

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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U.S. SUPREME COURT AGREES TO C-SPAN'S REQUEST FOR SAME-DAY RELEASE OF ORAL ARGUMENT IN CAMPAIGN FINANCE CASE

Chief Justice Roberts Approves Immediate Release of Oral Argument For Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- (September 4, 2009) -- On Wednesday, September 9, C-SPAN will air the Supreme Court oral argument of *Citizens United v. FEC* which the Court is scheduled to hear that day. **The oral argument will air on C-SPAN 3, C-SPAN Radio, and over the web at www.c-span.org as soon as it is released** (Release time is approximately 11:30 A.M. ET). The immediate release of the audio recording of the Court's argument was in response to a request by C-SPAN, and the other major networks.

In a rare re-argument of the case -- first argued before the court earlier this year on March 24, 2009 -- the Court will re-examine the constitutionality of campaign finance regulation under the First Amendment. It will also decide if key legal precedents that allow the government to ban corporations from spending money to support political candidates should be overturned. The Court is rehearing this case in this special session before the official start of the term on Monday, October 5th.

The case also will be the first oral argument which new Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor will hear, and the first argument for new Solicitor General Elena Kagan, who will be facing former Bush Administration Solicitor General Ted Olson, attorney on behalf of Citizens United.

The audio recording will also be archived online at www.c-span.org on the "America and the Courts" page.

Background

Since 2000, C-SPAN has regularly made requests to the Supreme Court for immediate release of oral argument recordings for cases that have a heightened public interest. For nearly 20 years, C-SPAN has argued for greater public access to the federal judiciary. C-SPAN's web site, <http://www.c-span.org/camerasinthecourt/timeline.asp>, chronicles C-

SPAN's involvement in the issue and features a collection of public statements made by the Justices regarding cameras in the Supreme Court.

About C-SPAN

C-SPAN was created by America's cable companies in 1979 as a public service and programs three public affairs television networks; C-SPAN Radio, a Washington, D.C. radio station distributed by XM Satellite Radio; and a video-rich website. Visit <http://www.c-span.org/>.