

## Ask a Judge to Visit Your Classroom

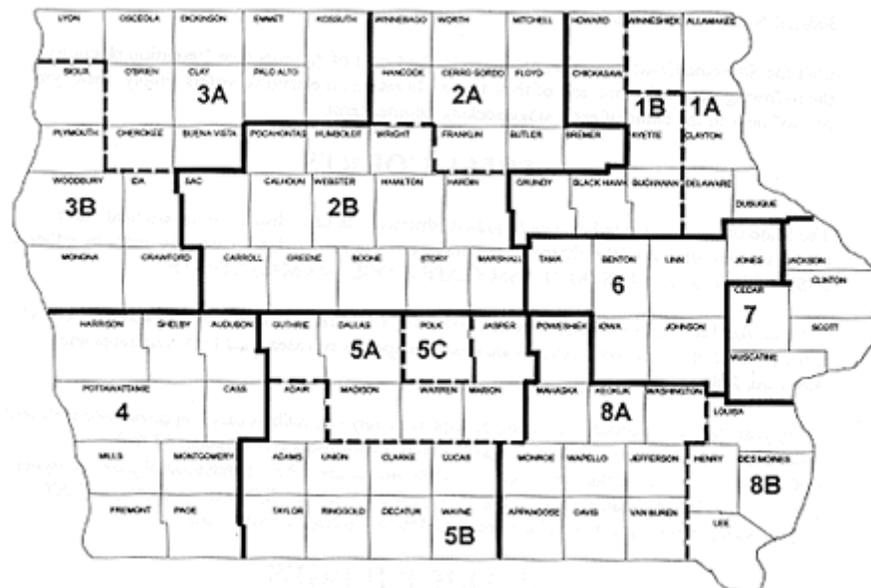
Students see judges on TV but rarely have an opportunity to meet and talk with a real-life judge. A personal presentation by a judge can be interesting and inspiring for students in a social studies or government class. Some interesting topics that judges can discuss with students include –

- The rights of students
- The criminal justice system
- The juvenile justice system
- Constitutional rights
- The court system
- The role and daily life of a judge

Court administration staff set schedules for trials and other court-related matters two or more months in advance. Therefore, it is very difficult to get a judge to come to a classroom on short notice. You will improve your chances of getting a judge to come to your classroom if you plan ahead. Try to contact the court administrator's office in your district (see below) **two months** before you want the judge to come to your classroom. (**Note: Court administration staff cannot guarantee that a judge will be available, even if you call two months in advance.**)

### How to get a judge to visit your classroom

District court administration staff manages judges' schedules in each judicial district. There are eight judicial districts in Iowa. Determine the judicial district in which your county is located, and then call the office of the district court administrator for your district.



When you call, please provide the following information:

- The age group of the students and number of students in the class
- The topic or topics you would like the judge to talk about

- How much the class already knows about the courts and the law
- How much time the judge will have with the class
- Two or three possible dates and times that you would like the judge to come to the classroom
- The name and phone number of a contact person (teacher) to call in case the judge is unable to attend the class due to last-minute case scheduling problems. (Sometimes trials take longer than expected!)

### **Phone Numbers for District Court Administration Offices**

#### **To arrange for a judge to visit your classroom:**

Determine the district in which your county is located, then call the district court administration office for your district.

**District Number**  
**Phone Number**  
**Location**

<b>1</b>	319-833-3372	Waterloo
<b>2</b>	515-576-6336	Fort Dodge
<b>3</b>	712-279-6700	Sioux City
<b>4</b>	712-328-5791	Council Bluffs
<b>5</b>	515-286-3083	Des Moines
<b>6</b>	319-398-3920	Cedar Rapids
<b>7</b>	563-326-8783	Davenport
<b>8</b>	641-684-6502	Ottumwa