



Closing Arguments

The week in Courthouse News

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Who will think of the children? Instead of asking, some kids are taking to the courts to demand their rights. And they're winning.

Google lost its bid to dismiss privacy claims brought by a group of children under 13 years old who accuse the tech company of illegally collecting their data without parental consent. The kids' state law claims [aren't preempted by federal law](#), a California judge ruled. [[Natalie Hanson](#)]

In a landmark settlement, Hawaii agreed to [speed up its commitment](#) to zero-emission transportation, thanks to a lawsuit filed by 13 young climate change activists targeting the transit sector.

Under the agreement at least \$40 million will go toward expanding public electric vehicle charging and a volunteer youth council will advise the Hawaii Department of Transportation on its climate commitments.

"We got what we came for, and we got it faster than we expected," said Navahine F., the 16-year-old lead plaintiff. "Mai kuhihewa (Make no mistake): Young people have the power to make a difference for their futures." [[Keya Rivera](#)]

Kids were a conduit for touchy legal debates elsewhere in the U.S., too. Louisiana became the first state to mandate posting the Ten Commandments in all public classrooms. Governor Jeff Landry knew the move would be controversial: He said he "can't wait to be sued" over it — and the ACLU is [ready to answer](#) his call. [[Sabrina Canfield](#)]

And New York's high court ruled that public schools in the state, home to the nation's largest public school system, [don't have to provide](#) buses for private school students on days public school students have off. [[Erik Uebelacker](#)]

For the grown-ups, lots more Courthouse News to come.

— *Nina Pullano*

Here's what else happened in court this week:



LGBTQ+ veterans who were discharged under rules that barred gay Americans from serving in the military [cleared their first judicial hurdle](#) when a federal judge denied the Defense Department's motion to dismiss the case. [[Hillel Aron](#)]

» A federal judge in Texas [dismissed ExxonMobil's lawsuit](#) against climate activist shareholders, striking down the oil giant's attempt to tighten its grip on an emissions proposal. [[Kirk McDaniel](#)]

» Senate Republicans [scuttled an attempt](#) to reinstate a federal ban on bump stocks after the Supreme Court [struck it down](#) last week. [[Benjamin S. Weiss](#)]

- » The Supreme Court [upheld](#) a federal law prohibiting people under domestic violence restraining orders from owning guns. [[Kelsey Reichmann](#)]

- » The 6,700-page Senate Intelligence Committee report documenting the CIA's use of torture in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks [will remain classified](#) for the time being. [[Ryan Knappenberger](#)]

- » A 62-year-old man living in Houston was [sentenced](#) to 33 months in federal prison for making racist and threatening phone calls to Congresswoman Maxine Waters. [[Hillel Aron](#)]

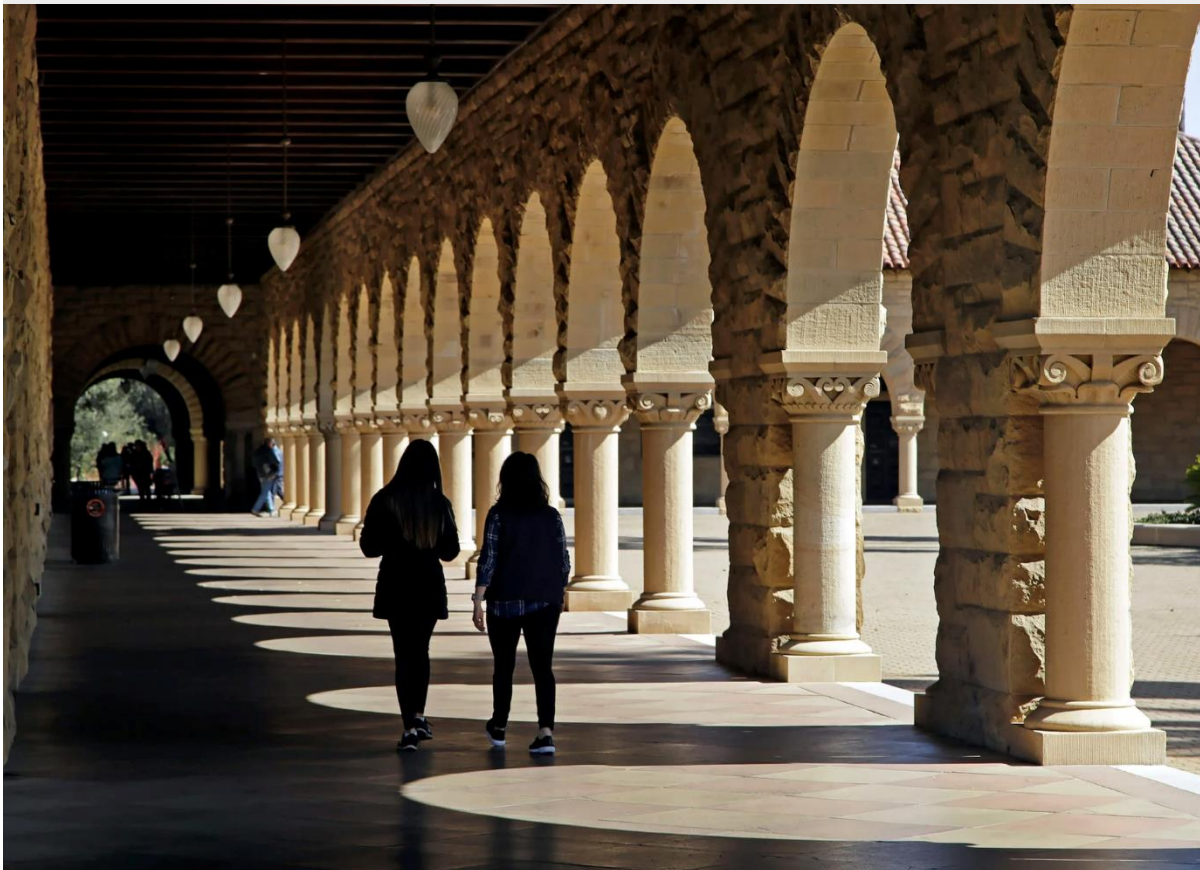
- » Meta [prevailed](#) against a group of non-Facebook users' appellate claims that it violated state law by collecting data from their faces. [[Natalie Hanson](#)]



Boeing CEO David Calhoun testified before the Senate Homeland Security Committee about airliner safety issues and reports of retaliation against whistleblowers. Missouri Senator Josh Hawley had [choice words](#) for the aerospace executive. [[Benjamin S. Weiss](#)]

Top 8: This week's most-read stories

1. [Eighth Circuit considers whether auto insurance extends to STDs in cars](#)
2. [Cake shop owner asks Colorado Supreme Court to find he was right to refuse transgender birthday cake order](#)
3. [Government does not have to pay back unconstitutional bankruptcy fees, Supreme Court rules](#)
4. [Supreme Court snubs Uber's fight over driver employment](#)
5. [Threatening Maxine Waters earns Texas man 33 months in prison](#)
6. [Judge tosses LA's second lawsuit against journalist over police headshots](#)
7. [ACLU vows to sue as Louisiana becomes first state to require posting Ten Commandments in public schools](#)
8. [Justices reject limits on malicious prosecution claims](#)



More than two dozen free speech and press freedom organizations urged law enforcement [not to press charges](#) against a Stanford University journalist arrested while reporting on a pro-Palestine protest. [[Natalie Hanson](#)]

New rulings on our radar

» **Middle District of North Carolina:** A health care provider's settlement with patients who say provider willfully shared their confidential health information with Facebook [is approved](#).

» **Ninth Circuit:** The court [upholds](#) a judgment in favor of the U.S. Forest Service over claims that bait hunting Idaho and Wyoming is negatively affecting grizzly bears.

» **Southern District of New York:** Warner Music [successfully defended](#) Megan Thee Stallion's chart-topping hit "Savage" from copyright infringement claims.

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