



# Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia

## News

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### Two Circuit Judges to Sit on Supreme Court

For immediate release Monday, March 11, 2024

CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Two circuit judges have been temporarily assigned to sit on the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia to hear one case each on Tuesday, March 12.

Nineteenth Judicial Circuit (Barbour and Taylor Counties) Judge Shawn D. Nines will sit in for Justice Haley Bunn and Twenty-First Judicial Circuit (Grant, Mineral, and Tucker Counties) Judge Robert E. Ryan will sit in for Justice William R. Wooton. Justice Bunn and Justice Wooton are each recused from one case on the docket that day. Judge Nines and Judge Ryan will hear the arguments in their respective cases and participate in all related decision conferences.

Judge Nines has been assigned to hear the 10 a.m. Rule 20 Argument in *Michael D. Ruble and Brenda K. Ruble v. Matrix Chemical, LLC*, No. 22-0329.

Judge Ryan will hear the 1 p.m. Rule 19 Argument in *West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission v. David D. and Elizabeth D., Parents and Legal Guardians of M.D.*, No. 22-0390.

Cases set for Rule 20 arguments involve issues of first impression or of fundamental public importance; cases involving constitutional questions regarding the validity of a statute, municipal ordinance, or court ruling; and cases involving inconsistencies or conflicts among the decisions of lower tribunals.

Cases set for Rule 19 arguments involve assignments of error in the application of settled law; claims of an unsustainable exercise of discretion where the law governing that discretion is settled; claims of insufficient evidence or a result against the weight of the evidence; and cases involving a narrow issue of law or in which a hearing is required by law.

The judges' bios and photos are available on the West Virginia Judiciary website. Judge Nines' bio is available at [Judge Shawn David Nines | West Virginia Judiciary \(courtswv.gov\)](http://JudgeShawnDavidNines|WestVirginiaJudiciary(courtswv.gov)). Judge Ryan's bio is available at [Judge Robert E. Ryan | West Virginia Judiciary \(courtswv.gov\)](http://JudgeRobertE.Ryan|WestVirginiaJudiciary(courtswv.gov)).