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Supreme Court of Appeals
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August 11, 2026

To: Counsel of Record

From: C. Casey Forbes, Clerk of Court

Re: Notice of Argument - September 22, 2026, Argument Docket

Enclosed is a copy of the Argument Docket for **Tuesday, September 22, 2026**. Please review the docket and promptly inform the Clerk of Court of any changes to the listings of counsel of record, division of argument time, or other necessary changes by emailing scawv.filing@courtswv.gov on or before **September 1, 2026**.

All cases are scheduled at a time certain. **You must check in at the reception desk in the Office of the Clerk (Room E-317) 20 minutes prior to your oral argument time.**

Oral arguments are limited to ten minutes per side in Rule 19 cases, and 20 minutes per side in Rule 20 cases. During argument, the Chief Justice may direct counsel to conclude prior to the time allotted. The petitioner shall be entitled to open and close the argument. If there is more than one party on a side, counsel may confer and agree upon a division of time and order of argument. In the absence of an agreement, time is evenly split. Counsel should notify the Clerk of Court if the agreed upon division of time and order of argument differs from that listed here.

Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, any party who has not filed a brief will not present oral argument, and amicus curiae will not present oral argument.

Continuances are strongly disfavored. A request for continuance of the argument must be made by written motion, as set forth and the Rules of Appellate Procedure.

If you have a disability and will need a reasonable accommodation to participate in argument, please contact the Office of the Clerk as soon as possible so that arrangements may be made

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA
September 2026 Regular Term
Argument Docket

Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Rule 20 argument

10:00 a.m.

1. SER Mike Pushkin, Stephen Willingham, and the West Virginia Democratic Party v. Patrick Morrissey, in his Official Capacity as Governor of West Virginia, and Roger Hanshaw, in his Official Capacity as Speaker of the West Virginia House of Delegates, No. 25-587
(Original Jurisdiction)

Petitioners: Mike Pushkin, et al.

Petitioners' Counsel: **Robert M. Bastress**, Law Office of Robert M. Bastress

Petitioners' Argument Time: 20 minutes (Opening/Rebuttal)

Respondents: Patrick Morrissey, Governor, et al.

Respondents' Counsel: **Michael R. Williams**, Solicitor General

Respondents' Argument Time: 20 minutes

10:40 a.m.

2. State of West Virginia v. Thomas M. Valentine, No. 23-620
(Marion County No. CC-24-2023-F-82, Judge David R. Janes)

Petitioner: Thomas M. Valentine

Petitioner's Counsel: **Christopher M. Wilson**, Law Office of Christopher M. Wilson, PLLC

Petitioner's Argument Time: 20 minutes (Opening/Rebuttal)

Respondent: State of West Virginia

Respondent's Counsel: **Grant A. Newman**, Assistant Solicitor General

Respondent's Argument Time: 20 minutes

Rule 19 argument

11:20 a.m.

3. State of West Virginia v. Daniel Marcus Battle, No. 23-511
(Cabell County No. 18-F-140, Judge Alfred E. Ferguson)

Petitioner: Daniel Marcus Battle
Petitioner's Counsel: **Tyler Keller**, Public Defender Services
Petitioner's Argument Time: 10 minutes (Opening/Rebuttal)

Respondent: State of West Virginia
Respondent's Counsel: **Andrea Nease**, Deputy Attorney General
Respondent's Argument Time: 10 minutes

11:40 a.m.

4. Stanley L. v. Alexandra C., No. 25-357
(ICA No. 24-ICA-334)

Petitioner: Stanley L.
Petitioner's Counsel: **Tim C. Carrico**, Carrico Law Offices, LC
Petitioner's Argument Time: 10 minutes (Opening/Rebuttal)

Respondent: Alexandra C.
Respondent's Counsel: **Jennifer Ransbottom Compton**, Law Office of Jennifer
Ransbottom Compton
Respondent's Argument Time: 10 minutes

Guardian ad Litem: **D. Scott Bellomy**, Bellomy & Turner, LC
Guardian ad Litem Argument Time: 5 minutes

RECESS

Rule 19 argument

1:00 p.m.

5. SER The West Virginia Board of Education and Michele Blatt, State Superintendent of Schools v. Kris Warner, West Virginia Secretary of State, No. 25-642
(Original Jurisdiction)

Petitioner: The West Virginia Board of Education and Michele Blatt, State
Superintendent of Schools
Petitioner's Counsel: **Benjamin L. Bailey**, Bailey Glasser, LLP
Petitioner's Argument Time: 10 minutes (Opening/Rebuttal)

Respondent: Kris Warner, West Virginia Secretary of State
Respondent's Counsel: **Michael R. Williams**, Solicitor General
Respondent's Argument Time: 10 minutes

1:20 p.m.

6. SER C.R., M.R. and S.R. v. The Honorable Jay M. Hoke, Judge of the Circuit Court of Lincoln County, West Virginia Department of Human Services, V.R., and D.M., No. 26-81
(Original Jurisdiction)

Petitioners: C.R., M.R., and S.R.
Petitioners' Guardian ad Litem: **S. Brent Blankenship**, S. Brent Blankenship, Attorney at Law, PLLC
Petitioners' Argument Time: 10 minutes (Opening/Rebuttal)

Respondent: West Virginia Department of Human Services
Respondent's Counsel: **Michael L. Jackson**, Assistant Attorney General
Respondent's Argument Time: 10 minutes

1:40 p.m.

7. In re A.S., R.S.-1, E.S., and L.S., No. 25-425
(Brooke County Nos. CC-05-2023-JA-24, CC-05-2023-JA-25, CC-05-2023-JA-27, CC-05-2023-JA-28, Judge Jason A. Cuomo)

Petitioners: R.S.-2 and J.P.
Petitioner R.S.-2's Counsel: **Amanda M. Alexander**, Law Offices of Amanda M. Alexander
Petitioner R.S.-2's Argument Time: 10 minutes

Respondent: Department of Human Services
Respondent's Counsel: **Lee Niezgoda**, Assistant Attorney General
Respondent's Argument Time: 10 minutes

Guardian ad Litem for A.S., R.S.-1, and L.S.: **Tejinder Singh**, Cline & Singh, PLLC
Guardian ad Litem's Argument Time: 3 minutes

Guardian ad Litem for E.S.: **David A. Mascio**, Law Offices of David A. Mascio
Guardian ad Litem's Argument Time: 3 minutes

2:05 p.m.

8. C.S. v. Steve Grow, et al., No. 24-24
(ICA No. 22-ICA-141)

Justice Trump Disqualified.

Petitioner: C.S.

Petitioner's Counsel: **Christian J. Riddell**, Riddell Law Group

Petitioner's Argument Time: 10 minutes

Respondents: S. Grow, D. Fishel, C. Jensen, S. Jensen, M. Whitcomb, D. Wrye, A. Naegle and C.M. Jensen

Respondent's Counsel: **Kenneth J. Barton, Jr.**, Steptoe & Johnson PLLC

Respondent's Argument Time: 10 minutes