



Public Information Office  
**United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit**

Office of the Circuit Executive · 95 7<sup>th</sup> Street, San Francisco, CA 94103 · (415) 355-8800 · (415) 355-8901 Fax

**NEWS RELEASE**

March 17, 2010

Contact: David J. Madden (415) 355-8800

## **Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to Offer Remote Viewing of *En Banc* Hearings**

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit will offer remote viewing of *en banc* court proceedings scheduled for March 23-25 at the James R. Browning U.S. Courthouse here. The public will be able to see and hear the proceedings as they happen at the following Ninth Circuit courthouses:

**William K. Nakamura  
U.S. Courthouse  
1010 Fifth Ave.  
Seattle, Washington  
Courtroom 1, Eighth Floor**

**Pioneer Courthouse  
700 SW Sixth Avenue  
Portland, Oregon  
Pioneer Courtroom,  
Second Floor**

**Richard H. Chambers  
U.S. Courthouse  
125 South Grand Ave.  
Pasadena, California  
Courtroom 1, First Floor**

Live video and audio from the San Francisco courthouse will be distributed to the remote courthouses electronically via secure, court-controlled means. Each remote court will provide audio/video equipment to display the image and provide sound. No photographs or recording of the audio or video will be allowed at the remote courts and proper courtroom decorum will be expected of persons present to observe the proceedings.

“The Ninth Circuit has been permitting cameras in its courtrooms since 1991. To date, appellate panels have granted more than 230 requests without problem. This is simply an extension of what the court is already doing, using the court’s own facilities,” Ninth Circuit Chief Judge Alex Kozinski said.

*En banc* courts are used to resolve intra-circuit conflicts or other legal questions of exceptional importance. The 11-judge court, consisting of the chief circuit judge and 10 judges chosen at random, reviews anew a case previously decided by a three-judge panel. The prior panel decision is not considered precedential. *En banc* courts are rarely convened and are closely watched by the bar and public. Each year, the court typically receives more than 1,000 petitions seeking *en banc* review and grants about 20 requests.

Four cases will be argued next week before *en banc* courts convening in Courtroom 1 at the James R. Browning U.S. Courthouse, 95 7th St., San Francisco. They are:

**March 23 9:00 a.m.**

*United States v. Begay, 07-10487*

Kenderick Begay appeals his jury criminal conviction for two counts of first-degree murder and two counts of using a firearm during a crime of violence.

**March 23 2:00 p.m.**

*Chapman v. Pier 1 Imports, 07-16326*

Pier 1 Imports (U.S.), Inc., appeals the Eastern California district court's summary judgment in an action brought against Pier 1 Imports pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**March 24 3:00 p.m.**

*Cassirer v. Kingdom of Spain, 06-56325*

An appeal from the Central California district court's denial of motions to dismiss action seeking to recover from a Spanish museum a painting allegedly taken in 1939 in violation of international law by an agent of the government of Nazi Germany.

**March 25 10:00 a.m.**

*United States v. Aguila-Montes De Oca, 05-50170*

Guillermo Aguila-Montes De Oca appeals from his jury conviction and sentence for attempting to enter the United States after deportation.

Because this is an experimental effort, the court cannot guarantee the reliability, accuracy or availability of the audio/video presentation. Public access to the viewing areas in the remote courthouses will be on a first-come-first-served basis.

Additional information about the makeup of each of the *en banc* courts is available on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals web site at <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/calendar>.

###