



A CIVICS IN REAL LIFE SERIES **THE DOCKET**

Civics is all around us. The United States Supreme Court is the highest court in the land. Through its power of judicial review, its decisions have a lasting impact on "We the People". So what is the Court hearing this session and how might the justices rule? Let's help each other expand our civic literacy.

2024-2025 U.S. Supreme Court Cases UPDATES

In the closing days of the 2024-2025 Supreme Court term, the Justices delivered opinions in key cases from our CRL: The Docket Series. Below is a matrix highlighting the constitutional questions asked in these cases and how the Court ruled on these questions. Included are resources to explore the impact these decisions may have on society.

Case & Constitutional Question	Ruling & Impact
In Oklahoma Statewide Charter School Board v. Drummond , the Court must decide: (1) if a privately run school's academic choices are state action simply because it contracts with the state to provide free education; and (2) whether excluding religious schools from state's charter program violates the First Amendment's free exercise clause or can be justified by anti-establishment interests beyond the Establishment Clause.	<p>The judgment of the Supreme Court of Oklahoma was affirmed by an equally divided Court. On May 22, 2025, the Court did not reverse the lower court's decision, leaving in place the ruling that a religious charter school in Oklahoma violated state law and the state and federal constitutions.</p> <p>(Adapted from Oyez.) View the SCOTUSblog post on the ruling and potential impact on future cases.</p>
In Food & Drug Administration v. Wages & White Lion Investments, LLC , the Court is being asked one question. Was the Food and Drug Administration's orders denying respondents' applications for authorization to market new e-cigarette products arbitrary and capricious, in violation of the Administrative Procedure Act?	<p>On April 2, 2025, the Justices vacated and remanded the case, 9-0, in an opinion offered by Justice Alito with Justice Sotomayor filing a concurring opinion. The Court unanimously rejected the lower court's ruling and ruled in favor of the FDA, stating that the FDA's rejection was neither arbitrary nor capricious under the Administrative Procedure Act</p> <p>(Adapted from Oyez.) View the SCOTUSblog post on the ruling and potential impact on future cases.</p>
In Bondi v. VanDerStok , the Court is being asked to address one question. Did the ATF exceed its authority in implementing the Final Rule in order to regulate "ghost guns"?	<p>On March 26, 2025, the Justices reversed the ruling on the regulation of untraceable weapons without serial numbers ("ghost guns") in a 7-2 vote. It was determined that the Gun Control Act of 1968 allows the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to regulate at least some ghost guns.</p> <p>(Adapted from Oyez.) View the SCOTUSblog post on the ruling and potential impact on future cases.</p>
City and County of San Francisco v. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) : Does the Clean Water Act let the EPA or authorized states include general prohibitions in National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, enforcing water quality standards without specifying exact discharge limits?	<p>On March 4, 2025, the Supreme Court released its decision, siding with San Francisco in a 5-4 ruling. The Clean Water Act does not authorize the EPA to include "end-result" provisions in wastewater discharge permits.</p> <p>(Adapted from Oyez.) View the SCOTUSblog post on the ruling and potential impact on future cases.</p>
In Facebook v. Amalgamated Bank , the Court is being asked to address one question. Are risk disclosures false or misleading when they do not disclose that a risk has materialized in the past, even if that past event presents no known risk of ongoing or future business harm?	<p>On November 22, 2024, the Justices dismissed the writ of certiorari as improvidently granted in a per curiam opinion. It was determined that it was a mistake to grant the initial review, and the justices have left the ruling put in place by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit.</p> <p>(Adapted from Oyez.) View the SCOTUSblog post on the ruling and potential impact on future cases.</p>



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