



# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS

United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana  
Indianapolis, IN

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS, FEDERAL COURT IS FOR YOU!**

**Schedule Your FREE Field Trip Today!**

To get started planning your trip, contact [tours@insd.uscourts.gov](mailto:tours@insd.uscourts.gov) or call (317) 229-3711

## WHAT CAN WE DO ON OUR VISIT TO FEDERAL COURT?

All trips are customized based on teacher input! Visits begin with a short orientation session, followed by a combination of building tour and activity. All field trips meet Indiana Department of Education standards in social studies and language arts!

### Activity choices include:

#### **Citizen Rights (45 min.)**

Students will learn about rights guaranteed to American citizens in our country's founding documents. They will then be the judge in a fictitious scenario that considers which rights are most essential to preserve.

#### **Design A Federal Courthouse (45 min.)**

Following a tour, students draw building plans for a new courthouse. They are asked to consider what needs might be most important based on what they learned about federal court.

#### **Mock Trial \*4th Grade and Up\* (45-60 min.)**

Put a fairy tale character on trial in a scripted mock trial for grades 4 and up! Students will be assigned roles such as judge, attorney, witness, and jury in a fun simulation of a federal court proceeding.

#### **Objects & Images of Federal Court (45 min.)**

Students examine objects and images related to federal court and work together to determine the purpose of each object.

#### **Observe a Naturalization Ceremony (1.5 hours)**

Learn about the naturalization process and what it takes to become a U.S. citizen. Students will witness a ceremony and learn the power behind the words spoken in the Oath of Allegiance. A short discussion will follow the ceremony. Ceremonies take place down the street from the courthouse at the Indiana World War Memorial. Allow 1.5 hours for the ceremony and discussion.



**U.S. DISTRICT COURT**  
**Southern District of Indiana**

46 E. Ohio St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Visiting Federal Court



### Questions?

Contact Mary Giorgio  
(317) 229-3711  
mary\_giorgio@insd.uscourts.gov

### Educator Updates Distribution List

Teachers, stay informed about the court's latest offerings, special events, and new resources! Sign up at the court's website!

<https://www.insd.uscourts.gov/educational-resources>



### HOW SOON SHOULD WE RESERVE A DATE?

It's never too early to reserve your date! Federal court is a busy place, so the earlier you contact us to schedule a visit, the more likely the court will be able to accommodate your preferred day and time. However, we're happy to take last-minute reservations whenever possible.

### HOW LONG CAN WE STAY?

The average visit lasts 2 hours, but each trip is different, depending on the activities selected! Court staff will help you determine the length of your visit when scheduling. If you wish to spend your entire day downtown, there are a number of venues within walking distance to the courthouse that provide fun field trips for elementary school students. We will be happy to make recommendations and assist with planning!

### WHERE ARE YOU LOCATED?

The U.S. District Court is located in downtown Indianapolis at 46 E. Ohio St., about a block from Monument Circle. The building's public entrance is located at the corner of Pennsylvania & Ohio Streets. Buses may drop students off on Ohio St.

### IS THERE PARKING NEARBY?

Unfortunately, there is no parking available at the courthouse. For passenger vehicles, there are a number of parking garages and metered spaces located in short walking distance from the courthouse. Bus drop offs can be accommodated on Ohio St. Buses can park at the zoo and return to pick up students upon completion of the field trip.

### WHAT OTHER RESOURCES DO YOU OFFER ELEMENTARY TEACHERS?

A student activity book offering elementary school-aged children a basic introduction to the federal court system is available on our website. Download a copy by visiting <https://www.insd.uscourts.gov/educational-resources>.