



Supreme Court of Kentucky

Chambers, State Capitol
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
502-564-4162

John D. Minton, Jr.
Chief Justice of Kentucky

kycourts.gov

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For Immediate Release



Supreme Court of Kentucky to hear arguments Sept. 16-18 in Frankfort Public can watch via livestream

FRANKFORT, Ky., Sept. 14, 2020 – The [Supreme Court of Kentucky](http://kycourts.net) will convene Sept. 16-18 in Frankfort to hear oral arguments, including Gov. Andy Beshear's challenge to court rulings that struck down his COVID-19 emergency public health orders related to day care centers and other businesses. Proceedings will take place in the Supreme Court Courtroom on the second floor of the state Capitol in Frankfort.

The public may observe oral arguments via the [Supreme Court livestream](#) on the Kentucky Court of Justice website or via a [KET livestream](#). KET will also show oral arguments on its [KY Channel](#), which is available in most of the state. To view arguments later, visit the [Supreme Court section](#) of KET's website.

With the Capitol closed to visitors, in-person attendance will be limited to attorneys, parties and the media. Masks are required and social distancing will be observed in the courtroom. Visit [COVID-19 and the Courts](#) for ongoing updates on how the state court system is handling the pandemic.

The Supreme Court is the state court of last resort and the final interpreter of Kentucky law. [Seven justices](#) sit on the Supreme Court and all seven justices rule on appeals that come before the court. The justices are elected from seven appellate districts and serve eight-year terms. A chief justice, chosen for a four-year term by fellow justices, is the administrative head of the state's court system and is responsible for its operation. The Supreme Court may order a ruling or opinion to be published, which means that the ruling becomes the case law governing all similar cases in the future in Kentucky.

Oral Arguments

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16, 2020

9:30 a.m. EDT

2019-SC-0692-DGE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES V. K. S., ET AL.

Dependency, Neglect and Abuse. Due Process. KRS 31.110(1)(b). Funding for Expert Assistance. The issue in this matter is whether due process requires expert assistance be provided to indigent parties in dependency, neglect and abuse cases.

[View case briefs](#)

Discretionary Review granted: 3/18/20

Calloway Circuit Court, Judge Robert D. Mattingly, Jr.

Attorneys for Appellant: Tiffany L. Yahr

Attorneys for Appellees: John M. Alderdice, Casey J. Naber, Amy R. Roos

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17, 2020

10 a.m. EDT

2020-SC-0313-OA

HON. ANDREW BESHEAR, IN HIS OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS GOVERNOR, ET AL. V. HON. GLENN E. ACREE, JUDGE, ET AL.

Injunctive Relief. Emergency Powers. Issues include the Governor's authority to issue orders pursuant to KRS Chapter 39A.

[View case briefs](#)

Court of Appeals, Judge Glenn E. Acree
Boone Circuit Court, Judge Richard A. Brueggemann

Attorneys for Appellants: S. Travis Mayo, La Tasha A. Buckner, Samuel R. Flynn, Joseph A. Newberg, Taylor A. Payne, Laura C. Tipton, Wesley W. Duke, David T. Lovely
Attorneys for Appellees: Daniel Cameron, Heather L. Becker, Barry L. Dunn, Marc E. Manley, S. Chad Meredith, Brett R. Nolan, Aaron J. Siletto, Christopher D. Wiest

FRIDAY, SEPT. 18, 2020

9:30 a.m. EDT

2019-SC-0118-DG

CLIFFORD RUSSELL SR., ET AL.V. JOHNSON & JOHNSON, INC., ET AL.

Torts. Products Liability. Issues involve whether state law tort claims concerning Class III investigational medical devices are preempted by federal law. How did Riegel v. Medtronic, 552 U.S. 312 (2008) impact Niehoff v. Surgidev Corporation, 950 S.W.2d 816 (Ky. 1997)?

[View case briefs](#)

Discretionary Review granted: 9/18/2019
Fayette Circuit Court, Judge James D. Ishmael, Jr.

Attorneys for Appellants: Kevin C. Burke, Anne L. Gilday, Jennifer L. Lawrence, Jamie K. Neal
Attorneys for Appellees: Lori E. Hammond, James F. Murdica, Charles M. Pritchett, Jr., Jason P. Renzelmann, David T. Klapheke

NICKELL, J., NOT SITTING

11 a.m. EDT

2019-SC-0247-DG

JUNE BLOCKER V. JANET CONOVER, WARDEN OF THE KENTUCKY CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR WOMEN, ET AL.

Inmate Discipline. Inmate Medical Treatment. Due Process. Issues include whether a prison may fail to provide appropriate medication to an inmate which it has classified as having a "serious mental illness" and then charge them with offenses or punish them for behavior arguably related to the failure to properly medicate them for their "serious mental illness."

[View case briefs](#)

Discretionary Review granted: 9/18/2019
Shelby Circuit Court, Judge Charles R. Hickman

Attorneys for Appellant: Samuel N. Potter
Attorneys for Appellees: Angela E. Cordery

NICKELL, J., NOT SITTING

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