



Public Information Office
United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit
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REVISED NEWS RELEASE

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Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to Sit at UNLV Boyd School of Law

SAN FRANCISCO – The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit will hold a special sitting January 28, 2014, at the William S. Boyd School of Law on the campus of the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, 4505 S. Maryland Parkway. Oral arguments will be heard in the Thomas & Mack Moot Courtroom, beginning at 10 a.m. A photo ID will be required to enter the courtroom.

A three-judge panel consisting of Chief Judge Alex Kozinski of Pasadena and Circuit Judges Stephen Reinhardt of Los Angeles and Jay S. Bybee of Las Vegas will hear appeals of decisions by the federal trial courts in Arizona and Nevada. Cases on the docket are:

- *Kirkpatrick v. County of Washoe*, in which Jamie Kirkpatrick, appeals the summary judgment by the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada, dismissing his action against Washoe County, Nevada, and its social workers. Mr. Kirkpatrick, the natural father and legal guardian of a minor, alleged that the county removed the child from her parents without a warrant and without the requisite circumstance of a threat of imminent danger of serious bodily injury. The county acted after the child tested positive for methamphetamine at birth and her mother admitted to nursing staff that she used the drug throughout her pregnancy. The district court found that the complaint did not assert a cause of action on the child's behalf, and that Mr. Kirkpatrick had not signed an affidavit of paternity and was not yet established as the father at the time of birth and thus did not have constitutionally protected parental rights. The court also found that social workers were entitled to qualified immunity, and that Washoe County was entitled to the summary judgment because Mr. Kirkpatrick did not have a liberty interest in custody, care, and management of the child at the time of the alleged violations. Case 12-15080

- *Torres v. Goddard*, in which plaintiffs, Javier Torres, Lia Rivadeneyra and a proposed class of others, appeal the summary judgment of the Arizona federal court, dismissing their action against the state of Arizona over the seizure of electronic money transfers. Plaintiffs contend that between 2004 and 2006, defendants seized more than \$9 million worth of electronic money transfers made through Western Union Financial Services, Inc. The plaintiffs' funds were confiscated under one of six mass seizure warrants obtained by the state in its efforts to combat human and drug smuggling. Plaintiffs allege that their money transfers were seized without probable cause, that due process notice of the seizures was not provided, and that these seizures violated the Commerce Clause. Case 12-17096

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hears appeals of cases decided by executive branch agencies and federal trial courts in nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions. The court normally meets monthly in Seattle, San Francisco and Pasadena, California; every other month in Portland, Oregon; three times per year in Honolulu, Hawaii; and twice a year in Anchorage, Alaska. A complete schedule of cases is available online at <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov>.

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