



**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Contact: Bob Moore (314) 655-1600**

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COMMEMORATES THE  
150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE DRED SCOTT DECISION  
WITH FOUR DAYS OF PROGRAMMING  
AT THE HISTORIC OLD COURTHOUSE**

**WHERE:** Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, Historic Old Courthouse, 11 North Fourth Street, (Downtown) St. Louis, Missouri

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 3, 2007 through Tuesday, March 6, 2007. The Historic Old Courthouse is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**WHAT:** The National Park Service will commemorate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Dred Scott Decision in the Historic Old Courthouse. Events will include the opening of a new exhibit on Dred Scott featuring original court papers from the case, the public premiere of a 15-minute film on Dred Scott produced by the History Channel, speeches on the impact of the decision, and a special reenactment of the 1852 Missouri Supreme Court hearing. Performances by Fred Morsell as Frederick Douglass, local choirs, and a special educational web broadcast on Tuesday, March 6, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Event schedule is attached. Visit [www.dredscottanniversary.org](http://www.dredscottanniversary.org) for more information. Image files are available on the website.

**WHY:** The National Park Service is pleased to host special programs relating to the Dred Scott Decision. Dred Scott and his wife Harriet were residents of St. Louis who sued for their freedom from slavery in the St. Louis courts in 1846. Their trials were held in St. Louis' Historic Old Courthouse in 1847 and 1850. In 1857 a politically-charged decision rendered by the United States Supreme Court brought the nation closer to Civil War. The rich heritage of African Americans in the St. Louis region forms the backdrop for the fascinating details of this incredible case.

The Historic Old Courthouse is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. year-round. All ranger-led and special museum programs are FREE of charge. For additional information, call 314/655-1700 weekdays, or 7-1-1 Voice/TTY Telecommunications Relay Service.

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