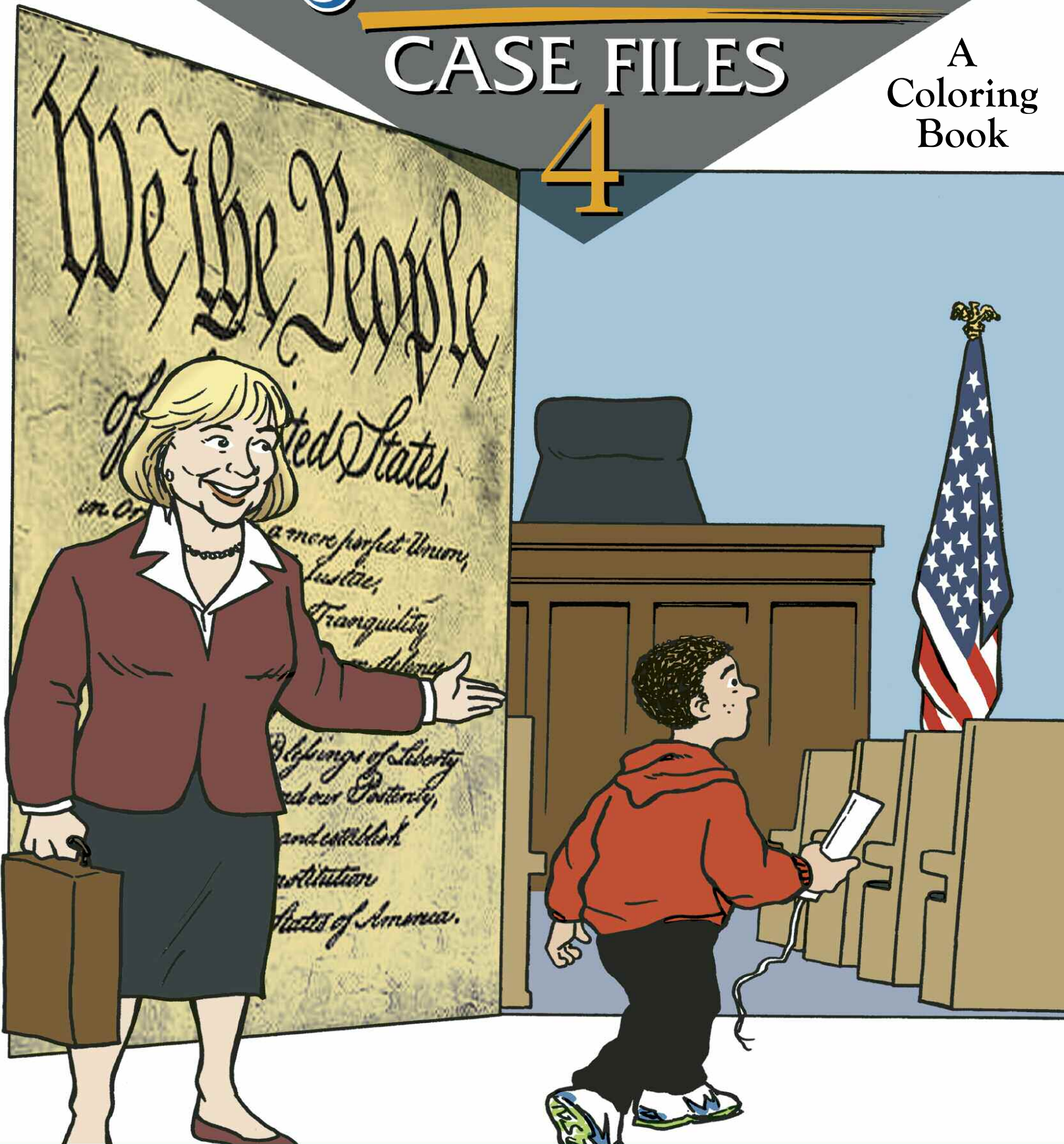


# JUSTICE

## CASE FILES

# 4

A  
Coloring  
Book



The Case of the Broken Controller

# Justice Case Files: The Case of the Broken Controller

Dear Readers,

In the United States, the government is divided into three branches of government: the executive branch (the president), the legislative branch (the Congress), and the judicial branch (the courts.)

The judicial branch is the one that many people don't understand, and it's what this coloring book is all about.

The courts belong to you – the students, parents, teachers and all people who live in this country. In “The Case of the Broken Controller,” you will follow the story of Tyler, who wants justice because he says his friend broke his videogame controller. Through Tyler's journey for justice, we hope you will learn about the court system, how it protects you and your family and about the men and women who work in the courts.

## **NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS**

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The story, illustrations and book design were created by  
**BENTLEY BOYD**

More information on his civics cartoons can be found at  
**[www.chestercomix.com](http://www.chestercomix.com)**

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ONE EVENING AT THE  
DINING ROOM TABLE . . .



**DYLAN BROKE MY  
VIDEOGAME CONTROLLER!  
YOU GOTTA HELP ME!**



**OK, TYLER,  
HOW CAN  
I HELP??**



**YOU WORK WITH THE  
POLICE! ARREST HIM  
OR SOMETHING!!**

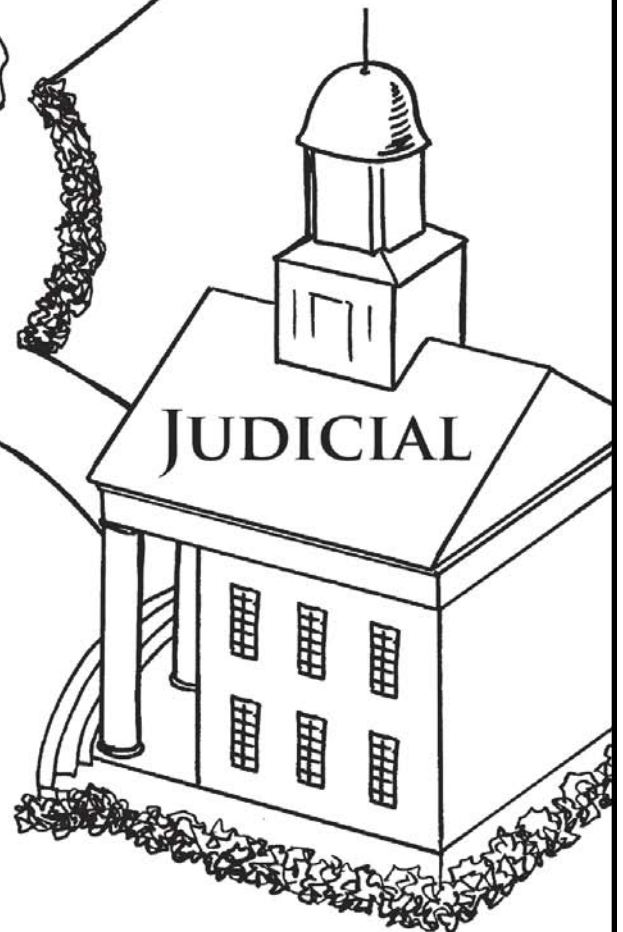
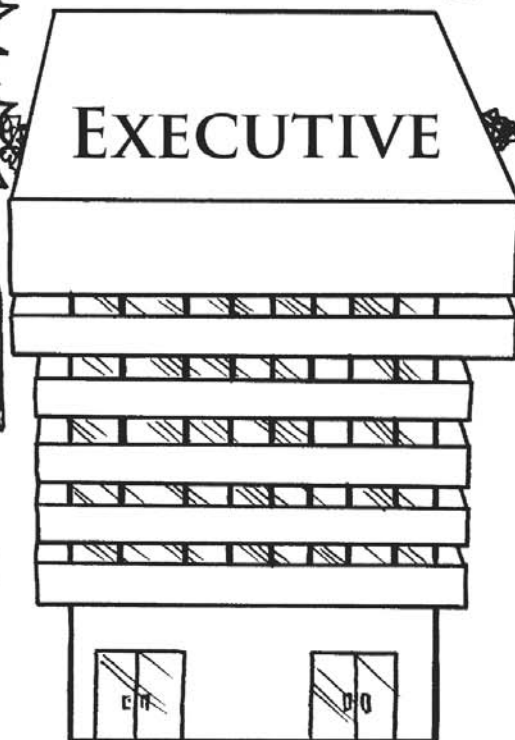
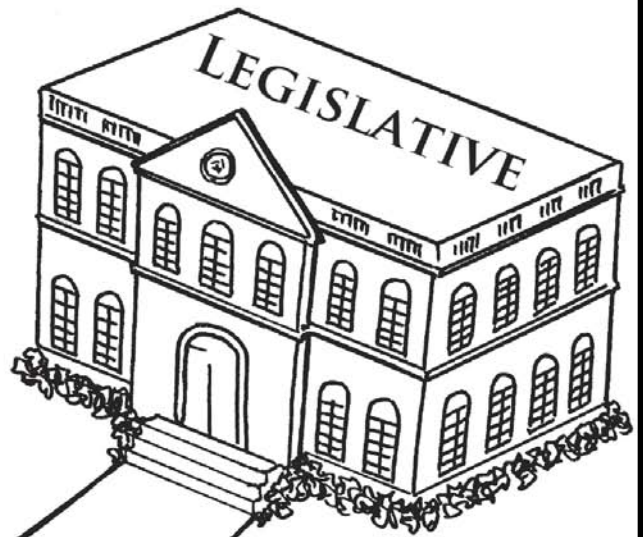


TWO DAYS LATER ...

THIS IS THE  
GOVERNMENT  
CENTER, TYLER.

IN THE UNITED  
STATES WE  
HAVE THREE  
BRANCHES OF  
GOVERNMENT.

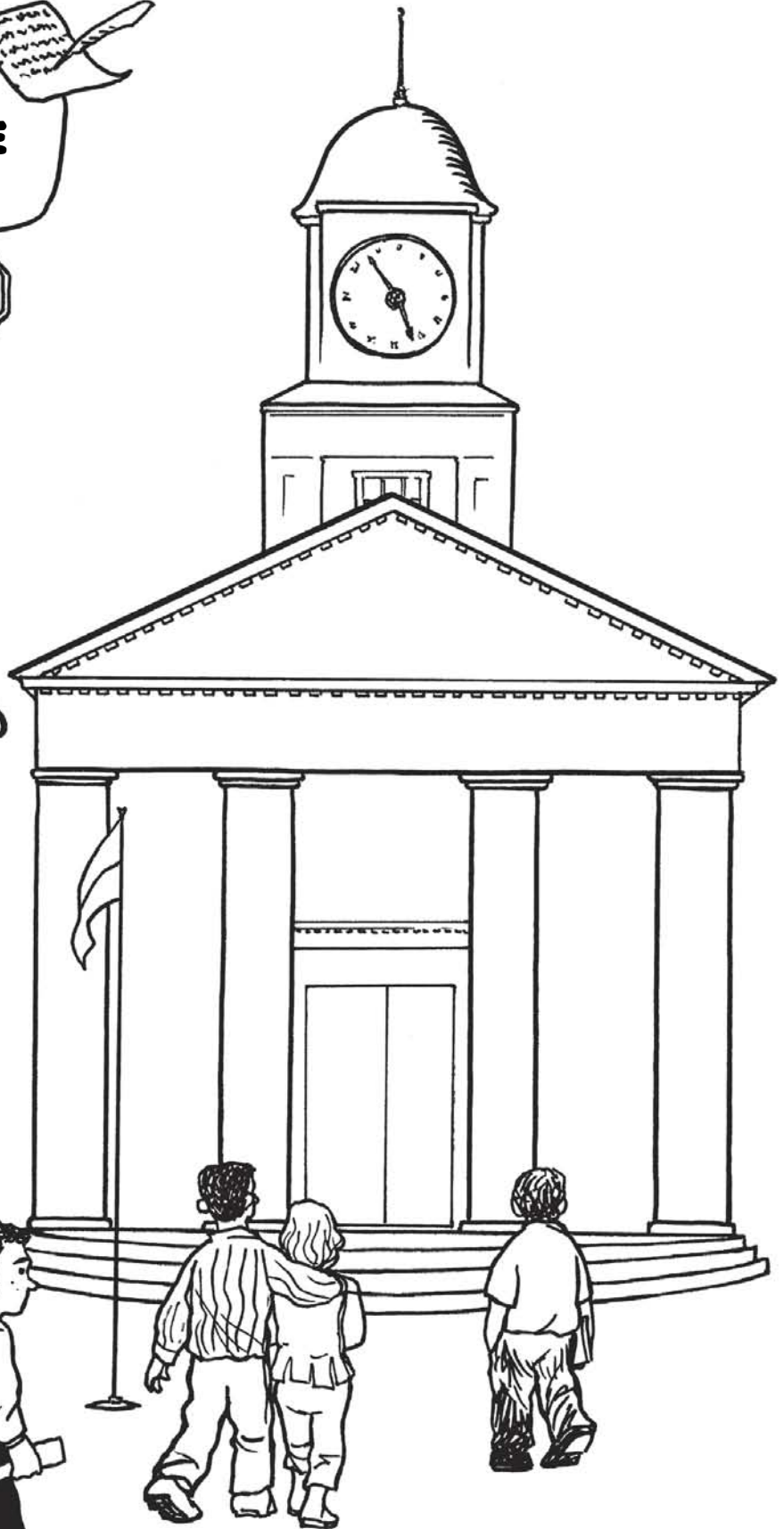
WHERE  
IS THE  
POLICE  
STATION?!



LAWS ARE MADE  
BY THE **LEGISLATIVE**  
BRANCH.

THE POLICE  
WHO ENFORCE  
THOSE LAWS  
ARE PART OF THE  
**EXECUTIVE**  
BRANCH.

TO SETTLE AN  
ARGUMENT AFTER  
AN INCIDENT  
(LIKE THE  
BREAKING  
OF YOUR GAME  
CONTROLLER)  
WE GO TO THE  
**JUDICIAL**  
BRANCH.



LOOK WHO ELSE IS AT COURT TODAY ...

WE'RE GETTING MARRIED!

I GOT CAUGHT SHOPLIFTING AT A STORE.

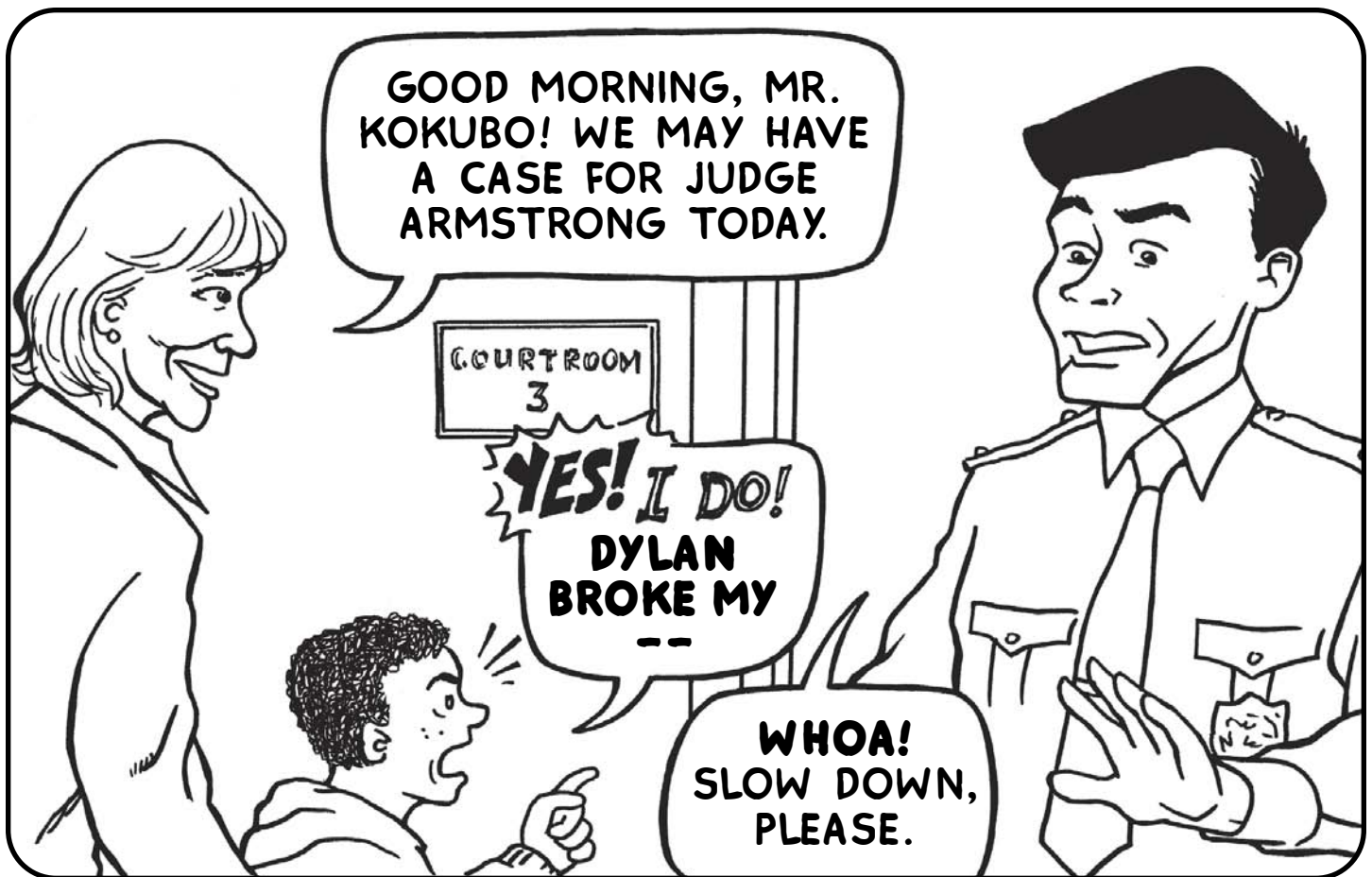
I'M BROKE!  
NO MONEY.  
SO I AM  
DECLARING  
BANKRUPTCY.

WE ARE TALKING TO THE JUDGE ABOUT SHARING CUSTODY OF OUR CHILDREN AFTER OUR DIVORCE.

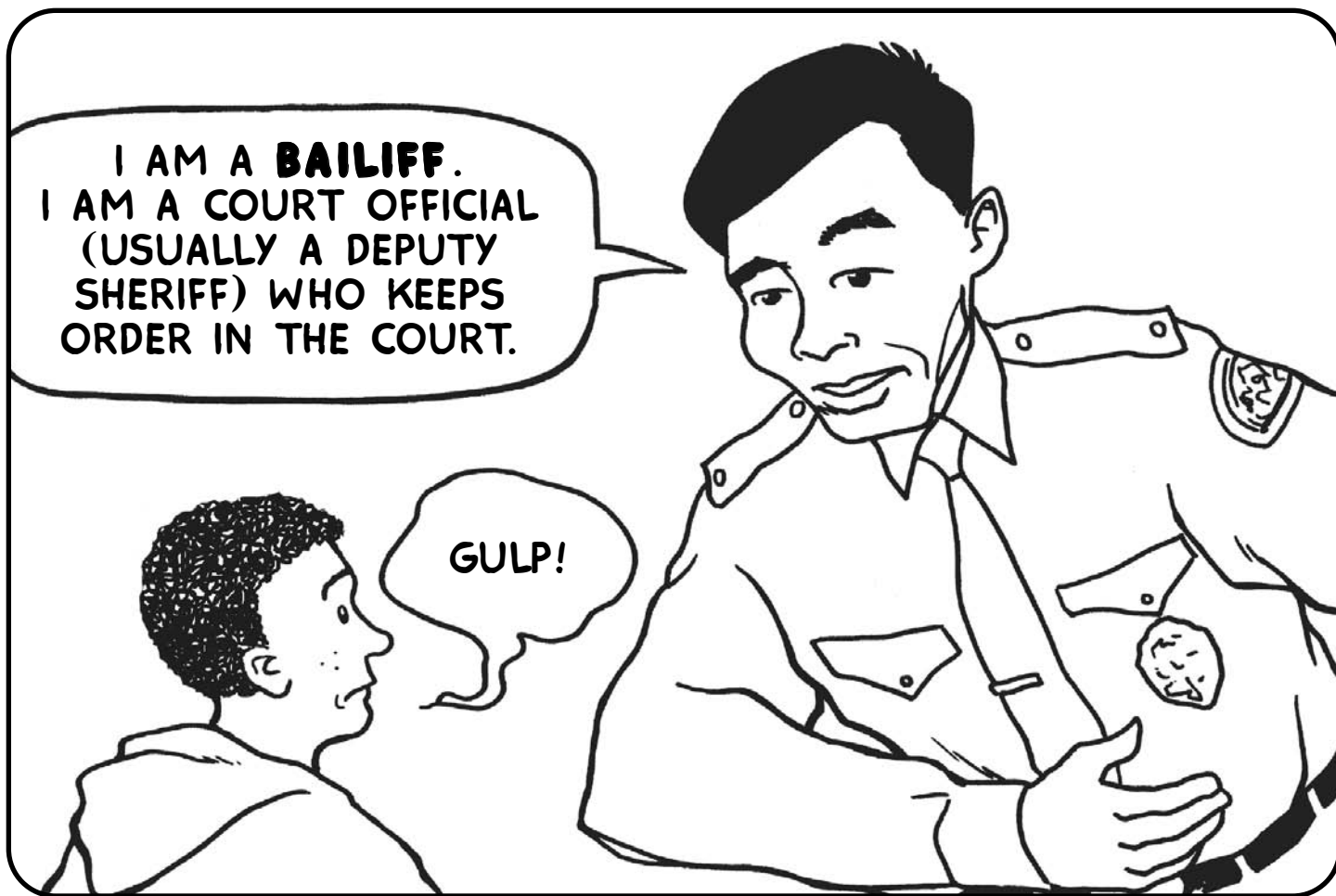
THE COURTS BELONG TO ALL THE PEOPLE. THE  
COURTS PROTECT PEOPLE AND THEIR RIGHTS.

THE DOORWAY TO THE COURTS IS THROUGH  
THE **UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**,  
WHICH ORGANIZES OUR NATIONAL  
GOVERNMENT AND DESCRIBES OUR  
INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.



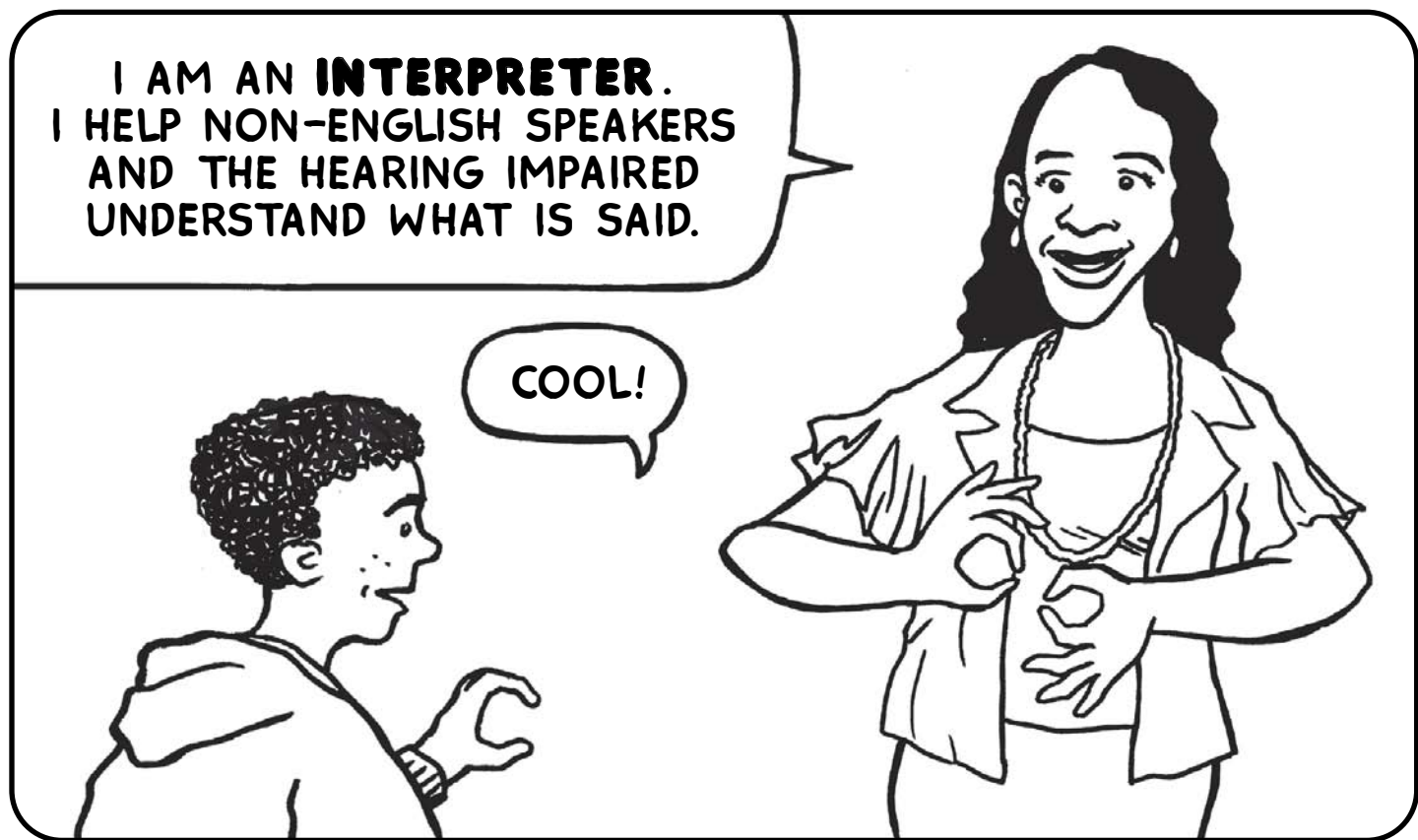






I AM A **BAILIFF**.  
I AM A COURT OFFICIAL  
(USUALLY A DEPUTY  
SHERIFF) WHO KEEPS  
ORDER IN THE COURT.

GULP!



I AM AN **INTERPRETER**.  
I HELP NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS  
AND THE HEARING IMPAIRED  
UNDERSTAND WHAT IS SAID.

COOL!



I AM A **LAWYER**. SINCE COURTS ARE IMPORTANT TO OUR DEMOCRACY, YOU WANT MY HELP TO MAKE THE STRONGEST ARGUMENT IN YOUR COURT CASE.

I AM A **DEFENSE ATTORNEY**. IF YOU ARE ACCUSED OF A CRIME, YOU HIRE ME TO REPRESENT YOU IN THE COURT CASE. IF YOU CANNOT PAY, THE COURT ASSIGNS ME TO REPRESENT YOU, AT PUBLIC EXPENSE.

I DON'T  
NEED A  
DEFENSE  
LAWYER.  
**DYLAN**  
BROKE  
THIS!  
**ARREST**  
**HIM!!!**

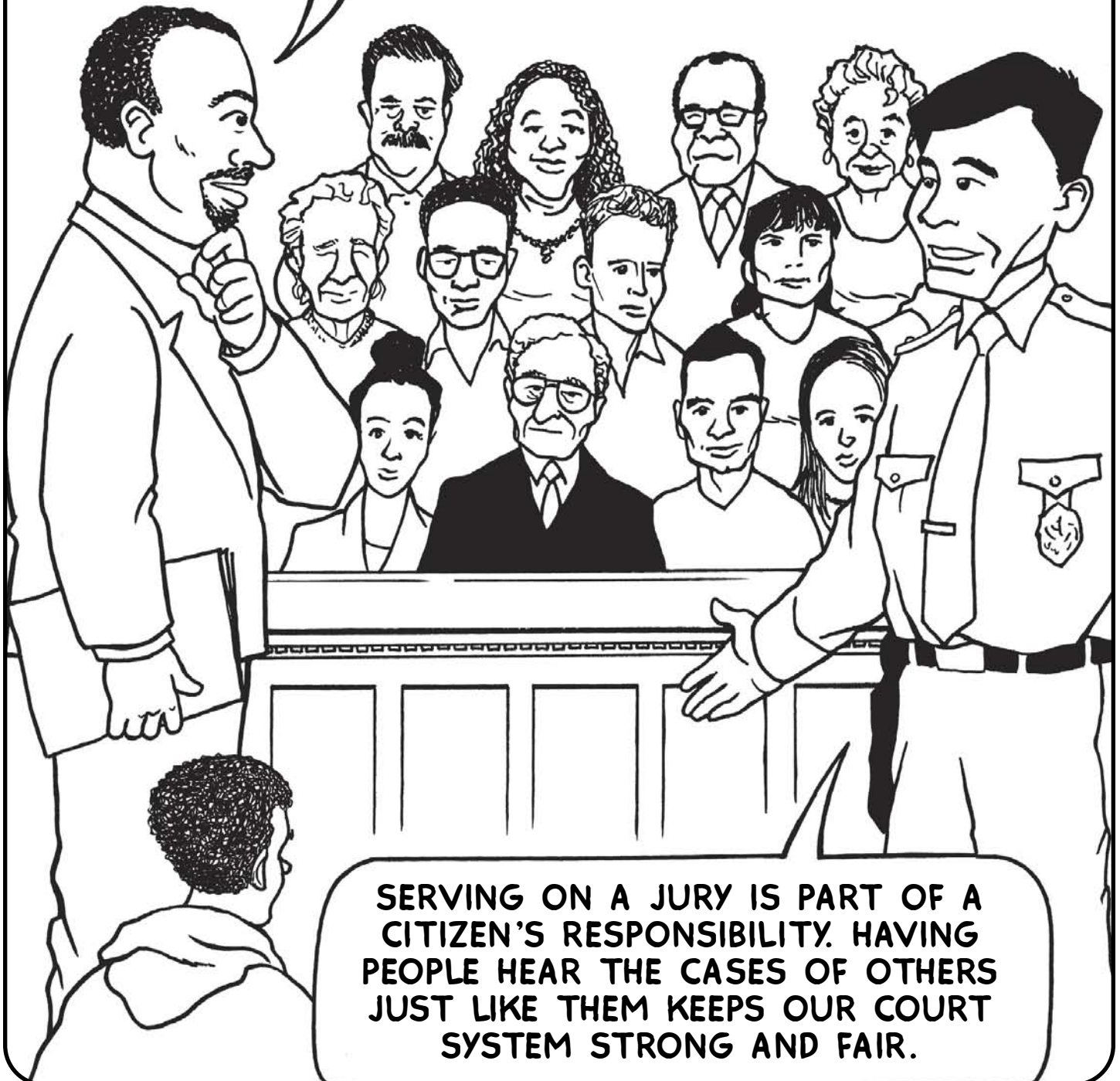
HMMM. IF  
TWO PEOPLE  
DISAGREE,  
THEY HAVE  
A **CIVIL**  
**COURT** CASE.  
I COULD HELP  
YOU START A  
**LAWSUIT** TO  
DEMAND THAT  
DYLAN FIX  
YOUR GAME  
CONTROLLER.

AND I WORK  
IN **CRIMINAL**  
**COURT**  
CASES WHERE  
A CRIMINAL  
LAW HAS BEEN  
BROKEN. BUT  
YOUR PROBLEM  
DOESN'T  
SOUND  
CRIMINAL.



**JAIL**

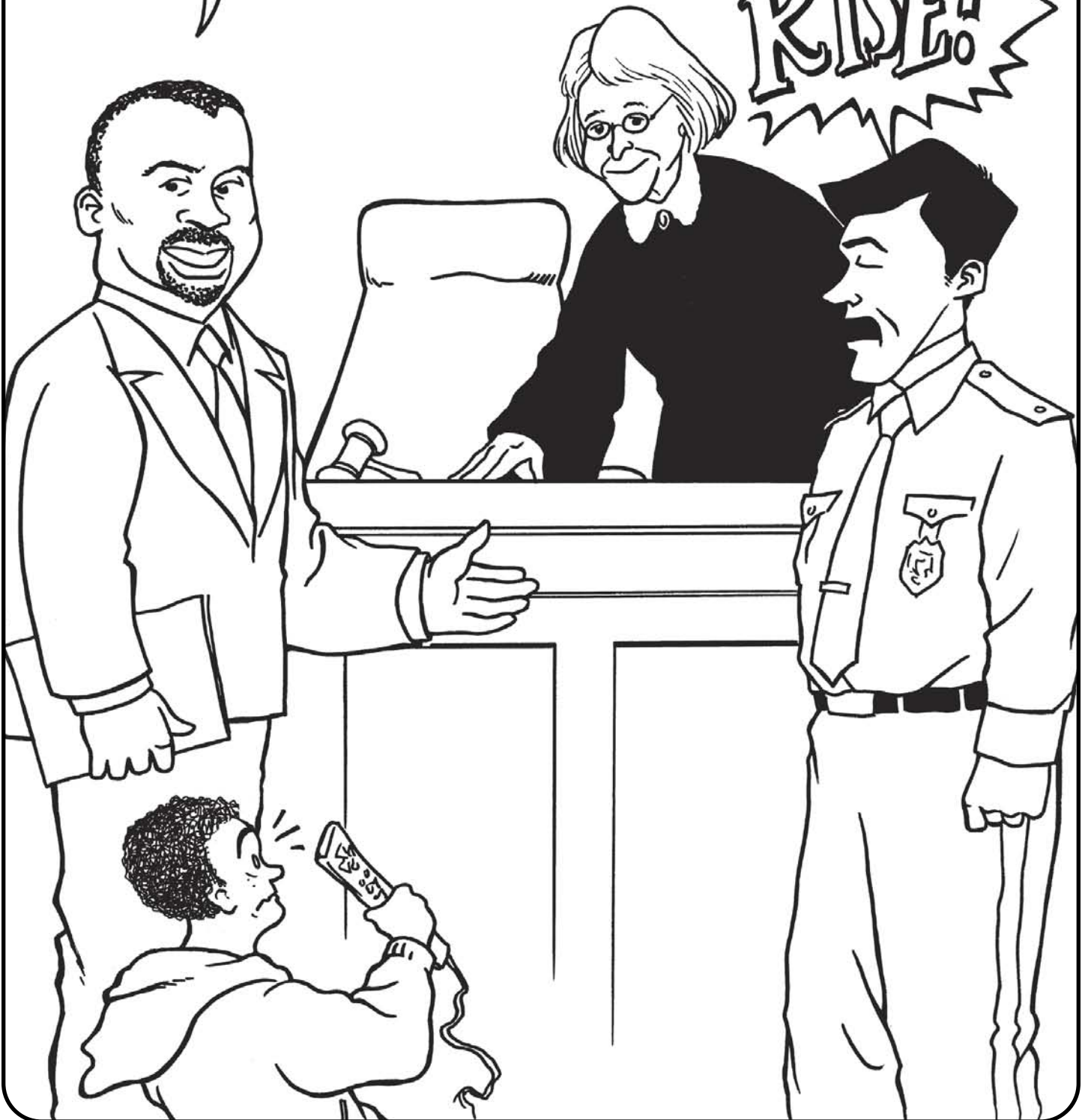
WE COULD GET A **JURY** TO  
HELP US SORT THIS OUT. A  
JURY IS A PANEL (ANYWHERE  
FROM SIX TO 12 CITIZENS)  
PICKED TO HEAR THE EVIDENCE  
OF A CASE AND THEN DECIDE  
WHO WINS THE COURT CASE.



SERVING ON A JURY IS PART OF A  
CITIZEN'S RESPONSIBILITY. HAVING  
PEOPLE HEAR THE CASES OF OTHERS  
JUST LIKE THEM KEEPS OUR COURT  
SYSTEM STRONG AND FAIR.

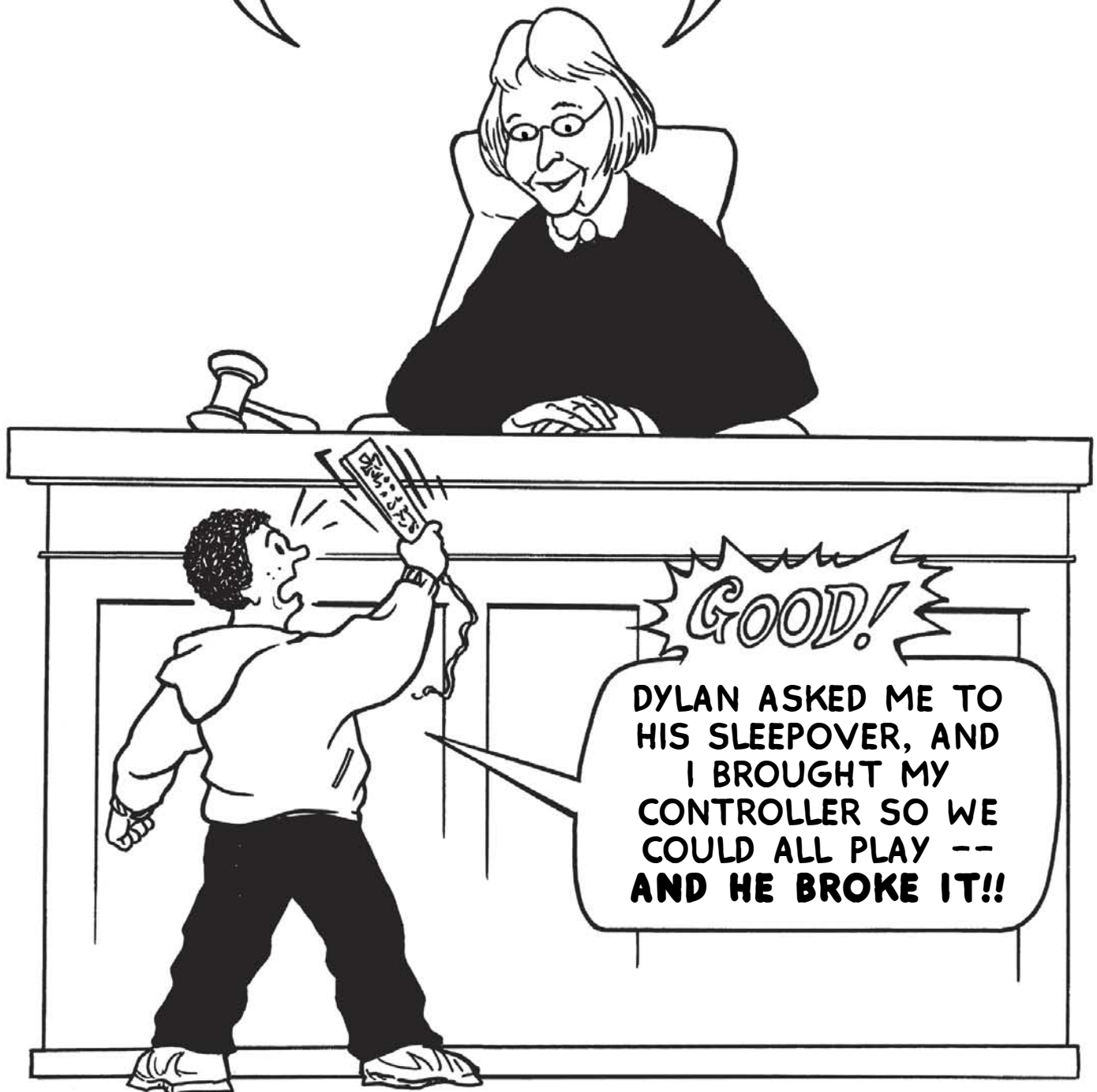
BUT MANY CASES ARE  
DECIDED BY A **JUDGE**  
WHO CAN --

**ALL  
RISE!**



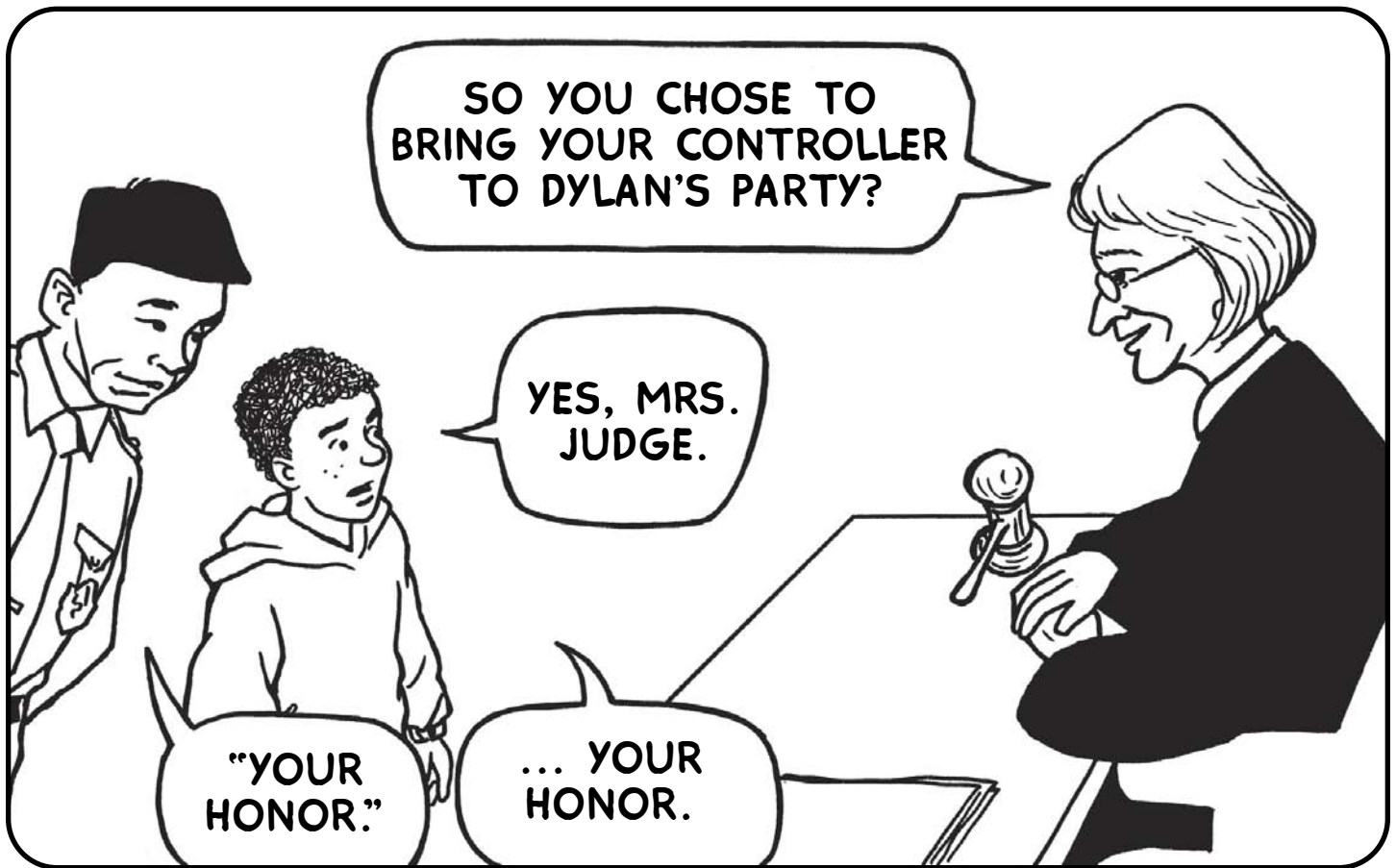
HI, TYLER. I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE A DISAGREEMENT WITH ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS.

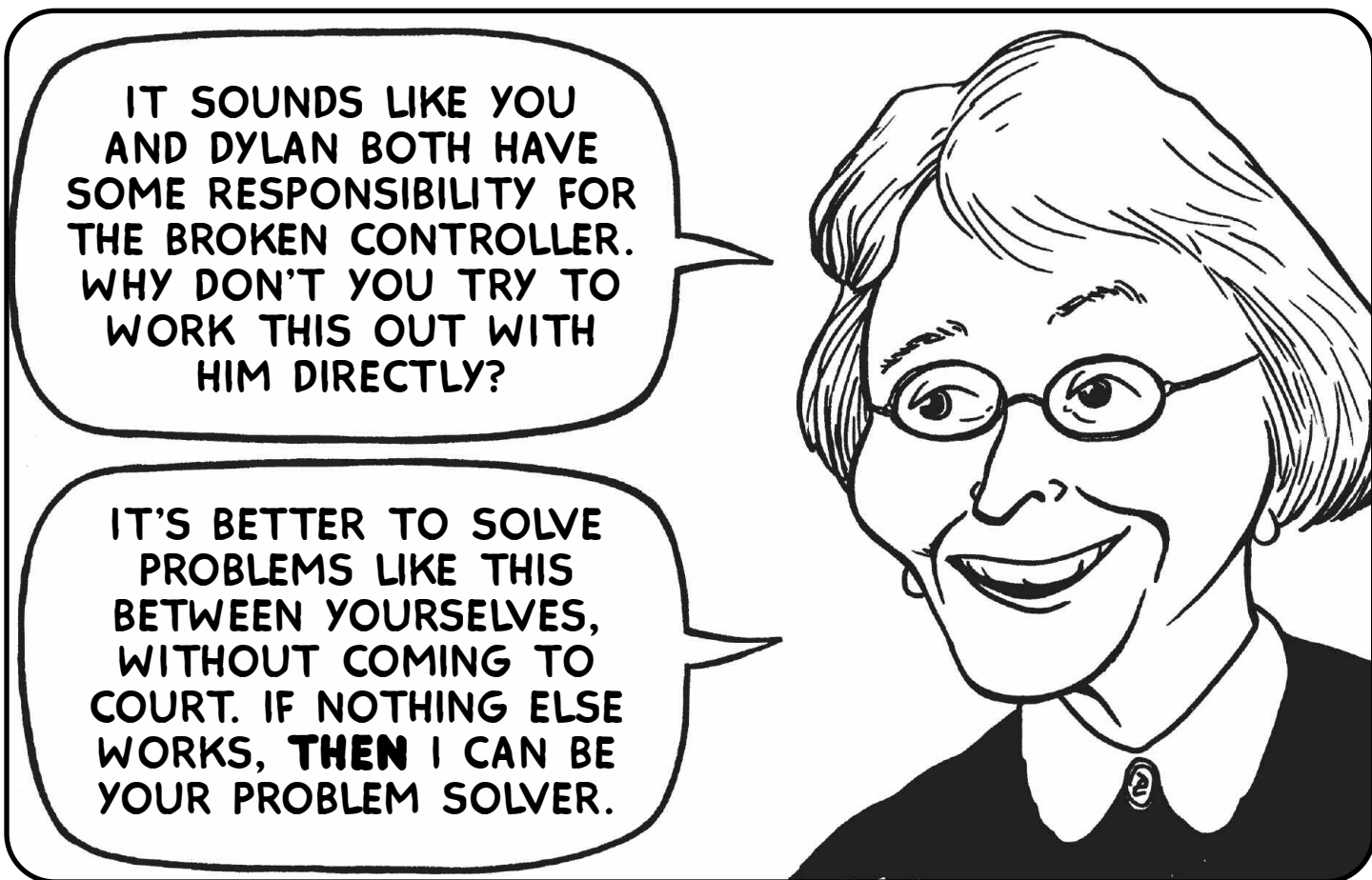
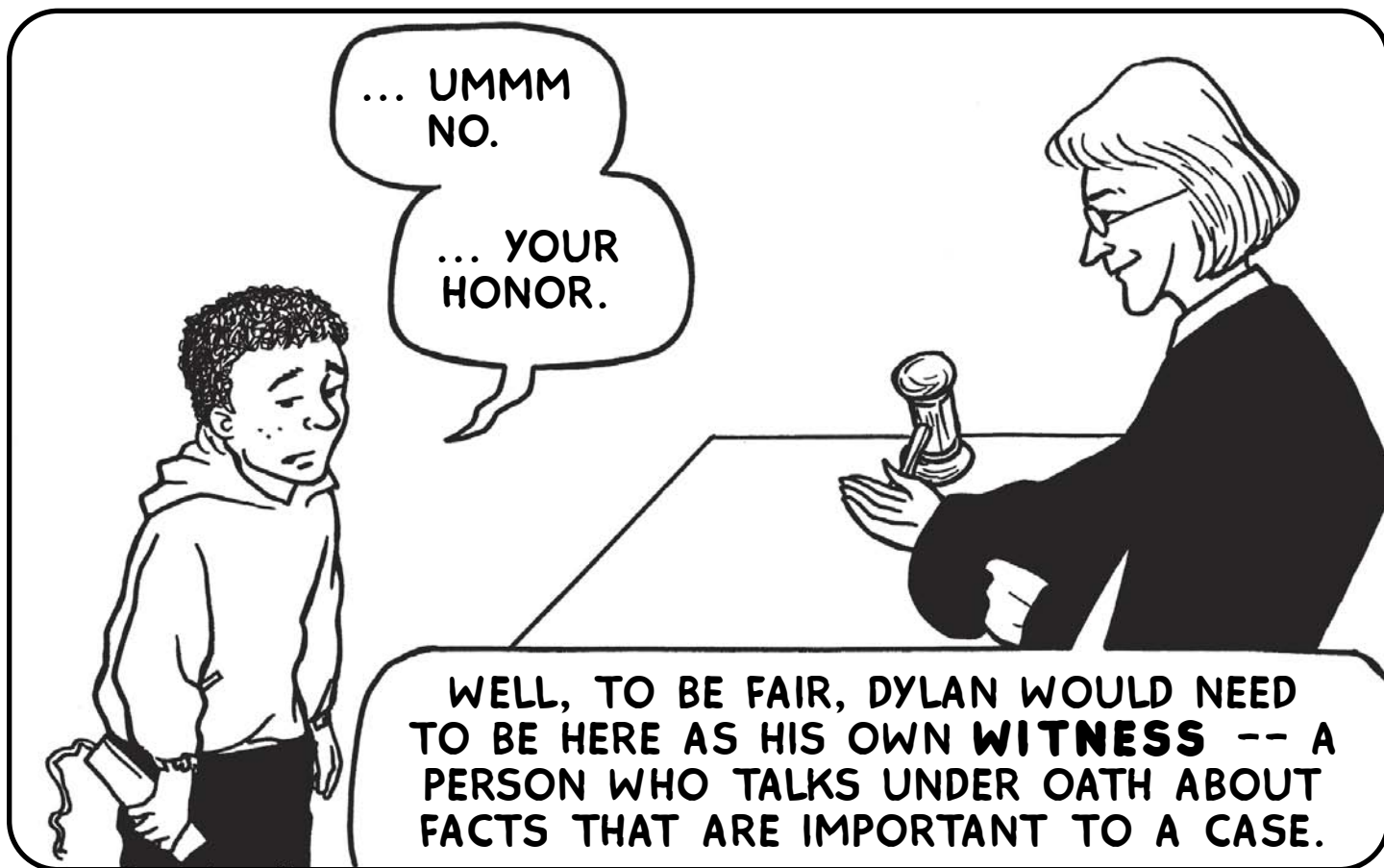
I HELP PEOPLE SOLVE PROBLEMS. IT'S A JUDGE'S JOB TO KNOW THE LAW AND DECIDE IF LAWS HAVE BEEN BROKEN.



**GOOD!**

DYLAN ASKED ME TO HIS SLEEPOVER, AND I BROUGHT MY CONTROLLER SO WE COULD ALL PLAY -- **AND HE BROKE IT!!**









The National Center for State Courts, headquartered in Williamsburg, Va., is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the administration of justice by providing leadership and service to court systems in the United States, U.S. territories, and around the world. The National Center, founded in 1971 by the Conference of Chief Justices and Chief Justice of the United States Warren E. Burger, provides education, training, and technology, management, and research services to the nation's state courts.

National Center for State Courts  
[www.ncsc.org](http://www.ncsc.org)

For FREE downloads of *Justice Case Files: The Case of the Broken Controller*, please go to:  
[www.ncsc.org/coloringbook](http://www.ncsc.org/coloringbook).

To purchase printed copies of the coloring book please contact January Serda  
at the National Center for State Courts at [jserda@ncsc.org](mailto:jserda@ncsc.org).

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For more information about *Justice Case Files* or to order,  
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or January Serda: [jserda@ncsc.org](mailto:jserda@ncsc.org) 757.259.1854