

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Southern Legal Counsel Begins Education Trial in Tallahassee

Gainesville, Fla. – On Monday, March 14, Southern Legal Counsel will go to trial against the Florida State Board of Education, Florida House of Representatives, Florida Senate and the Commissioner of Education. Southern Legal Counsel is charging the state with failure to meet its constitutional mandate to provide high-quality education for all children in the Florida public school system.

Citizens for Strong Schools, et al. v. State Bd. of Education will be decided over a five-week trial that will highlight the need for the state to provide adequate resources as well as ensuring that the accountability system does not get in the way of teaching and learning.

All children are impacted, but the struggling students are affected more, including students of color, those living in poverty, students who are experiencing homelessness, English language learners and students with disabilities. Southern Legal Counsel seeks to achieve systemic reform so that every student in the public education system can receive a uniform, efficient, safe, secure and high-quality education.

Southern Legal Counsel, Inc. is a Florida statewide not-for-profit public interest law firm committed to equal justice for all and the attainment of basic human and civil rights. SLC's mission is to assist individuals and groups who otherwise may not have access to the justice system and whose cases may bring about systemic reform. SLC seeks to accomplish this mission through a range of strategies including impact litigation, policy advocacy, and training and technical assistance to lawyers, lay persons and organizations.

<http://www.southernlegal.org/>

If you would like to receive more information about Southern Legal Counsel, please contact Nell Page, Development Director at Southern Legal Counsel.

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