

Special Session **Kansas Supreme Court**



Seated left to right: Justice Marla J. Luckert; Chief Justice Lawton R. Nuss; and Justice Carol A. Beier. Standing left to right: Justice Dan Biles, Justice Eric S. Rosen, Justice Lee A. Johnson, and Justice Caleb Stegall.

6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 3, 2017
Webb Hall, Memorial Union
Emporia State University
Emporia

Supreme Court invites community to special session at Emporia State University in Emporia

The Kansas Supreme Court will hear two cases in a special session at Emporia State University in Emporia as part of its ongoing outreach to familiarize Kansans with the high court, its work, and the overall role of the Kansas judiciary.

The court will be in session from 6:30 p.m. to about 8 p.m. Tuesday, October 3, in Webb Hall, located on the second floor of the ESU Memorial Union, 1331 Market St.

It will be the Supreme Court's first visit to Emporia in the court's 156-year history, and it will be only the seventh time that the court will hear cases in the evening.

After the session concludes, the justices will greet the public in an informal reception in the Webb Lobby on the east side of Webb Hall.

Docket

Appeal No. 114,705: *Rochelle Patterson, Mother and Next Best Friend of Nicolette Patterson, a minor, and Gavin Patterson, a minor, v. Cowley County, Kansas; Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism; Bolton Township; and Elaine Selenke as mother and heir-at-law of Courtney Brewer.* Patterson seeks compensation in the death of her ex-husband, one of two people who drowned when their vehicle skidded off a rural road into the Arkansas River. At trial, Cowley County District Court dismissed the defendants. The Court of Appeals affirmed part of that ruling, reversed part of it, and remanded part of it to the trial court. Among the issues is that the appeals court decision conflicts with a previous Supreme Court ruling.

Appeal No. 114,682: *State of Kansas v. Dustin B. Hilt.* Hilt appeals his Johnson County hard-50 life sentence for first-degree murder on the basis that a juror was wrongly replaced during the sentencing phase, that the state committed prosecutorial error, and that the trial court did not legally pronounce the sentence.

Summaries of the cases and briefs filed by the attorneys are available online by following the *Emporia Special Session* link under What's New on the Kansas judicial branch website at www.kscourts.org.

Attending the Special Session

If you want to attend the special session, plan to arrive at the venue early to allow time to get through security screening. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. To ease your check-in, do not bring:

- food or drink;
- large bags, large purses, backpacks, computer cases, or briefcases;
- knives, pepper spray, firearms, or weapons;
- electronic devices like laptop computers, handheld games, personal digital assistants, or tablets. If you must carry a cell phone, turn it off and store it out of sight while court is in session.

Quiet Please

Audience members are prohibited from talking during oral arguments because it interferes with the attorneys' remarks and questions asked by the justices. Talking immediately outside the auditorium is also discouraged.

If someone arrives after the session starts, or must leave the auditorium before it ends, he or she should be as quiet as possible entering and exiting the auditorium.

Live Video Stream

A livestream of the special session will be available on the Internet by selecting the *Watch Supreme Court Live!* link on the judicial branch home page at www.kscourts.org.

Supreme Court Outreach

Emporia State University is the court's 14th destination since 2011, when it first convened outside of the Kansas Judicial Center to mark the state sesquicentennial.

Stops in 2011 included the historic Supreme Court courtroom in the Capitol and locations in Salina, Greensburg, and Wichita. The court visited Overland Park in 2012, Pittsburg in 2013, Kansas City in 2014, Hays and Garden City in 2015, Topeka, Hiawatha and Hutchinson in 2016, and Winfield in 2017.