



Augustine School

5th Grade Class

On March 23, 2026, fifth-grade students from Augustine School visited the U.S. District Courthouse in Jackson for an engaging, hands-on introduction to the Federal judicial system. Building on their classroom studies of the Constitution, students arrived eager to deepen their understanding of how the courts operate in real life. During their visit, students had the opportunity to hear directly from Judges S. Thomas Anderson and Jon A. York, as well as U.S. Attorney, Hillary Parham, and U.S. Probation Officer, Linda Smith. These discussions gave students valuable insight into the responsibilities and daily work of legal professionals serving in the Federal system. The group also observed a live court hearing, offering a firsthand look at courtroom procedures in action.



The day began with a mock grand jury session, where students learned how criminal cases are initiated in Federal court. They then explored the various roles within a courtroom by sitting in designated positions and reading aloud the duties associated with each role, helping them better understand how each participant contributes to the judicial process. The visit concluded with a tour led by Deputy U.S. Marshal Cody Moore, who introduced students to the work of the U.S. Marshal Service. As part of the tour, students viewed the holding areas used for individuals in custody prior to court proceedings, further enhancing their understanding of courtroom operations.