



Sam Feist
Chief Executive Officer

April 23, 2025

The Honorable John Roberts
Chief Justice, The United States Supreme Court
One First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20543

Dear Chief Justice Roberts,

We write to respectfully urge the Court to permit C-SPAN to televise the forthcoming oral arguments on the federal government's request to implement President Trump's Executive Order on birthright citizenship.

This case holds profound national significance. Its implications—legal, political, and personal—will affect millions of Americans. In light of this, we believe the public interest is best served through live television coverage of the proceedings. The public deserves to witness—fully and directly—how such a consequential issue is argued before the highest court in the land.

We commend your leadership in expanding public access to the Court. Since your decision to allow real-time audio access to oral arguments in 2020, C-SPAN has provided access to every case, often televising them live on our television networks, but with still images of the Justice or counselor speaking. Allowing live video coverage of this case would build on that progress, offering Americans outside the few seated inside the Court, the ability to also see how critical issues are debated and decided at the highest level.

Televising this oral argument would mark a civic milestone at a time when promoting public access and civic understanding of our government institutions would strengthen our democracy and help allow Americans to see, and not only hear, about issues at the forefront of their government. It would embody the transparency and accountability that strengthen our democracy and deepen public understanding and appreciation of the judicial process.

We stand ready to work with the Court to ensure that this broadcast is conducted with the dignity and respect befitting the occasion.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

Sam Feist
CEO, C-SPAN