



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

Chief Judge Rubén Castillo Shares His Story with Hamline Elementary Sixth Graders



November 13, 2017- Chief Judge Rubén Castillo welcomed 79 sixth graders from John H. Hamline Elementary School in Chicago's Back of the Yards neighborhood. Emphasizing that judges are everyday people, Judge Castillo spoke of his own journey from growing up on Chicago's West Side to becoming a federal judge. He encouraged the students to consider careers in law, sharing that his upbringing was not far different from the students' own lives. He spoke of his parents, his mother from a mountaintop village in Puerto Rico and his father from a small town in Mexico, and how reading and athletics were critical to helping him remain focused throughout his youth. The courthouse visit was part of Hamline's participation in The Restorative Justice Project at John Marshall Law School.