



## **JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER**

122 Amsterdam Avenue  
Room 504  
New York, New York 10023  
[www.jrcnyc.org](http://www.jrcnyc.org)  
Tel: (212) 580-5905

### **The Constitution Works: A Brief Overview**

The Constitution Works (TCW) is a law and civics program that challenges 5th-12th grade students to think critically and analytically about important legal and constitutional issues involving the First Amendment. TCW is administered and operated by the Justice Resource Center (JRC), New York City's leading provider of law-related and civic education programs and curricula to the school-age population since 1991.

Through engaging fact patterns, students are introduced to relevant constitutional issues and take on a role in determining the outcome. In a culminating mock Supreme Court hearing students have the opportunity to assume the role of attorney or Supreme Court Justice in a First Amendment case: *Denver Dispatch v United States*.

TCW's curricular materials are aligned with Nextgen standards and includes a comprehensive teacher guide with lesson plans, student workbooks and includes a courtroom mock Supreme Court hearing for students run by our TCW program facilitators at the Thurgood Marshall Courthouse, U.S. Federal Bankruptcy Court in Brooklyn, NY or your school.

### **The Constitution Works: Case Offering**

*Denver Dispatch v. United States* (Freedom of the Press): A local newspaper has printed the first article of a five part series about a secret biological weapons research plant. The government wants to stop further publication of the articles because it feels that the articles could jeopardize the safety of the nation. Is this



**Teacher Application  
Summer Institute 2022**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher Cell Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_  
School District \_\_\_\_\_  
School Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

School Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
AP Name \_\_\_\_\_  
AP Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Teaching Assignment \_\_\_\_\_ Grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Classes in Program \_\_\_\_\_ Average Number of Students per Class \_\_\_\_\_

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By participating in **The Constitution Program (TCW)**, I agree to the following:

- I will attend all three scheduled professional development sessions (**June 29, 30 and July 1, 9am-3:30pm**).
- I will make myself available for a follow-up PD session to be scheduled in the fall.
- I will be punctual to all professional development sessions.
- I will administer TCW curriculum during the school day or after school.
- I will involve students in the mandated culminating mock Supreme Court hearing.
- I will schedule my student's culminating mock Supreme Court hearing with JRC staff (student hearings will take place at Thurgood Marshall Courthouse, Federal Bankruptcy Court of downtown Brooklyn or your school).
- I will provide anecdotal data from my classes or students or other information sought by the Justice Resource Center.
- I will not share TCW materials without the JRC's consent.

In return, my school will receive a free set of textbooks and teacher professional development. I will be compensated for participating in and completing The Constitution Works Program.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to [JRCinfo@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:JRCinfo@schools.nyc.gov) Any questions, call Debra Lesser 212-580-5905

Return by May 31, 2022.