

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2016

CONTACT:

Heidi Walter, Campaign Manager at (206) 412-8986 or Heidi@justicemaryyu.com

Justice Mary Yu in Port Townsend Aug. 12

Justice Yu to tour alternative juvenile justice facility, teach legal education session

Washington Supreme Court Justice Mary Yu will visit Port Townsend on Friday, August 12 to tour Jefferson County's alternative juvenile detention facility called Proctor House, and to teach a Continuing Legal Education session for the Jefferson County Bar Association.

Justice Yu will tour the Proctor House, Jefferson County's alternative juvenile justice facility, in Port Townsend at 12:30 p.m. The Proctor House is a program designed to provide a safe, comprehensive, innovative alternative to standard detention for Jefferson County youth who are eligible for the less-restrictive setting. Youth attend their regular school program and can stay involved in treatment programs and other approved activities while at Proctor House. Members of the media are invited to contact the Jefferson County Juvenile Court Administrator for more information about Proctor House – Barbara L. Carr, bcarr@co.jefferson.wa.us or (360) 385-9190.

Later on Friday, Justice Yu will present a Continuing Legal Education session with Chief Justice Barbara Madsen, hosted by the Jefferson County Bar Association. The justices will discuss important Washington Supreme Court cases from the last year. The event begins at 4 p.m. at Finn River Farm, but space is limited; members of the media who are interested in attending should RSVP to Rafael Urquia at rafael@urquialaw.com or (360) 390-4104.

"I'm very excited about this opportunity to visit Jefferson County and hear from the people who are on the ground and working in our legal system each day, especially with our youth" said Justice Yu. "Our Supreme Court decisions aren't just theoretical, they affect the lives of real people, so it's important that we take the time to visit our diverse communities and learn from the experience of others, and to see the good work being done around the state."

Appointed by Governor Jay Inslee on May 1, 2014, Justice Mary Yu joined the Washington Supreme Court after more than 14 years as a trial court judge in King County Superior Court. There she heard a wide variety of criminal and civil cases and presided over hundreds of adoptions and other family law matters. Justice Yu is the first Asian, the first woman of color (Asian and Latina), and the first member of the LGBT community to serve on the Washington Supreme Court. Before becoming a judge, Justice Yu served as Deputy Chief of Staff to King County Prosecutor Norm Maleng and as a Deputy Prosecutor in the Criminal and Civil Divisions. Yu was raised in Chicago by immigrant parents—her mother came from Mexico and her father from China—and she is the first in her family to graduate from college.