



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WTU Wins Favorable Ruling in Writ of Mandamus Case Filed on Behalf of D.C. Teachers

*Court Declares Budget Constraints Do Not Warrant Unreasonable Delays;
Orders Office of Employee Appeals to Address Delays in 20 Days*

WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 31, 2012)—The Washington Teachers' Union (WTU) announced today that the D.C. Court of Appeals has ordered the D.C. Office of Employee Appeals to address extensive delays assigning administrative law judges in 20 days, concluding that budget constraints are not an extraordinary circumstance warranting unreasonable delays.

In November 2011, the Washington Teachers' Union filed a writ of mandamus with the D.C. Court of Appeals challenging the District of Columbia's employee appeals due process for D.C. teachers and other government employees. Attorneys at the law firm Joseph Greenwald & Laake, P.A. advocated WTU's position before the D.C. Court of Appeals.

The D.C. Office of Employee Appeals is mandated by law to issue an initial decision within 120 business days after an employee files a complete petition of appeal. Unfortunately, this is not the reality and many employees have waited over two years, without having an administrative judge assigned to their case.

"This is definitely a step in the right direction," said WTU President Nathan Saunders. "While we are pleased with the court's decision, there is still much work to be done and progress to be made to ensure teachers and government employees receive a fair, impartial and timely hearing."

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About the Washington Teachers' Union: The Washington Teachers' Union (WTU) represents more than 5,000 active and retired teachers in Washington D.C. WTU is dedicated to fulfilling a commitment to build great minds by improving the quality of support, resources, compensation and working conditions for public servants and proud teachers who educate students in D.C. Public Schools. To learn more, please visit www.wtulocal6.org.

Washington Teachers' Union