

Court Advisory

Fourth Court of Appeals
Cadena-Reeves Justice Center
300 Dolorosa, Suite 3200
San Antonio, Texas 78205-3037



Contact: Luz Estrada
Phone: 210-335-3219

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4, 2025

Fourth Court of Appeals to Hear Oral Argument

The Fourth Court of Appeals will hear oral arguments in one appeal on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, beginning at 10:00 A.M., before the following panel of justices: Justice Irene Rios, Justice Lori Massey Brissette, and Justice H. Todd McCray.

The following appeal will be presented: *United Methodist Rio Tex. Conf. Bd. of Tr. v. First Methodist Church of Alice, Tx., et al.*—This appeal concerns a dispute between a regional conference of the United Methodist Church and several local churches that have taken efforts to disaffiliate with the United Methodist Church. At issue in this case is whether the trial court erred when it determined it did not have subject matter jurisdiction over the suit pursuant to the ecclesiastical abstention doctrine and granted the local churches' plea to the jurisdiction.

The oral argument will be held in the courtroom of the Fourth Court of Appeals, Cadena-Reeves Justice Center, Third Floor, 300 Dolorosa, San Antonio, Texas. The argument also can be accessed using the following link:

The argument will be live streamed at:

<https://youtube.com/@thetexasfourthcourtofappeal404?si=9b3aCgAFjPrOgaD->

An archived version of the oral argument can be accessed using the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiaWJQ7eW5OQIALdyLN6s3A>