



**United States District Court  
Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division  
219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois 60604**

Release Date:  
December 18, 2017

Contact: Julie Hodek, Public Information Officer  
United States District Court for  
the Northern District of Illinois  
219 S. Dearborn St., #2514A  
Chicago, IL 60604  
312-435-5693

**Chief Judge Castillo Welcomes High Schoolers Participating in Equal Justice Under Law Program**

Chicago, Ill. - On December 8, 2017, the District Court for the Northern District of Illinois hosted students from twelve area high schools participating in the Equal Justice Under Law program.

Chief Judge Rubén Castillo personally welcomed the students and their teachers to the District Court.

In the morning, students heard mock oral arguments from experienced attorneys and then in panels of “justices,” students reviewed facts and issues, explained their views to each other, offered their arguments and made a decision on the case. Students, in a later session, met in deliberation groups as “legislators” to discuss a proposed public policy. In the afternoon, students presented arguments on the proposed policy in a moderated town hall forum and then had the opportunity to vote for or against the policy.

Equal Justice Under Law is an annual program for Illinois high school students designed to enhance their understanding of a public policy question related to a recent constitutional issue.

Equal Justice Under Law is a program of the Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago. The Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago (CRFC) aims to strengthen American democracy by providing elementary and secondary students with hands-on learning about the Constitution to prepare them for informed civic engagement. Chief Judge Castillo serves on the CRFC Board of Directors.

###



Photos provided by Constitutional Rights Foundation