



**CALIFORNIA
TEACHERS
ASSOCIATION**

Media Advisory



California Federation of Teachers
American Federation of Teachers, AFT/AFL-CIO

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News Conference Prior to Oral Arguments in Appeal of Flawed *Vergara* Ruling

*Civil Rights Icon Dolores Huerta, Educators, Lead Attorney to Speak Thursday;
Media Teleconference Following Oral Arguments*

LOS ANGELES —Labor leader and civil rights icon Dolores Huerta will join educators and community members for a news conference Thursday morning, immediately prior to oral arguments before the 2nd District California Court of Appeal in *Vergara v. California*. The [California Teachers Association](#) and the [California Federation of Teachers](#) are interveners in the case and, along with [Attorney General Kamala Harris](#), are seeking reversal of a deeply flawed lower court ruling that strikes down statutes protecting teachers from arbitrary firings, providing transparency in layoff decisions and supporting due-process rights.

Educators, Huerta and fellow supporters will explain why this case is extremely harmful for students as well as teachers, and how the laws under assault work well in school districts all over the state to ensure children have quality teachers in their classrooms. Attorney Michael Rubin, who will argue the case before the Court, will discuss the litany of reversible errors in the earlier ruling. *Vergara* was initiated by millionaire David Welch and a high-powered public relations firm, and is backed by corporate “reformers” and anti-teacher forces.

More information on the case, as well as background can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

WHAT: News Conference prior to oral arguments before the California Court of Appeal in *Vergara v. California*

WHERE: Outside the Ronald Reagan State Building, 300 S. Spring Street, Los Angeles

WHEN: Thursday, February 25, 2016 (all times PST):

8:00 a.m. – News Conference (Morning show live interviews available)

10:00 a.m. – CTA President Eric Heins, CFT President Josh Pechthalt and Attorney Michael Rubin will be available for Media Scrum immediately following oral arguments.

12:00 noon - Media Teleconference Call. In addition to the pre-hearing 8:00 a.m. news conference, attorney Michael Rubin, CTA President Eric Heins, CFT President Josh Pechthalt, and classroom teacher Gabby Ybarra will be available to members of the media by teleconference to answer questions and comment on the day’s proceedings and other aspects of the case. **Please RSVP to esizemore@cta.org to receive call-in information.**

The 325,000-member California Teachers Association is affiliated with the 3.2 million-member National Education Association. The California Federation of Teachers is the statewide affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers, and represents more than 100,000 faculty and school employees in public and private schools and colleges, from early childhood through higher education.