



For Immediate Release:

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Contacts:

Julia Olson, 415-786-4825, julia@ourchildrenstrust.org

To set up interviews with youth plaintiffs, contact:

Meg Ward, 503-341-8590, meg@ourchildrenstrust.org

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION SEEKS EXPEDITED REVIEW OF ITS REQUEST TO DELAY CLIMATE TRIAL

“We’re lost, but we’re making good time,” said famed baseball player Yogi Berra. Little did Berra know the Trump administration would one day channel his anecdote as a pre-trial strategy to defend against a youth-brought climate lawsuit, but that appears to be exactly what is happening right now in Oregon.

Last Monday, Judge Thomas Coffin issued [an order](#) recommending that the Trump administration’s attempt to delay the climate trial via a “hen’s-teeth rare” appeal “would put the cart before the horse.” On Friday, the Trump administration, represented by the Department of Justice, filed [objections](#) to Judge Coffin’s recommendation, arguing this case is about law, and not facts. In an unusual request, DOJ also asks the court to make a ruling by May 19, 2017, the same day plaintiffs have to respond to the DOJ’s objections.

From the **DOJ’s brief** requesting expedited review:

“Additional fact-finding is not appropriate . . .”

...

“Whether Plaintiffs have alleged the violation of a constitutionally protected fundamental life, liberty, or property interest is a pure legal question, and no factual development is needed to answer it.”

Julia Olson, youth plaintiffs' counsel and executive director of Our Children's Trust, said:

“How is it possible that the Trump administration believes there is an urgency to avoiding trial, but is blind to the urgency of the catastrophic flooding in parts of Louisiana that our plaintiff Jayden continues to face, even as recent as last week, with more flooding of her home? If the government wants to talk about urgency, let's talk about the ongoing sea level rise that will flood the barrier island our plaintiff Levi calls home. An appeal can wait until this case is tried, just like in other cases. Climate change is not waiting.”

In spite of defendants' continued attempts to delay the climate trial, youth plaintiffs and their lawyers continue to prepare for it.

Juliana v. United States was brought by 21 young plaintiffs who argue that their constitutional and public trust rights are being violated by the government's creation of climate danger. The case is one of many related legal actions brought by youth in several states and countries, all supported by Our Children's Trust, seeking science-based action by governments to stabilize the climate system.

Counsel for Plaintiffs include Philip L. Gregory, Esq. of Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy of Burlingame, CA, Daniel M. Galpern Esq. and Julia Olson, Esq. of Eugene, OR.

Our Children's Trust is a nonprofit organization, elevating the voice of youth, those with most to lose, to secure the legal right to a healthy atmosphere and stable climate on behalf of present and future generations. We lead a coordinated global human rights and environmental justice campaign to implement enforceable science-based Climate Recovery Plans that will return atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration to below 350 ppm by the year 2100.

www.ourchildrenstrust.org/

Earth Guardians is a Colorado-based nonprofit organization with youth chapters on five continents, and multiple groups in the United States with thousands of members working together to protect the Earth, the water, the air, and the atmosphere, creating healthy sustainable communities globally. We inspire and empower young leaders, families, schools, organizations, cities, and government officials to make positive change locally, nationally, and globally to address the critical state of the Earth. www.earthguardians.org

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