

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHAT'S IN STORE? UPCOMING MILESTONE SUPREME COURT TERM IN THE SPOTLIGHT AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (September 8, 2011) – On the heels of the landmark 2010-2011 term, the upcoming session of the U.S. Supreme Court, opening on Monday, October 3, is expected by many observers to be the most challenging in years. The cases that will be presented before the justices in the coming months include the constitutionality of the new federal healthcare reform law, restrictions on same-sex marriage, aggressive new state laws against illegal immigrants, and new versions of race-based policies on admission to state colleges and universities. To navigate the vast controversies on the docket, the National Constitution Center will host its annual **Supreme Court Preview** on Thursday, September 29, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. The discussion will include **Lyle Denniston**, veteran Supreme Court correspondent and the Center's Advisor on Constitutional Literacy, and **John Payton**, President and Director-Counsel of the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund. National Constitution Center President & CEO David Eisner will introduce the program. Admission is \$7 for members, students and teachers, \$10 for non-members and free for 1787 members. Reservations are required and can be made online at www.constitutioncenter.org or by calling 215.409.6700.

In addition to the already heavy caseload, the nine justices also will be tasked with deciding whether new satellite-based technology of locating places on earth – the Global Positioning System – can be used by police forces around the country to monitor the travels of criminal suspects. Further, they will examine the constitutionality of police department policies requiring those arrested to be strip-searched. They will return to the ongoing dispute over government

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ensorship of television and radio during the hours when children may be watching. Other cases could impact the way business is done, the way inventors enforce their patents, and the way government agencies enforce workplace rights laws.

Lyle Denniston is the National Constitution Center's Advisor on Constitutional Literacy and writes a regular series "Constitution Check" for the Center's blog *Constitution Daily*. He has reported on the Supreme Court for over 50 years, currently covering it for SCOTUSblog, an online clearing house of information about the Supreme Court's work. Denniston has covered one fourth of the Justices ever to sit on the Supreme Court, and has reported on the entire careers of ten Justices. He has been a journalist of the law for 63 years, beginning at the Otoe County Courthouse in Nebraska City, Nebraska, in the fall of 1948. Denniston is the author of *The Reporter and The Law: Techniques of Covering the Courts* and contributed two chapters to *100 Americans Making Constitutional History*.

John Payton is President and Director-Counsel of the NAACP's Legal Defense Fund. He was the lead counsel for the University of Michigan in successfully defending the use of race in the admissions process at its undergraduate college and its law school. He has taught at Harvard Law School, the Georgetown Law Center and Howard University Law School. Payton is a member of the American Law Institute, a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a Master in the Edward Coke Appellate Inn of Court.

Located on Independence Mall in Historic Philadelphia, the National Constitution Center is America's first and only nonprofit, nonpartisan institution devoted to the U.S. Constitution. As a cutting-edge museum, national town hall and educational facility, the Center illuminates constitutional ideals and inspires acts of citizenship through must-see multimedia exhibitions, live performances, timely public programs and dynamic educational resources. The museum dramatically tells the story of "We the People" through more than 100 interactive exhibits, films, photographs and rare artifacts; the stirring theatrical performance *Freedom Rising*; and the iconic attraction *Signers' Hall*, featuring 42 life-sized bronze statues of the Founding Fathers. As America's town hall for constitutional dialogue, the Center regularly engages political leaders, scholars, pundits and journalists of diverse viewpoints. The Center also houses the

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ADD TWO/SUPREME COURT PREVIEW

Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education and provides exceptional civic learning resources both onsite and online. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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