

"The role of a judge has often been described as 'calling balls and strikes.' This case is a ball: filed in a district outside the strike zone."



COURTHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Closing Arguments

The week in Courthouse News

May 24, 2024

Supreme Court opinion season is upon us, and the court is ready to speak.

After months of silence even as South Carolina pleaded with the justices to weigh in on a racial gerrymandering dispute, the high court [sided with Republicans](#) and rejected critics who said state voting maps would drown out the political voice of Black voters.

The three liberal justices dissented, claiming their conservative colleagues' opinion "stacks the deck against the challengers."

In another split ruling, SCOTUS said that, when sentencing felons who possess guns, courts should look to drug criminalization [at the time of sentencing](#) to determine the mandatory minimum.

The court was unanimous, however, in finding the cryptocurrency giant Coinbase [can't force unhappy users into arbitration](#) in a dispute over a sweepstakes to promote meme-inspired cryptocurrency Dogecoin.

Follow reporter [Kelsey Reichmann](#) for all the latest news from the nation's highest court.

Next: more Courthouse News. Then: Have a safe and pleasant Memorial Day weekend. us

— *Nina Pullano*

Here's what else happened in court this week:



The highest court of the United Nations [ordered Israel to stop its military operation](#) in Rafah, the besieged southern Gaza city, after repeated requests for intervention spurred by South Africa.

Earlier in the week, the International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor announced the court is [seeking arrest warrants](#) for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Minister of Defense Yoav Gallant and Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar and other senior officials in connection with war crimes and crimes against humanity. President Joe Biden [blasted the move](#), which is unlikely to result in imminent arrest or prosecution, as war has [continued to rage](#) in the Middle East. [[Molly Quell](#), [Nolan Stout](#), [Cain Burdeau](#)]

» Donald Trump [rested his defense case](#) without taking the stand at his Manhattan criminal trial. Closing arguments are set for next week. [[Erik Uebelacker](#)]

» Former NYC Mayor Rudy Giuliani [pleaded not guilty](#) to charges in Arizona over his role as a "fake elector" in the 2020 presidential race after receiving a summons at his own 80th birthday party. [[Joe Duhownik](#)]

» House Democrats are pushing for Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito to [sit out of Capitol riot cases](#) at the high court. [[Benjamin S. Weiss](#)]

» Crumbl, the cookie company facing a lawsuit over accusations of hidden fees, is [unlikely to dodge the claims](#). [[Alan Riquelmy](#)]



The World Wildlife Fund [sued Norway](#) in an attempt to halt seafloor mining in the Nordic country's territory. [[Lasse Sørensen](#)]

Top 8: This week's most-read stories

1. ['Clear the courtroom:' Judge explodes at Trump's witness after prosecutors rest case at hush-money trial](#)
2. [Naples on edge as huge underground volcano rumbles](#)
3. [Robert Costello's testimony in Trump criminal trial a 'disaster,' experts say](#)
4. [Supreme Court won't review parents' objection to school policy on gender identity](#)
5. [Newsom calls Trump request for \\$1 billion from oil industry 'open corruption'](#)
6. [\[April 2008\] 'Fine Art Registry' Accused Of Defamation](#)

7. [Georgia judge tosses First Amendment suit over ex-congressman's abortion-related judiciary campaign ads](#)
8. [Ninth Circuit finds that convicted felons also have Second Amendment rights](#)



"The role of a judge has often been described as 'calling balls and strikes.' This case is a ball: filed in a district outside the strike zone," a Colorado federal judge wrote as he [threw an age discrimination case](#) over to the Southern District of New York — Major League Baseball's home field. [[Amanda Pampuro](#)]

New rulings on our radar 📡

» **Ninth Circuit:** Apple, Google and Meta [cannot appeal an order](#) declining to dismiss a trio of class actions accusing the companies of running "social casinos."

» **District of Nevada:** A marijuana vape pen investor [may compel](#) foreign discovery related to a lawsuit in Canada against the operator of an alleged Ponzi scheme to which the investor lost \$4.6 million.

» **Eastern District of California:** Amazon's \$5.5 million settlement [is approved](#) in a class action where the company is accused of illegally requiring non-exempt workers to get tested for Covid every shift, without pay.

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