

Court Advisory

Fourth Court of Appeals
Cadena-Reeves Justice Center
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 4, 2011

Fourth Court of Appeals to Hear Oral Argument

The Fourth Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments in two appeals on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at St. Mary's University School of Law.

The following case will be presented before the panel of Justice Phylis Speedlin, Justice Rebecca Simmons, and Justice Steven C. Hilbig:

Maria de los Angeles Salinas, et al. v. Briggs Ranches, et al. - This appeal arises out of a fatal drunk driving accident that occurred on Briggs Ranches' premises after work hours. The driver in the accident was employed by Briggs Ranches. The main legal issue is whether, under the facts of this case, the employer is liable for the negligent acts of its off-duty employee which were committed on the employer's premises.

The following case will be presented before the panel of Chief Justice Stone, Justice Karen Angelini, and Justice Marialyn Barnard:

In re R.G. - This appeal arises from an order granting and rendering a judgment and confirmation of child support arrears. The order was signed twenty-four years after the child turned eighteen years old. The appellant asserts the trial court erred in concluding that it lacked jurisdiction to consider his defenses and in excluding his evidence. The appellant further asserts the evidence is insufficient to support the trial court's judgment, and the trial court erred in granting relief that was not authorized by statute. Finally, the appellant contends that the section of the Texas Family Code that the trial court concluded deprived it of jurisdiction to consider his defenses violated his constitutional rights by depriving him of access to the courts.

The Fourth Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments in one appeal on Thursday, March 10, 2011, beginning at 9:00 a.m., in the Fourth Court's Courtroom, Cadena-Reeves Justice Center, Third Floor, 300 Dolorosa, San Antonio, Texas.

The following case will be presented before the panel of Chief Justice Catherine Stone, Justice Rebecca Simmons, and Justice Steven C. Hilbig:

Ex parte John William Coleman - These are consolidated appeals from the trial court's denial of relief in habeas proceedings. The issue is whether double jeopardy bars the State from retrying Coleman. The first trial ended when the trial court granted Coleman's request for a mistrial because of prosecutorial misconduct.