

## New 'Lady Justice' Podcast Features Women Supreme Court Justices From Four States

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CHARLESTON, W.Va. – The Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia is excited to announce a multi-state Supreme Court public education effort.

In a new podcast, *Lady Justice: Women of the Court*, West Virginia Supreme Court Justice Beth Walker, Arkansas Supreme Court Justice Rhonda Wood, Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman, and Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Bridget McCormack discuss the law and its real-world implications.

"The four of us are committed to civics education and making sure everyone knows about how our courts work," Justice Walker said. "This is a rare an exciting project that presents important information in a free, very easily accessible format."

West Virginia Chief Justice Tim Armstead said, "Our Supreme Court has worked very hard to make our court system more open, transparent and accessible to the people of West Virginia. This program will play an important role in continuing this crucial outreach to our citizens. I thank Justice Walker for her participation and her work in developing this outstanding series of discussions about the history and work of our court system."

The *Lady Justice* podcast will focus on our nation's state courts, where more than 90 percent of cases are heard. If they are appealed, state courts often serve as the final arbiters on issues that are raised.

The podcast can be heard on iTunes, Spotify, Stitcher, and in other podcasting apps. It can also be found at: <u>https://ladyjustice.podbean.com/</u>.

The first episode premieres on Constitution Day, Sept. 17, with a discussion about state constitutions. The trailers are available now and the public can subscribe.

While residents of the United States all live under the U.S. Constitution, state constitutions can vary rather significantly. Some were adopted more than a century ago while others are only a few decades old. In some states, citizens are granted the power to amend or revise the constitution while in other states this is not possible.

"We learn about these differences as each Justice discusses the characteristics of her state's own constitution," says Justice Wood, who leads the discussion.

The next episode will explore each Justice's journey to her Supreme Court and her personal experiences. The Justices hope listeners will get to know them as people outside of the courtroom.

The views expressed on the podcast are the Justices' alone and not the views of their respective courts. The podcast is produced by the Arkansas Supreme Court's Public Education Program.

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