



200 North Glebe Road
Suite 200
Arlington, VA 22203

Ph 703-894-1776
Fax 703-894-1791

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Contact: Sonia Blumstein
205.620.2087

Sonia@PROactiveSolutionsInc.net

Melissa Cohlmiia
Director, Communication
Koch Companies Public Sector, LLC
316-828-3756
Melissa.cohlmiia@kochps.com

**BILL OF RIGHTS INSTITUTE TO HOST
FREE PUBLIC FORUM WITH JUDGE EDITH JONES**

U.S. Constitution and Judicial Restraint to be Discussed

ARLINGTON, VA—The Honorable Edith H. Jones, chief judge for the United States Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, will speak at a free public forum on Thursday, April 16 at the Hyatt Regency Wichita. The forum, titled *Balancing the Scales: Judges, Justice, and Judicial Restraint*, will focus on the role of the courts within our Constitutional government. The event is part of a multi-day program which includes a Constitutional seminar for teachers, a luncheon recognizing regional student winners of this year's Constitution Bee and their teachers, and the Kansas Constitution Bee finals. The events are presented by the Bill of Rights Institute and underwritten by the Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation.

The public forum begins with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by Judge Jones' presentation 6:15 PM in the Hyatt's Grand Eagle Ballroom. More information is available at www.BillofRightsInstitute.org/WichitaEvent.

According to Susan Addington, grants manager for the Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation, "The foundation is pleased to play a role in bringing one of the nation's most highly-regarded judges to Wichita," she said. "This forum is a unique opportunity to learn from and interact with Judge Jones, an experience not often afforded to the general public."

"We are delighted to have one of the nation's foremost experts on the Constitution speaking on such an important topic at our second annual public forum in Wichita, said Victoria Hughes, president of the Bill of Rights Institute. "The role the courts play in our society is more important than ever, making it critical that people understand the proper role of judges and the Courts."

Seating is limited and reservations for the public forum are requested by Monday, April 13 to 316-828-5624 or email@fmkfoundation.org.

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MEDIA FAST FACTS:

ABOUT THE HONORABLE EDITH H. JONES:

Judge Edith H. Jones was appointed Chief Judge of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals by President Ronald Reagan and sworn in May 1985. She received her bachelor's degree from Cornell University with a major in Economics in 1971 and her juris doctorate from University of Texas School of Law in 1974. She currently serves as the president of The Garland R. Walker American Inn of Court, the boards of directors for St. John's University School of Law Masters in Bankruptcy Program, the Sam Houston Area Council Boy Scouts of America, and is on the Judicial Advisory Board for the Law and Economics Center at George Mason University School of Law.

ABOUT THE CONSTITUTION BEE PROGRAM:

The Constitution Bee is a statewide contest for Kansas high school students. It focuses on building knowledge of the Founding period and an understanding of the Founding documents and our constitutional government. The program encourages students from across the state to test their own understanding and gain valuable knowledge of American history and civics.

The Constitution Bee requires participating students to have knowledge in five categories, including the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, famous people and events from our history, Supreme Court decisions, current events, and civic values and skills.

The contest began in the fall of 2008 and culminates with the state finals on Saturday, April 18 in Wichita.

ABOUT THE FRED C. AND MARY R. KOCH FOUNDATION:

Established in 1952, the Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation focuses its resources on not-for-profit organizations in Kansas that significantly enhance the state's quality of life through arts, environmental stewardship, human services, enablement of at-risk youth, and education. The foundation is named for Fred C. Koch (1900-1967), who co-founded what is now Koch Industries, Inc., and his wife, Mary R. Koch (1907-1990).

ABOUT THE BILL OF RIGHTS INSTITUTE:

The Bill of Rights Institute, founded in 1999, is a nonprofit educational organization. The mission of the Bill of Rights Institute is to educate young people about the words and ideas of America's Founders, the liberties guaranteed in our Founding documents, and how our Founding principles continue to affect and shape a free society.