is one of Pennsylvania's two statewide intermediate appellate courts. Its jurisdiction generally is limited to legal matters involving state and local government and regulatory agencies. Litigation typically focuses on such subjects as banking, insurance and utility regulation and laws affecting taxation, land use, elections, labor practices and workers' compensation. All court sessions are open to the public.

Learn more about the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court [here](#).

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