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1 Introduction

A Prefatory Note from Harold J. Spaeth

The initial version of this database dates from the mid-1980's at the dawn of the desktop computing revolution and relies on pre-microcomputing and pre-internet conditions. As such, users need knowledge of statistical software packages and the codified variables that the database contains. This new version, however, recognizes the existence of the 21st century by eliminating acquaintance with statistical software packages and coded variables. Plain English rules! But do note that the database can be uploaded into statistical packages to perform advanced calculations if a user so desires.

Aside from the foregoing, the major feature of this version of the database is an interface that is in line with modern technology and which will allow users to directly calculate and view relationships among the variables in the database.

As such, the database may now be treated as justice centered. The original database only allowed for the analyses of judicial decisions and the votes of the individual justices. It is now possible for the individual justice's vote to be the unit of analysis rather than the case. That is, a user may, for example, easily compare the behavior of one or more of the justices with that of others. The original version of the database was not programmed to do so because it was exclusively case centered.

I have specified decision rules governing the entry of data into the various variables, most particularly the legal provisions governing the Court's decisions and the issues to which cases pertain. These, however, are not set in concrete. You, of course, are free to redefine any and all variables on your copy of the database. If convention applies, I adhere to it. But for many variables and their specific entries, none exists.

Because the database now extends over four centuries, it is necessary to add, alter, and adjust a number of variables. I do so to keep the legacy cases (those decided between 1792 and the Court's acquisition of discretionary jurisdiction as a result of the Judges' Bill of 1925) as congruent as possible with the Court's modern decisions. These changes primarily apply to the issues the Court decides. Most notable is the addition of a set of common law issues. These account for the bulk of the Court's heritage decisions and have little applicability to any but the parties to these cases.

In specifying the issue in the legacy cases I have chosen the one that best accords with what today's Court would consider the issue to be. For example, "prize cases," those in which vessels were captured on the high seas and brought into U.S. ports, are categorized either as Fifth Amendment takings clause cases or as cases pertaining to the jurisdiction of the federal district or appeals courts, depending on which issue the Court based its decision. This was done to provide a basis for continuity in the Court's decision making and to avoid, if desired, undue segmentation of the Court's decisions. The same rule applies to various provisions pertaining to the Bill of Rights even though the Fourteenth Amendment had not been ratified and no guarantees of the Bill of Rights had been made binding on the state and local governments.

Do recognize, however, that the foregoing paragraph applies only to the issue(s) the Court addressed and not to the legal provisions decided by the Court. The latter were nonexistent at the time of decision. These legacy decisions generally rested either on the common law or judicial fiat.
I wish to thank Professor Jeffrey Segal of the State University of New York at Stony Brook for his extremely valuable comments and suggestions on all phases and aspects of the database since its creation. I also thank Harriet Dhanak, the former programming and software specialist in the Department of Political Science at Michigan State University, for her expert guidance and assistance. Her successor, Lawrence Kestenbaum, continued and extended the stellar services on which I had become dependent. Most recently I have relied on the superb technical knowledge and skills of John Schwarz of the Michigan State University Institute for Political and Social Science Research. Professor Tim Hagle of the University of Iowa continues to systematically inform me of errors and missing data that I have overlooked. My former graduate students, now bona fide professors--Sara C. Benesh and Wendy L. Martinek--have shepherded me through the more arcane byways of current versions of statistical software packages. And though this feature of the database is now passe, their previous assistance has been key.

I also deeply appreciate the support provided me by the Michigan State University College of Law.

Three outstanding individuals are most responsible for this version of the database. Lee Epstein, whose wide-ranging scholarly productivity is unmatched in the world of judicial scholarship; Andrew D. Martin, chair of the Department of Political Science, professor of law, and Director of the Center for Empirical Research in Law (CERL) at Washington University in St. Louis, whose methodological competence knows no bounds; and Troy DeArmitt, CERL's masterful research technician par excellence.

Compilation of this database has been supported by grants from the National Science Foundation. Without its assistance, the database would not exist.

Notes to All Users

1. The Supreme Court Database's research team continuously updates the database. Accordingly, we urge you to pay attention to the date your version appeared on the website and to check whether it is the current one.

2. The codebook now provides five pieces of information for each variable: the name of the variable as it appears in the current version of the Database, the name Spaeth used in previous versions (if applicable), any normalization (changes we made when converting from Spaeth's format to the new web version), and, of course, a description of the variable and a list of its values.

- End of Content for Variable 1. Introduction -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caseId</td>
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<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is the first of four unique internal identification numbers.

The first four digits are the term. The next four are the case within the term (starting at 001 and counting up).

- End of Content for Variable 2. SCDB Case ID -
### SCDB Docket ID

<table>
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<th>Normalizations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>docketId</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This is the second of four unique internal identification numbers.

The first four digits are the term. The next four are the case within the term (starting at 001 and counting up). The last two are the number of dockets within the case (starting at 01 and counting up).

*End of Content for Variable 3. SCDB Docket ID* -
### SCDB Issues ID

<table>
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<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>caseIssuesId</td>
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</table>

This is the third of four unique internal identification numbers.

The first four digits are the term. The next four are the case within the term (starting at 001 and counting up). The next two are the number of dockets within the case (starting at 01 and counting up). The last two are the number of issues and legal provisions within the case (starting at 01 and counting up).

- End of Content for Variable 4. SCDB Issues ID -
This is the fourth of four unique internal identification numbers.

The first four digits are the term. The next four are the case within the term (starting at 001 and counting up). The next two are the number of dockets within the case (starting at 01 and counting up). The next two are the number of issues and legal provisions within the case (starting at 01 and counting up). The next two indicate a split vote within an issue or legal provision (01 for only one vote; 02 if a split vote). The final two represent the vote in the case (usually runs 01 to 09, but fewer if less than all justices participated).

- End of Content for Variable 5. SCDB Vote ID -
The next four variables provide the citation to each case from the official United States Reports (US) and the three major unofficial Reports, the Supreme Court Reporter (S.CT), the Lawyers' Edition of the United States Reports (Led2d), and the LEXIS cite.

Note that LEXIS cites have the advantage of being unique; the other reporters can have multiple cases on the same page.

Further note that pagination does not invariably proceed chronologically throughout the volumes. Hence, do not assume that because a given citation has a higher page number than that of another case it was decided on the same or a later date as the other case. The only accurate way to sequence the cases chronologically is by indexing or otherwise sequencing each case's date of decision (date of decision).

- End of Content for Variable 6. U.S. Reporter Citation -
Supreme Court Citation

<table>
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<td>sctCite</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

See variable U.S. Reporter Citation (usCite).

- End of Content for Variable 7. Supreme Court Citation -
## Lawyers Edition Citation

<table>
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<td>ledCite</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See variable U.S. Reporter Citation.

- *End of Content for Variable 8, Lawyers Edition Citation* -
### 9 LEXIS Citation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lexisCite</td>
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<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See variable U.S. Reporter Citation (usCite).

- *End of Content for Variable 9. LEXIS Citation-*
This variable contains the docket number that the Supreme Court has assigned to the case. During the Warren Court and the first two terms of the Burger Court, different cases coming to the Court in different terms could have the same docket number. The Court eliminated the possibility of such duplication by including the last two digits of the appropriate term before the assigned docket number. Since the 1971 Term, the Court has also operated with a single docket. Cases filed pursuant to the Court's appellate jurisdiction have a two-digit number corresponding to the term in which they were filed, followed by a hyphen and a number varying from one to five digits. Cases invoking the Court's original jurisdiction have a number followed by the abbreviation, "Orig."

Note that during much of the legacy period, the Court did not assign docket numbers to its cases.

For administrative purposes, the Court uses the letters, "A," "D," and "S," in place of the term year to identify applications ("A") for stays or bail, proceedings of disbarment or discipline of attorneys ("D"), and matters being held indefinitely for one reason or another ("S"). These occur infrequently and then almost always in the Court's summary orders at the back of each volume of the U.S. Reports. The database excludes these cases, the overwhelming majority of which are denials of petition for certiorari.

A handful of cases in the database lack a docket number. For these, the docket variable has no entry.

Finally, note that the Court can consolidate multiple petitions--each with its own docket number--under one U.S. cite. If you are interested in only the first (lead) case, use the database organized by Supreme Court citation. If you are interested in all the cases consolidated under one cite, select the data grouping 'organize by docket,' which is found at the end of the analysis panel.

- End of Content for Variable 10. Docket Number -
This is the name of the case. We initially derived the names from LEXIS and then did a bit of tidying so that they appear in a consistent format. With the exception of various Latin phrases and abbreviations, all words are now in upper case.

Note that case name is tied to the docket number. In other words, if multiple cases appear under the same citation, the case name will be that of the particular case, not the lead case.

- End of Content for Variable 11. Case Name -
The next four variables identify the parties to the case. "Petitioner" refers to the party who petitioned the Supreme Court to review the case. This party is variously known as the petitioner or the appellant. "Respondent" refers to the party being sued or tried and is also known as the appellee. Variables "petitioner" and "respondent" provide detailed information about all parties, except the identity of the state if a state (or one of its subdivisions) is a party, petitioner and respondent variables note only whether a state is a party, not the state's name. See variables Petitioner State and Respondent State for the name.

The specific codes that appear below were created inductively, with petitioner and respondent characterized as the Court's opinion identifies them.

In describing the parties in the cases before it, the justices employ terminology that places them in the context of the litigation in which they are involved. Accordingly, an employer who happens to be a manufacturer will be identified as the former if its role in the litigation is that of an employer and as the latter if its role is that of a business. Because the justices describe litigants in this fashion, a fairly limited vocabulary characterizes them. Note that the list of parties also includes the list of administrative agencies and officials contained in administrative action preceding litigation.

Also note that the Court's characterization of the parties applies whether the petitioner and respondent are actually single entities or whether many other persons or legal entities have associated themselves with the lawsuit. That is, the presence of the phrase, et al., following the name of a party does not preclude the Court from characterizing that party as though it were a single entity. Thus, each docket number will show a single petitioner and a single respondent, regardless of how many legal entities were actually involved.

The decision rules governing the identification of parties are as follows.

1. Parties are identified by the labels given them in the opinion or judgment of the Court except where the Reports title a party as the "United States" or as a named state. Textual identification of parties is typically provided prior to Part I of the Court's opinion. The official syllabus, the summary that appears on the title page of the case, may be consulted as well. In describing the parties, the Court employs terminology that places them in the context of the specific lawsuit in which they are involved. E.g., "employer" rather than "business" in a suit by an employee; as a "minority," "female," or "minority female" employee rather than "employee" in a suit alleging discrimination by an employer.

2. Where a choice of identifications exists that which provides information not provided by the legal provision or the issue is chosen. E.g., a federal taxpayer or an attorney accused of a crime as taxpayer or attorney rather than accused person, particularly if neither the lawType nor the Issue variable identifies the case as a tax matter or one involving an attorney.

3. Identify the parties by reference to the following list and by the list of federal agencies provided in the adminAction variable.
This variable identifies the state if the state or any one of the following is the petitioner:

- specified state board or department of education
- city, town, township, village, or borough government or governmental unit
- state commission, board, committee, or authority
- county government or county governmental unit
- state department or agency
- court or judicial district
- governmental employee or job applicant
- female governmental employee or job applicant
- minority governmental employee or job applicant
- minority female governmental employee or job applicant
- federal government corporation
- retired or former governmental employee
- U.S. House of Representatives interstate compact
- judge
- state legislature, house, or committee
- local governmental unit other than a county, city, town, township, village, or borough
- governmental official, or an official of an agency established under an interstate compact
- state or U.S. supreme court
- local school district or board of education
- U.S. Senate
- U.S. senator
- foreign nation or instrumentality
- state or local governmental taxpayer, or executor of the estate of
- state college or university

See Petitioner variable for more details.

- End of Content for Variable 13. Petitioner State -
14 Respondent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>respondent</td>
<td>PARTY_2</td>
<td>varParties (300)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See Petitioner variable.

- End of Content for Variable 14. Respondent -
This variable identifies the state if the state or any one of the following is the respondent:

- specified state board or department of education
- city, town, township, village, or borough government or governmental unit
- state commission, board, committee, or authority
- county government or county governmental unit
- state department or agency
- court or judicial district
- governmental employee or job applicant
- female governmental employee or job applicant
- minority governmental employee or job applicant
- minority female governmental employee or job applicant
- retired or former governmental employee
- judge
- state legislature, house, or committee
- local governmental unit other than a county, city, town, township, village, or borough
- governmental official, or an official of an agency established under an interstate compact
- state or U.S. supreme court
- local school district or board of education
- state or local governmental taxpayer, or executor of the estate of
- state college or university

See Petitioner variable for more details.

- End of Content for Variable 15. Respondent State -
Manner in which the Court takes Jurisdiction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>jurisdiction</td>
<td>JUR</td>
<td>varJurisdiction (12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Court uses a variety of means whereby it undertakes to consider cases that it has been petitioned to review. These are listed below. The most important ones are the writ of certiorari, the writ of appeal, and for legacy cases the writ of error, appeal, and certification.

- End of Content for Variable 16. Manner in which the Court takes Jurisdiction -
This variable pertains to administrative agency activity occurring prior to the onset of litigation. Note that the activity may involve an administrative official as well as that of an agency. The general rule for an entry in this variable is whether administrative action occurred in the context of the case. Note too that this variable identifies the specific federal agency. If the action occurred in a state agency, adminAction is coded as 117 (State Agency). See the variable adminActionState for the identity of the state.

Determination of whether administration action occurred in the context of the case was made by reading the material which appears in the summary of the case (the material preceding the Court's opinion) and, if necessary, those portions of the prevailing opinion headed by a I or II.

Action by an agency official is considered to be administrative action except when such an official acts to enforce criminal law.

If an agency or agency official "denies" a "request" that action be taken, such denials are considered agency action.

If two federal agencies are mentioned (e.g., INS and BIA), the one whose action more directly bears on the dispute will appear; otherwise the agency that acted more recently. If a state and federal agency are mentioned, the federal agency will appear.

Excluded from entry in this variable are:

- A "challenge" to an unapplied agency rule, regulation, etc.
  A request for an injunction or a declaratory judgment against agency action which, though anticipated, has not yet occurred.

- A mere request for an agency to take action when there is no evidence that the agency did so.

- Agency or official action to enforce criminal law.
  The hiring and firing of political appointees or the procedures whereby public officials are appointed to office.

- Attorney general preclearance actions pertaining to voting.
  Filing fees or nominating petitions required for access to the ballot.

- Actions of courts martial.

- Land condemnation suits and quiet title actions instituted in a court.

- Federally funded private nonprofit organizations.
Nite that the following list of agencies amy also be found as a petitioner or respondent variable.

- *End of Content for Variable 17. Administrative Action Preceeding Litigation -*
Administrative action may be either state or federal. If administrative action was taken by a state or a subdivision thereof, this variable identifies the state. See adminAction for federal agencies and for the coding rules.

When a state agency or official acts as an agent of a federal agency, it is identified as such.

- End of Content for Variable 18. Administrative Action Preceeding Litigation State -
This variable will be checked if the case was heard by a three-judge federal district court. Recent congressional legislation has reduced the kinds of lawsuits that must be heard by such a court. As a result, the frequency is less for the Burger Court than for the Warren Court, and all but nonexistent for the Rehnquist and Roberts Courts.

- End of Content for Variable 19. Three-Judge District Court -
The focus of this variable is the court in which the case originated, not the administrative agency (see adminAction and adminActionState). For this reason a number of cases show a state or federal appellate court as the one in which the case originated rather than a court of first instance (trial court). This variable has no entry for cases that originated in the United States Supreme Court. Note too that caseOrigin does not identify the name of the state if the case originated in a state court. For the state name, see variable caseOriginState.

Cases that arise on a petition of habeas corpus and those removed to the federal courts from a state court are defined as originating in the federal, rather than a state, court system.

This variable has no entry if the case arose under the Supreme Court's original jurisdiction and in other proceedings with which no other court was involved.

A petition for a writ of habeas corpus begins in the federal district court, not the state trial court.

Cases removed to a federal court originate there.

Also see source of case (caseSource).

- End of Content for Variable 20. Origin of Case -
### Origin of Case State

<table>
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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caseOriginState</td>
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<td>varStates (61)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the case originated in a state court, this variable identifies the state. For more details, see the variable caseOrigin.

- *End of Content for Variable 21. Origin of Case State* -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caseSource</td>
<td>SOURCE</td>
<td>varCaseSources (197)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable identifies the court whose decision the Supreme Court reviewed. If the case originated in the same court whose decision the Supreme Court reviewed, the entry in the caseOrigin should be the same as here. This variable has no entry if the case arose under the Supreme Court's original jurisdiction.

If caseSource is a state court, the value of this variable will be 300 (State Supreme Court), 302 (State Appellate Court) or 303 (State Trial Court). Variable caseSourceState identifies the name of the state.

- End of Content for Variable 22. Source of Case -
If the source of the case (i.e., the court whose decision the Supreme Court reviewed) is a state court, this variable identifies the state. See also Source of Case (caseSource).

- End of Content for Variable 23. Source of Case State -
An entry of in this variable indicates that the Supreme Court's majority opinion mentioned that one or more of the members of the court whose decision the Supreme Court reviewed dissented. The presence of such disagreement is limited to a statement to this effect somewhere in the majority opinion. I.e, "divided," "dissent," "disagreed," "split." A reference, without more, to the "majority" or "plurality" does not necessarily evidence dissent. The other judges may have concurred.

If a case arose on habeas corpus, a dissent will be indicated if either the last federal court or the last state court to review the case contained one. E.g., Townsend v. Sain, 9 Led 2d 770 (1963). A dissent will also be indicated if the highest court with jurisdiction to hear the case declines to do so by a divided vote. E.g., Simpson v. Florida, 29 L ed 2d 549 (1971).

Note that the focus of this variable tends to be a statement that a dissent occurred rather than the fact of such an occurrence. The fact of a dissent is not always mentioned in the majority opinion. It may be irrelevant. See, for example, McNally v. United States, 483 U.S. 350 (1987), and United States v. Gray and McNally, 790 F.2d 1290 (1986).

If the lower court denies an en banc petition by a divided vote and the Supreme Court's opinion discusses same, a dissent occurs.

- End of Content for Variable 24, Lower Court Disagreement -
This variable provides the reason, if any, that the Court gives for granting the petition for certiorari. If the case did not arise on certiorari, this variable will be so coded even if the Court provides a reason why it agreed to hear the case. The Court, however, rarely provides a reason for taking jurisdiction by writs other than certiorari.

- End of Content for Variable 25. Reason for Granting Cert -
Lower Court Disposition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lcDisposition</td>
<td>LODIS</td>
<td>varCaseDispositionLc (12)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable specifies the treatment the court whose decision the Supreme Court reviewed accorded the decision of the court it reviewed; e.g., whether the court below the Supreme Court--typically a federal court of appeals or a state supreme court---affirmed, reversed, remanded, etc. the decision of the court it reviewed---typically a trial court.

lcDisposition will not contain an entry if the decision the Supreme Court reviewed is that of a trial court or if the case arose under the Supreme Court's original jurisdiction (see the jurisdiction variable).

The decision rules governing this information follow:

1. We adhere to the language used in the "holding" in the summary of the case on the title page or prior to Part I of the Court's opinion. Exceptions to the literal language are the following:

2. Where the Court overrules the lower court, we treat this a petition or motion granted.

3. Where the court whose decision the Supreme Court is reviewing refuses to enforce or enjoins the decision of the court, tribunal, or agency which it reviewed, we treat this as reversed.

4. Where the court whose decision the Supreme Court is reviewing enforces the decision of the court, tribunal, or agency which it reviewed, we treat this as affirmed.

5. Where the court whose decision the Supreme Court is reviewing sets aside the decision of the court, tribunal, or agency which it reviewed, we treat this as vacated; if the decision is set aside and remanded, we treat it as vacated and remanded.

Also see disposition of case and direction of the lower court's decision (lcDispositionDirection).

- End of Content for Variable 26. Lower Court Disposition -
Lower Court Disposition Direction

<table>
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<th>Variable Name</th>
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<th>Normalizations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lcDispositionDirection</td>
<td>LCTDIR</td>
<td>varDecisionDirection (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable specifies whether the decision of the court whose decision the Supreme Court reviewed was itself liberal or conservative as these terms are defined in the direction of decision variable (decisionDirection).

lcDispositionDirection permits determination of whether the Supreme Court's disposition of the case upheld or overturned a liberal or a conservative lower court decision.

Also see disposition of case by the court whose decision the Supreme Court reviewed (lcDisposition), direction of decision (decisionDirection), disposition of case (caseDisposition), and winning party (partyWinning).

- End of Content for Variable 27. Lower Court Disposition Direction -
<table>
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<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dateDecision</td>
<td>DEC</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable contains the year, month, and day that the Court announced its decision in the case.

- *End of Content for Variable 28. Date of Decision* -
This variable identifies the term in which the Court handed down its decision. Hence, for cases argued in one term and reargued and decided in the next, term indicates the latter.

- End of Content for Variable 29. Term of Court -
Although most judicial research is chronologically organized by the term of the Court or by chief justice, many users employ "natural courts" as their analytical frame of reference.

A natural court is a period during which no personnel change occurs. Scholars have subdivided them into "strong" and "weak" natural courts, but no convention exists as to the dates on which they begin and end. Options include 1) date of confirmation, 2) date of seating, 3) cases decided after seating, and 4) cases argued and decided after seating. A strong natural court is delineated by the addition of a new justice or the departure of an incumbent. A weak natural court, by comparison, is any group of sitting justices even if lengthy vacancies occurred.

The values below divide the Courts into strong natural courts, each of which begins when the Reports first specify that the new justice is present but not necessarily participating in the reported case. Similarly, a natural court ends on the date when the Reports state that an incumbent justice has died, retired, or resigned. The courts are numbered consecutively by chief justice as the code at the left-hand margin indicates.

Note, especially, that the Court was without a chief justice during the 1836 term. This was the period between Marshall's death and Taney's confirmation.


- End of Content for Variable 30. Natural Court -
### Chief Justice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>chief</td>
<td>CHIEF</td>
<td>varChiefs (17)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable identifies the chief justice during whose tenure the case was decided.

- End of Content for Variable 31. Chief Justice -
This variable contains the day, month, and year that the case was orally argued before the Court. `dateArgument` has no entry for cases that were not orally argued. See also Date of Reargument (`dateRearg`) if any.

On a few occasions, oral argument extended over more than a single day. In such cases, only the first date is specified.

- End of Content for Variable 32. Date of Oral Argument -
On those infrequent occasions when the Court orders that a case be reargued, this variable specifies the date of such argument following the same day, month, and year sequence used in the preceding variable (dateArgue).

- End of Content for Variable 33. Date of Reargument -
This variable identifies the issue for each decision. Although criteria for the identification of issues are hard to articulate, the focus here is on the subject matter of the controversy (e.g., sex discrimination, school desegregation, affirmative action) rather than its legal basis (e.g., the equal protection clause) (see the variable lawType).

This variable identifies issues on the basis of the Court's own statements as to what the case is about. The objective is to categorize the case from a public policy standpoint, a perspective that the legal basis for decision (lawType) commonly disregards.

Unlike the lawType variable where the number of legal provisions at issue has no preordained upper bound, each legal provision should not generally have more than a single issue applied to it. A second issue should apply only when a preference for one rather than the other cannot readily be made. Of the many thousand records in the database, few have a legal basis for decision that applies to a second issue. (If you are interested in decisions with more than one issue or legal provision, use one of the datasets organized by issue/legal provision.)

Because the database spans the entire history of the Supreme Court, it is desirable that the list of modern issues be related to those of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Thus, in specifying the issue in a legacy case, the one that best accords with what today's Court would consider it to be is chosen. This produces a bit of tension, most all of which only requires a broadening of the scope of the relevant issues, rather than the creation of new time-specific ones. Thus, although state and local governments were not bound to adhere to the provisions of the Bill of Rights until well after the passage of the Fourteenth Amendment, many cases did arise involving aspects of the First Amendment, search and seizure, notice and hearing, etc. These are treated compatibly with the modern use of the relevant provision of the Bill of Rights.

The same rule applies to statutory issues, such as rules of procedure. Although their legal provision is Supreme Court Rules, they are coded as issues of civil (90110) or criminal (10370) procedure even though they antedate the relevant Rules of Civil and Criminal Procedure.

Prize cases in which vessels on the high seas are captured and brought into American ports are treated either as due process takings clause cases (40070) or as cases involving the jurisdiction of the federal courts (90320 or 90330) to decide the legality of the capture.

This variable codes some 260 issues, each of which has an identifying number. They are ordered below by their larger issue area: criminal procedure (10010-10600), civil rights (20010-20410), First Amendment (30010-30020), due process (40010-40070), privacy (50010-50040), attorneys (60010-60040), unions (70010-70210), economic activity (80010-80350), judicial power (90010-90520), federalism (100010-100130), interstate relation (110010-110030), federal taxation (120010-120040), miscellaneous (130010-130020), and private law (140010-140080). These comprise the codes for a separate variable, issue Area, that is described immediately following this one.

The scope of these categories is as follows: criminal procedure encompasses the rights of
persons accused of crime, except for the due process rights of prisoners (issue 40040).

Civil rights includes non-First Amendment freedom cases which pertain to classifications based on race (including American Indians), age, indigency, voting, residency, military or handicapped status, gender, and alienage. Purists may wish to treat the military issues (20230, 20240, 20250) and Indian cases (20150, 20160) as economic activity, while others may wish to include the privacy category as a subset of civil rights.

First Amendment encompasses the scope of this constitutional provision, but do note that not every case in the First Amendment group directly involves the interpretation and application of a provision of the First Amendment. Some, for example, may only construe a precedent, or the reviewability of a claim based on the First Amendment, or the scope of an administrative rule or regulation that impacts the exercise of First Amendment freedoms. In other words, not every record that displays a First Amendment issue will correspondingly display a provision of the First Amendment in its legal provision variable (lawType).

Due process is limited to non-criminal guarantees and, like First Amendment issues, need not show 207 (Fifth Amendment Due Process) or 230 (Fourteenth Amendment Due Process) in the lawType variable. Some of you may wish to include state court assertion of jurisdiction over nonresident defendants and the takings clause as part of judicial power and economic activity, respectively, rather than due process.

The four issues comprising privacy may be treated as a subset of civil rights.

Because of their peculiar role in the judicial process, a separate attorney category has been created. You may wish to include these issues with economic activity, however.

Unions encompass those issues involving labor union activity. You may wish to redefine this category for yourself or combine it, in whole or in part, with economic activity.

Economic activity is largely commercial and business related; it includes tort actions and employee actions vis-a-vis employers. Issues 80140 (government corruption) and 80150 (zoning) are only tangential to the other issues located in economic activity.

Judicial power concerns the exercise of the judiciary's own power. To the extent that a number of these issues concern federal-state court relationships, you may wish to include them in the federalism category.

Federalism pertains to conflicts between the federal government and the states, except for those between the federal and state courts. Interstate relations contain two types of disputes which occur between states.

Federal taxation concerns the Internal Revenue Code and related statutes. Miscellaneous contains two groups of cases that do not fit into any other category.

Private law relates to disputes between private persons involving real and personal property, contracts, evidence, civil procedure, torts, wills and trusts, and commercial transactions. Prior to the passage of the Judges' Bill of 1925 much -- arguably most -- of the Court's cases concerned such issues. The Judges' Bill gave the Court control of its docket, as a result of which such cases have disappeared from the Court's docket in preference to litigation of more general
applicability.

If interest lies in a particular issue that has a specific legal or constitutional component, comprehensive coverage may be insured by listing not only the issue(s) that bear thereon, but also the appropriate code(s) from the lawType variable. Thus, if the right to counsel is the focus, issues 10120, 20320, and 20330 will fall within its scope, as will code 214 (Sixth Amendment Right to Counsel) from the lawType variable. Also recognize that the party variables (petitioner, petitionerState, respondent, respondentState) may also help locate the cases of interest.

- End of Content for Variable 34. Issue -
This variable simply separates the issues identified in the preceding variable (issue) into the following larger categories: criminal procedure (issues 10010-10600), civil rights (issues 20010-20410), First Amendment (issues 30010-30020), due process (issues 40010-40070), privacy (issues 50010-50040), attorneys (issues 60010-60040), unions (issues 70010-70210), economic activity (issues 80010-80350), judicial power (issues 90010-90520), federalism (issues 100010-100130), interstate relation (issues 110010-110030), federal taxation (issues 120010-120040), miscellaneous (issues 130010-130020), and private law (issues 140010-140080).

Note that the grossness of this variable conceals the differences among the specific issues that the issue area contains. For the specific issues, see variable issue.

- End of Content for Variable 35. Issue Area -
In order to determine whether the Court supports or opposes the issue to which the case pertains, this variable codes the ideological "direction" of the decision.

Specification of direction comports with conventional usage for the most part except for the interstate relations, private law, and the miscellaneous issues. "Unspecifiable" has been entered either because the issue does not lend itself to a liberal or conservative description (e.g., a boundary dispute between two states, real property, wills and estates), or because no convention exists as to which is the liberal side and which is the conservative side (e.g., the legislative veto). This variable will also contain "unspecifiable" where one state sues another under the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court and where parties or issue cannot be determined because of a tied vote or lack of information.

It bears emphasizing that the entry for this variable is determined by reference to the issue variable. If you are using the Case Centered Dataset organized by split votes, it is entirely possible for a citation to relate to a second issue whose direction is opposite that of the first issue. For example, in Air Pollution Variance Board of the State of Colorado v. Western Alfalfa Corporation, 416 U.S. 861 (1974), the Court decided that the Fourth Amendment was not violated by a health inspector's warrantless entry onto the property of a business to inspect smoke pollution. The first issue (search and seizure) is coded conservative; the second issue (natural resources) is coded liberal.

In order to determine whether an outcome is liberal (=1) or conservative (=0), the following scheme is employed.

1. In the context of issues pertaining to criminal procedure, civil rights, First Amendment, due process, privacy, and attorneys, liberal (1)=

   - pro-person accused or convicted of crime, or denied a jury trial
   - pro-civil liberties or civil rights claimant, especially those exercising less protected civil rights (e.g., homosexuality)
   - pro-child or juvenile
   - pro-indigent
   - pro-Indian
   - pro-affirmative action
   - pro-neutrality in establishment clause cases
   - pro-female in abortion
   - pro-underdog
   - anti-slavery
   - anti-government in the context of due process, except for takings clause cases where a pro-government, anti-owner vote is considered liberal except in criminal forfeiture cases or those where the taking is pro-business
   - violation of due process by exercising jurisdiction over nonresidents
• pro-attorney
• pro-accountability and/or anti-corruption in campaign spending
• pro-privacy vis-a-vis the 1st Amendment where the privacy invaded is that of mental incompetents
• pro-disclosure in Freedom of Information Act issues except for employment and student records

conservative (0)=the reverse of above

2. In the context of issues pertaining to unions and economic activity, liberal (1)=

• pro-union except in union antitrust where liberal = pro-competition
• anti-business
• anti-employer
• pro-competition
• pro-liability
• pro-injured person
• pro-indigent
• pro-small business vis-a-vis large business
• pro-state/anti-business in state tax cases
• pro-debtor
• pro-bankrupt
• pro-Indian
• pro-environmental protection
• pro-economic underdog
• pro-consumer
• pro-accountability in governmental corruption
• pro-original grantee, purchaser, or occupant in state and territorial land claims
• anti-union member or employee vis-a-vis union
• anti-union in union antitrust
• anti-union in union or closed shop
• pro-trial in arbitration
• pro-state in state and territorial land claims

conservative (0)= reverse of above

3. In the context of issues pertaining to judicial power, liberal (1)=

• pro-exercise of judicial power
• pro-judicial "activism"
• pro-judicial review of administrative action

conservative (0)=reverse of above

4. In the context of issues pertaining to federalism, liberal (1)=
• pro-federal power
• pro-executive power in executive/congressional disputes
• anti-state

conservative (0)=reverse of above

5. In the context of issues pertaining to federal taxation, liberal (1)= pro-United States; conservative (0)= pro-taxpayer

6. In interstate relations, miscellaneous, and private law issues, unspecifiable (2) for all such cases.

- End of Content for Variable 36. Decision Direction -
Once in a great while the majority as well as the dissenting opinion in a case will both support or, conversely, oppose the issue to which the case pertains. For example, the majority and the dissent may both assert that the rights of a person accused of crime have been violated. The only difference between them is that the majority votes to reverse the accused's conviction and remand the case for a new trial, while the dissent holds that the accused's conviction should be reversed, period. In such cases, the entry in the decisionDirection variable should be determined relative to whether the majority or the dissent more substantially supported the issue to which the case pertains, and an entry should appear in this variable. In the foregoing example, the direction of decision variable (decisionDirection) should show a 0 (conservative) because the majority provided the person accused of crime with less relief than does the dissent, and direction based on dissent should show a 1 (liberal) The person accused of crime actually won the case, but won less of a victory than the dissent would have provided.

- End of Content for Variable 37. Decision Direction Dissent -
This variable and the next one (authorityDecision2) specify the bases on which the Supreme Court rested its decision with regard to each legal provision that the Court considered in the case (see variable lawType).

Because one of these bases commonly occurs conjoined with another; e.g., the interpretation of the substantive provisions of a federal statute and the Supreme Court's exercise of its supervisory power over the lower federal courts; two separate variables (authorityDecision1, authorityDecision2) follow. The coding is the same in both. In the foregoing example, the first variable will contain a "4," the second a "3." In a case involving congressional acquiescence to longstanding administrative construction of a statute, these variables should appear as "5" and "4." If two bases are identified, and if one is more heavily emphasized, it should appear in the first of the two variables.

Considerable congruence should obtain between the entry in these variables and the code that appears in the lawType variable. Thus, if a constitutional provision appears in the lawType variable, a "1" or a "2" will typically appear in either authorityDecision1 or authorityDecision2. Similarly, if lawType displays a statute, either authorityDecision1 or authorityDecision2 will likely show a "4."

A common exception is where the Court determines the constitutionality of a federal statute, or where judge-made rules are applied to determine liability under various federal statutes, including civil rights acts (e.g., Pulliam v. Allen, 466 U.S. 522), or the propriety of the federal courts' use of state statutes of limitations to adjudicate federal statutory claims (e.g., Burnett v. Grattan, 468 U.S. 42).

The decision rules governing each of the authority for decision codes are as follows:

For a code of 1: The majority determined the constitutionality of some action taken by some unit or official of the federal government, including an interstate compact.

Enter a "1" if 139 appears in the lawType variable.

Enter a "1" if 111 appears in the lawType variable.

For a code of 2: Did the majority determine the constitutionality of some action taken by some unit or official of a state or local government? If so, enter a "2."

For a code of 3: If the rules governing codes "1-2," "4-7" are answered negatively or do not apply, enter a "3." A "3," then, serves as the residual code for these variables.

Enter a "3" if 508 appears in the LAW variable.

Non-statutorily based Judicial Power topics in the issue variable generally warrant a "3."
Most cases arising under the Court's original jurisdiction should receive a "3."

All cases containing a "4" in the type of decision variable = 3.

Enter a "3" in cases in which the Court denied or dismissed the petition for review or where the decision of a lower court is affirmed by a tie vote.

For a code of 4: Did the majority interpret a federal statute, treaty, or court rule? If so, enter a "4."

Enter a "4" rather than a "3" if the Court interprets a federal statute governing the powers or jurisdiction of a federal court. In other words, a statutory basis for a court's exercise of power or jurisdiction does not require that a "3" supplement a "4"; the latter alone suffices.

Enter a "4" rather than a "2" where the Court construes a state law as incompatible with a federal law.

Do not enter only a "4" where an administrative agency or official acts "pursuant to" a statute. All agency action is purportedly done pursuant to legislative authorization of one sort or another. A "4" may be coupled to a "5" (see below) only if the Court interprets the statute to determine if administrative action is proper.

In workers' compensation litigation involving statutory interpretation and, in addition, a discussion of jury determination and/or the sufficiency of the evidence, enter either a "4" and a "3" or a "3" and a "4." If no statute is identified in the syllabus, only enter a "3."

For a code of 5: Did the majority treat federal administrative action in arriving at its decision? If so, enter a "5."

Enter a "5" and a "4," but not a "5" alone, where an administrative official interprets a federal statute.

Enter a "5" if the issue = 90120.

For a code of 6: Did the majority say in approximately so many words that under its diversity jurisdiction it is interpreting state law? If so, enter a "6."

For a code of 7: Did the majority indicate that it used a judge-made "doctrine" or "rule?" If so, enter a "7." Where such is used in conjunction with a federal law or enacted rule, a "7" and "4" should appear in the two variables of this record.

Enter a "7" if the Court without more merely specifies the disposition the Court has made of the case and cites one or more of its own previously decided cases; but enter a "3" if the citation is qualified by the word, "see."

Enter a "7" if the case concerns admiralty or maritime law, or some other aspect of the law of nations.

Enter a "7" if the case concerns the retroactive application of a constitutional provision or a previous decision of the Court.
Enter a "7" if the case concerns an exclusionary rule, the harmless error rule (though not the statute), the abstention doctrine, comity, res judicata, or collateral estoppel. Note that some of these, especially comity issues, likely warrant an entry in both authorityDecision variables: a "7" as well as a "3."

Enter a "7" if the case concerns a "rule" or "doctrine" that is not specified as related to or connected with a constitutional or statutory provision (e.g., 376 U.S. 398).

- End of Content for Variable 38. Authority for Decision 1 -
Authority for Decision 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>varAuthorityDecision (7)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See variable Authority for Decision 1 (authorityDecision1).

- End of Content for Variable 39. Authority for Decision 2 -
Legal Provisions Considered by the Court

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lawType</td>
<td>LAW</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable and the next (lawSupp) identify the constitutional provision(s), statute(s), or court rule(s) that the Court considered in the case. The difference between the two variables is that lawSupp is coded finely; it identifies the specific law, constitutional provision or rule at issue (e.g., Article I, Section 1; the Federal Election Campaign Act; the Federal Rules of Evidence). lawType is coded more broadly (e.g., constitution, federal statute, court rules). Note that a third variable, lawMinor, is reserved for infrequently litigated statutes. For those, lawMinor identifies the law at issue.

The basic criterion to determine the legal provision(s) is the "summary" in the Lawyers' Edition. Supplementary is a reference to it in at least one of the numbered holdings in the summary of the United States Reports. This summary, which the Lawyers' Edition of the U.S. Reports labels "Syllabus By Reporter Of Decisions," appears in the official Reports immediately after the date of decision and before the main opinion in the case. Where this summary lacks numbered holdings, it is treated as though it has but one number.

Supplementing the Lawyers' Edition summary are subordinate decision rules. If the Reporters' syllabus has no numbered headings, treat it as though it has but one number. If more than one numbered heading pertains to a single constitutional provision, statute, or court rule, treat such legal provision as though it appeared in but one numbered heading. If separate numerical headings pertain to different sections of a statute under a given title in the United States Code which would not be governed by conventional use of "et seq.," treat them as separate legal provisions. (Note that this occurs very rarely.) If a numbered heading refers to more than a single constitutional provision, statute, and/or court rule, treat them as separate legal provisions. (This not uncommonly occurs.)

Observe that where a state or local government allegedly abridges a provision of the Bill of Rights that has been made binding on the states because it has been "incorporated" into the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, identification is to the specific guarantee rather than to the Fourteenth Amendment.

The legal basis for decision need not be formally stated. For example, a reference in the summary to the appointment of counsel under the Constitution or to the self-incrimination clause warrants entry of the appropriate code. (E.g., United States v. Knox, 396 U.S. 77; Lassiter v. Department of Social Services, 452 U.S. 18).

Also note that occasionally an unnumbered holding may pertain to more than one legal basis for decision. In such cases, the additional basis or bases are specified as though they are numbered holdings, or as though they are a holding without numbers.

By no means does every record have an entry in the lawType variable. Only constitutional provisions, federal statutes, and court rules are entered here. This variable will have no entry in cases that concern the Supreme Court's supervisory authority over the lower federal courts; those where the Supreme Court's decision does not rest on a constitutional provision, federal statute, or court rule; provisions of the common law; decrees; and nonstatutory cases arising
under the Court's original jurisdiction.

In cases where the Court considers multiple legal provisions no attempt is made to order their appearance. Where the constitutionality of a federal law is challenged, to give either the constitutional provision or the statute primacy would be arbitrary. To the extent that any order characterizes these lawType entries, it likely is the sequence in which they appear in the summary.

Beyond the foregoing, observe that an entry should appear in this variable only when the summary indicates that the majority opinion discusses the legal provision at issue. The mere fact that the Court exercises a certain power (e.g., its original jurisdiction, as in Arkansas v. Tennessee, 397 U.S. 91), or makes reference in its majority opinion rather than in the summary that a certain constitutional provision, statute, or frequently used common law rule applies (e.g., the "equal footing" principle which pertains to the admission of new states under Article IV, section 3, clause 2 of the Constitution, as Utah v. United States, 403 U.S. 9, illustrates) provides no warrant for any entry.

There are three exceptions to this "discussion" requirement, the first of which dismisses the writ of certiorari as "improvidently granted" either in so many words (e.g., Johnson v. United States, 401 U.S. 846) or dismisses it on this basis implicitly (e.g., Baldonado v. California, 366 U.S. 417). In such cases, the code 508 should appear. More often than not, these cases have no summary. Note that the phrase is a term of art: 1) it overrides any substantive provision that the summary may mention (e.g., Conway v. California Adult Authority, 396 U.S. 107); 2) it does not apply where the Supreme Court takes jurisdiction on appeal.

In the second exception the Court, without discussion, remands a case to a lower court for consideration in light of an earlier decision. The summary of the earlier case is then consulted and the instant case coded with the entry that appeared there (e.g., Wheaton v. California, 386 U.S. 267). If a discussion in the summary precedes the remand, this variable should be governed by that discussion as well as the basis for decision in the case that the lower court is instructed to consider. Usually these bases will be identical (e.g., Maxwell v. Bishop, 398 U.S. 262).

The third exception to the "discussion" criterion involves the legality of administrative agency action without specific reference to the statute under which the agency acted. Inasmuch as administrative agencies may only act pursuant to statute, the majority opinion was consulted to determine the statute in question (e.g., National Labor Relations Board v. United Insurance Co. of America, 390 U.S. 254). The same situation may characterize the statute under which a court exercises jurisdiction (e.g., the Court of Claims in United States v. King, 395 U.S. 1).

As indicated, this variable should usually lack an entry if the numbered holding(s) indicates that the Court's decision rests on its supervisory authority over the federal judiciary, the common law, or diversity jurisdiction.

Note that where a state or local government allegedly abridges a provision of the Bill of Rights that has been made binding on the states because it has been incorporated into the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, identification is to the specific guarantee rather than to the Fourteen Amendment Due Process Clause.

International treaties and conventions, which rarely serve as the basis for the Court's decision, are identified (in the lawSupp variable) as a treaty (509), an interstate compact as Interstate
Compact (510), an executive order as Executive Order (511), and a statute of a territory of the U.S., which is not in the U.S. Code or the Statutes at Large, as Territory Statute (512).

A case that challenges the constitutionality of a federal statute, court or common law rule will usually contain at least two legal bases for decision: the constitutional provision as well as the challenged statute or rule.

Where a heading concerns the review of agency action under a statute, but the statute is not identified, it is ascertained from the opinion (e.g., National Labor Relations Board v. United Insurance Co. of America, 390 U.S. 254). So also where the decision turns on the statutory jurisdiction of a federal court, and the holding does not specify it (e.g., United States v. King, 395 U.S. 1).

- End of Content for Variable 40. Legal Provisions Considered by the Court -
See variable Legal Provisions Considered by the Court.

- End of Content for Variable 41. Legal Provision Supplement -
This variable, lawMinor, is reserved for infrequently litigated statutes. Statutes substantially absent from the decision making of the modern Courts will be found in this variable (e.g., the Judiciary Act of 1789). For those, lawMinor identifies the law at issue. Note: This is a string variable.

- End of Content for Variable 42. Legal Provision Minor Supplement -
Users should choose among the types of decisions that the Supreme Court renders.

decisionType=1: Cases in which the Court hears oral argument and which it decides by a signed opinion. These are the Court's so-called formally decided full opinion cases.

decisionType=2: Cases decided with an opinion but without hearing oral argument; i.e., per curiam opinions.

decisionType=4: Decrees. This infrequent type of decision usually arises under the Court's original jurisdiction and involves state boundary disputes. The justices will typically appoint a special master to take testimony and render a report, the bulk of which generally becomes the Court's decision. The presence of the label, "decree," distinguishes this type of decision from the others.

decisionType=5: Cases decided by an equally divided vote. When a justice fails to participate in a case or when the Court has a vacancy, the participating justices may cast a tie vote. In such cases, the Reports merely state that "the judgment is affirmed by an equally divided vote" and the name of any nonparticipating justice(s). Their effect is to uphold the decision of the court whose decision the Supreme Court reviewed.

decisionType=6: This decision type is a variant of the formally decided cases (decisionType=1). It differs from type 1 only in that no individual justice's name appears as author of the Court's opinion. Instead, these unsigned orally argued cases are labeled as decided "per curiam." The difference between this type and decisionType=2 is the occurrence of oral argument in the former but not the latter. In both types the opinion of the Court is unsigned; i.e., per curiam.

decisionType=7: Judgments of the Court. This decision type is also a variant of the formally decided cases. It differs from type 1 in that less than a majority of the participating justices agree with the opinion produced by the justice assigned to write the Court's opinion. Except for those interested only in the authors of the opinions of the Court, decisionType=7 should be included in analyses of the Court's formally decided cases.

The database contains all decisions of types 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

The database does not contain all of the non-orally argued per curiam decisions (decisionType=2). The Reports contain large numbers of brief, non-orally argued per curiam decisions. The database includes only those for which the Court has provided a summary, as well as those without a summary in which one or more of the justices wrote an opinion.

- End of Content for Variable 43. Decision Type -
An entry in this variable indicates that the Court either declared unconstitutional an act of Congress; a state or territorial statute, regulation, or constitutional provision; or a municipal or other local ordinance.

An entry should appear in the record that lists the law declared unconstitutional. An entry should also appear in the record containing the constitutional provision that served as the basis for the declaration of unconstitutionality. None will appear when the Court merely cites a previous decision that has already been used to void the provision at issue; e.g., Grisham v. Hagan, 361 U.S. 278, 4 L Ed 2d 279, and McElroy v. Guagliardo, 361 U.S. 281, 4 L Ed 2d 282 (1960).

The summary frequently, though not invariably, will indicate such action in its statement of the Court's holdings. Hence, where such action may have occurred, it may be necessary to read carefully the opinion of the Court to determine whether an entry should be made in this variable.

Where federal law pre-empts a state statute or a local ordinance, unconstitutionality does not result unless the Court's opinion so states. Nor are administrative regulations the subject of declarations of unconstitutionality unless the declaration also applies to the law on which it is based. Also excluded are federal or state court-made rules; e.g., Virginia Supreme Court v. Friedman, 487 U.S. 59 (1988).

- End of Content for Variable 44. Declaration of Unconstitutionality -
The treatment the Supreme Court accorded the court whose decision it reviewed is contained in this variable; e.g., affirmed, vacated, reversed and remanded, etc. The values here are the same as those for lcDisposition (how the court whose decision the Supreme Court reviewed disposed of the case).

The information relevant to this variable may be found near the end of the summary that begins on the title page of each case, or preferably at the very end of the opinion of the Court.

As in the lcDisposition variable, the value label pertaining to the specific language used by the Court is entered. If incongruence between the Court's language and the above codes occurs, consult variable caseDispositionUnusual.

In cases containing multiple docket numbers, not every docket number will necessarily receive the same disposition. Hence, in focusing on the outcome of the Court's decisions, users might want to consider the datasets in which cases are organized by docket rather than citation.

Note for users of the Justice Centered Database: The entry in this variable governs whether the individual justices voted with the majority or in dissent.

- End of Content for Variable 45. Disposition of Case -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caseDispositionUnusual</td>
<td>DISQ</td>
<td>varCaseDispositionUnusual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An entry (1) will appear in this variable to signify that the Court made an unusual disposition of the cited case which does not match the coding scheme of the preceding variable. The disposition that appears closest to the unusual one made by the Court should be selected for inclusion in the preceding variable, caseDisposition.

- End of Content for Variable 46. Unusual Disposition -
Winning Party

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>partyWinning</td>
<td>WIN</td>
<td>varPartyWinning (3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable indicates whether the petitioning party (i.e., the plaintiff or the appellant) emerged victorious. The victory the Supreme Court provided the petitioning party may not have been total and complete (e.g., by vacating and remanding the matter rather than an unequivocal reversal), but the disposition is nonetheless a favorable one.

Generally speaking, a favorable disposition is anything other than "affirmed," "denied," or "dismissed." Exceptions, however, occasionally occur. Hence, it is more accurate to use this variable rather than the disposition variables (variables caseDisposition and caseDispositionUnusual) to determine the prevailing party.

- End of Content for Variable 47. Winning Party -
A "1" will appear in this variable if the majority opinion effectively says that the decision in this case "overruled" one or more of the Court's own precedents. Occasionally, in the absence of language in the prevailing opinion, the dissent will state clearly and persuasively that precedents have been formally altered: e.g., the two landmark reapportionment cases: Baker v. Carr, 369 U.S. 186 (1962), and Gray v. Sanders, 372 U.S. 368 (1963). Once in a great while the majority opinion will state--again in so many words--that an earlier decision overruled one of the Court's own precedents, even though that earlier decision nowhere says so. E.g., Patterson v. McLean Credit Union, 485 U.S. 617 (1988), in which the majority said that Braden v. 30th Judicial Circuit of Kentucky, 410 U.S. 484, 35 L Ed 2d 443 (1973) overruled a 1948 decision. On the basis of this later language, the earlier decision will contain a "1" in this variable. Formal alteration also extends to language in the majority opinion that states that a precedent of the Supreme Court has been "disapproved," or is "no longer good law."

Note, however, that formal alteration does not apply to cases in which the Court "distinguishes" a precedent. Such language in no way changes the scope of the precedent contained in the case that has been distinguished.

Do not assume that each record of a given case indicates the formal alteration of a separate precedent. A given citation may have several docket numbers, each of which is governed by a single opinion in which only one precedent was altered. Conversely, an opinion in a citation with a single docket number may formally alter a whole series of Supreme Court precedents. To determine the number of formally altered precedents, carefully read the prevailing opinion in each citation that has an entry in this variable.

- End of Content for Variable 48. Formal Alteration of Precedent -
In the vast majority of cases, the individual justices clearly indicate whether or not they agree with the disposition made by the majority. For a small number of cases clarity may be lacking, as when a justice concurs in part and dissents in part. A justice will typically use this or equivalent language to indicate agreement with the reasoning in a portion of the majority opinion while disagreeing with the majority's disposition of the case, or vice-versa.

A close reading of the justice's opinion usually indicates whether he or she has concurred (i.e., agreed with the majority's disposition) or dissented from the disposition made by the majority. But in the rare case where a justice does not clearly indicate which it is, this variable will so indicate.

- End of Content for Variable 49. Vote Not Clearly Specified -
This variable identifies the author of the Court's opinion or judgment, as the case may be.

- End of Content for Variable 50. Majority Opinion Writer -
This variable identifies the assigner of the opinion or judgment of the Court, as the case may be. These data are drawn from the membership in the final (report vote) coalition and from the rules governing opinion assignment: If the chief justice is a member of the majority vote coalition at the conference vote, he assigns the opinion; if not, the senior associate justice who is a member of the majority at the conference vote does so. According to several scholarly studies, considerable voting shifts occur between the final conference vote (where the assignment is made) and the vote that appears in the Reports. As a result, in approximately 16 percent of the cases, a person other than the one identified by the database actually assigned the opinion.

To partially overcome this discrepancy, users may consult the expanded versions of the database, available at http://www.cas.sc.edu/poli/juri/, but which include only the Vinson, Warren, and Burger Courts, plus the 1986-1993 terms of the Rehnquist Court. Assigners in these Courts are identified by reference to the justices' docket books.

- End of Content for Variable 51. Majority Opinion Assigner -
52  Split Vote

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>splitVote</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>varSplitVote (2)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable indicates whether the vote variables (e.g., majVotes, minVotes) pertain to the vote on the first or second issue (or legal provision). Because split votes are so rare over 99 percent of the votes are on the first issue.

Users interested in analyzing cases with split votes should use the dataset that organizes cases by legal provision and split votes.

- End of Content for Variable 52. Split Vote -
This variable specifies the number of justices voting in the majority; minVotes indicates the number of justices voting in dissent.

In non-legacy cases, a quorum requires the participation of six justices for a decision on the merits.

The number that appears in this variable pertains to the number of justices who agree with the disposition made by the majority (see caseDisposition) and not to the justices' vote on any particular issue in the case. Thus, for example, in Bates v. Arizona State Bar, 433 U.S. 350 (1977), the vote in the case was 5 to 4, even though all participants agreed that the disciplinary rule prohibiting attorney advertising did not violate the Sherman Act. Unlike the majority, the dissenters disagreed that the rule violated the First Amendment.

See also Minority Votes (minVotes) and Vote Not Clearly Specified (voteUnclear).

- End of Content for Variable 53. Majority Votes -
### Minority Votes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>minVotes</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable specifies the number of votes in dissent. Only dissents on the merits are specified in this variable. Justices who dissent from a denial or dismissal of certiorari or who disagree with the Court's assertion of jurisdiction count as not participating in the decision.

For more details, see the variable Majority Votes (majVotes).

- End of Content for Variable 54. Minority Votes -
55 Justice ID

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>justice</td>
<td>HAR-BRY</td>
<td>varJustices (114)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable provides a unique identification number for each of the justices. Even though several justices served as both associate and chief justice they receive only one identification number.

This variable appears in the Justice Centered Datasets only.

- End of Content for Variable 55. Justice ID -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>justiceName</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>varJustices (114)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This is a string variable indicating the first initial for the five justices with a common surname (Harlan, Johnson, Marshall, Roberts, and White) and last name of each justice. This variable appears in the Justice Centered Datasets only.

- End of Content for Variable 56. Justice Name -
57 The Vote in the Case

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>vote</td>
<td>HARV to BRYV</td>
<td>varVote (8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable provides information about each justice's vote in the case. It appears in the Justice Centered Datasets only. A regular concurrence is when the justice agrees with the Court's opinion as well as its disposition. A special concurrence (i.e., a concurrence in the judgment) is when the justice agrees with the Court's disposition but not its opinion. A jurisdictional dissent is when the justice disagrees with the Court's assertion or denial of jurisdiction. Such votes are counted as nonparticipations.

Determination of how a given justice voted is by no means a simple matter of culling the Reports. The justices do not always make their actions clear.

Two problems, in particular, afflict efforts to specify votes: 1) whether the vote is a regular or a special concurrence, and 2) the treatment to be accorded a vote "concurring in part and dissenting in part."

The first typically manifests itself when a justice joins the opinion of the Court "except for ..." Because such exceptions typically tend to approach de minimis status, these are coded as regular concurrences. For example, Chief Justice Burger concurred in the opinion of the Court in New York Gaslight Club, Inc. v. Carey, except for "footnote 6 thereof." 447 U.S. 54, at 71. Similarly, Blackmun's agreement with the Court in Pruneyard Shopping Center v. Robins, except for "that sentence thereof . . ." 447 U.S. 74, at 88. Where the Reports identify a justice as "concurring" or "concurring in part" said justice is treated as a member of the majority opinion coalition (i.e., as = 3), rather than a merely concurring in the result (i.e., as = 4).

Whereas the preceding problem pertains to determining which type of concurrence a vote is, the problem with votes concurring and dissenting in part is whether they are special concurrences (= 4) or dissents (= 2). This matter was addressed previously in connection with the variable voteUnclear (vote not clearly specified). A vote concurring and dissenting in part is listed as a special concurrence if the justice(s) doing so does not disagree with the majority's disposition of the case. This may occur when: 1) the justice concurring and dissenting in part only voices disagreement with some or all of the majority's reasoning; 2) when said justice disapproves of the majority's deciding or refusing to decide additional issues involved in the case; or 3) when in a case in which dissent has been voiced, the justice(s) concurring and dissenting in part votes to dispose of the case in a manner more closely approximating that of the majority than that of the dissenter(s).

In cases where determination of whether a vote concurring and dissenting in part is the former or the latter is not beyond cavil, an entry will appear in the voteUnclear variable of the affected case to allow users to make an independent judgment, if they are so minded. Note, however, that listing such votes as dissents (= 2) or special concurrences (= 4) has no effect on whether or not an opinion is written (the opinion variable).

- End of Content for Variable 57. The Vote in the Case -
This variable indicates the opinion, if any, that the justice wrote. It appears in the Justice Centered Datasets only.

Because determination of whether a justice wrote an opinion is no simple matter, rules must be formulated.

1. A justice authors no opinion unless he or she specifies a reason for his or her vote. A bare citation to a previously decided case or a simple statement that the author concurs or dissents because of agreement with a lower court's opinion suffices as an opinion.

2. Where a justice specifies that the opinion applies to an additional case or cases, the opinion is counted as so many separate ones. Thus, the opinions of Brennan and Marshall in Mobile v. Bolden, 446 U.S. 55, also apply to Williams v. Brown, 446 U.S. 236. Hence, each of these opinions is counted as though it were two separate opinions.

3. When a justice joins the substance of another justice's opinion, without any personal expression of views, that justice is listed as joining the other's opinion (see variables firstAgreement and secondAgreement) and not as an author unless he or she also writes an opinion.

Thus, in United States v. Havens, 446 U.S. 620, Justices Stewart and Stevens are listed as joining Brennan's dissenting opinion notwithstanding that the pertinent language reads: "Mr. Justice Brennan, joined by Mr. Justice Marshall and joined in Part I by Mr. Justice Stewart and Mr. Justice Stevens, dissenting." 446 U.S. at 629. The opinion contains two parts of roughly equal length. Failure to list the latter pair as joiners would have required that they appear as dissenting without opinion, a manifestly inaccurate result. Similarly, Justice White's language in Parratt v. Taylor, 451 U.S. 527, at 545: "I join the opinion of the Court but with the reservations stated by my Brother Blackmun in his concurring opinion," is not listed as as opinion by White. He rather appears as joining Blackmun's concurrence. Conversely, where a justice, in his or her own words only partially agrees with one or more opinions authored by others, he or she is listed as an author. Two examples of Justice Stewart illustrate: "Mr. Justice Stewart dissents for the reasons expressed in Part I of the dissenting opinion of Mr. Justice Powell." (Dougherty County Board of Education v. White, 439 U.S. 32, at 47) "Mr. Justice Stewart concurs in the judgment, agreeing with all but Part II of the opinion of the Court, and with Part I of the concurring opinion of Mr. Justice Stevens." (Jenkins v. Anderson, 447 U.S. 231, at 241).

4. When two or more justices jointly author an opinion, an entry will so indicate. Joint authorship, however, does not include per curiam opinions.

- End of Content for Variable 58. Opinion -
This variable indicates whether the justice cast a liberal or conservative vote. For the definitions of liberal and conservative, see variable decisionDirection. A missing value code indicates that the decisionDirection was unspecifiable or that that justice did not participate.

This variable appears in the Justice Centered Datasets only.

- End of Content for Variable 59. Direction of the Individual Justice's Votes -
Analysts commonly want to know the frequency with which given justices vote with the majority and/or in dissent overall or in certain sets of circumstances. This variable provides that information for each justice.

This variable appears in the Justice Centered Datasets only.

- End of Content for Variable 60. Majority and Minority Voting by Justice -
First Agreement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>firstAgreement</td>
<td>HARA1 - BRYA1</td>
<td>varJustices (114)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This variable (and Second Agreement) denotes whether the justice agreed with a dissent or concurrence written by another justice (indicated by the justice's id number). Two agreements are coded---one in this variable and the second in secondAgreement. For more details, see the opinion variable.

This variable appears in the Justice Centered Datasets only.

- End of Content for Variable 61. First Agreement -
Second Agreement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable Name</th>
<th>Spaeth Name</th>
<th>Normalizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>secondAgreement</td>
<td>HARA2 - BRYA2</td>
<td>varJustices (114)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See variable First Agreement (firstAgreement).

This variable appears in the Justice Centered Datasets only.

- End of Content for Variable 62. Second Agreement -
Appendix
This appendix contains an exhaustive list of the numeric codes used for all numeric variables in the Supreme Court Database. In the language of database administration, these lists are called normalizations. In the language of statistical software, these lists are called value labels. All of the data files available for software that supports them, e.g., Stata, R, and SPSS, include all of these value labels. The naming convention used throughout is varVariableName.

A1 varAdminAction

123 Distinct Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Values:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Department or Secretary of Transportation
Department or Secretary of Education
U.S. Employees' Compensation Commission, or Commissioner
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
Environmental Protection Agency or Administrator
Federal Aviation Agency or Administration
Federal Bureau of Investigation or Director
Federal Bureau of Prisons
Farm Credit Administration
Federal Communications Commission
Federal Credit Union Administration
Food and Drug Administration
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Federal Energy Administration
Federal Election Commission
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Federal Housing Administration
Federal Home Loan Bank Board
Federal Labor Relations Authority
Federal Maritime Board
Federal Maritime Commission
Farmers Home Administration
Federal Parole Board
Federal Power Commission
Federal Railroad Administration
Federal Reserve Board of Governors
Federal Reserve System
Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation
Federal Trade Commission
Federal Works Administration, or Administrator
General Accounting Office
Comptroller General
General Services Administration
Department or Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare
Department or Secretary of Health and Human Services
Department or Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Administrative agency established under an interstate compact (except for the MTC)
Interstate Commerce Commission
Indian Claims Commission
Immigration and Naturalization Service, or Director of, or District Director of, or Immigration and Naturalization Enforcement
Internal Revenue Service, Collector, Commissioner, or District Director of
Information Security Oversight Office
Department or Secretary of Labor
Loyalty Review Board
Legal Services Corporation
Merit Systems Protection Board
Multistate Tax Commission
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Secretary or administrative unit or personnel of the U.S. Navy
National Credit Union Administration
National Endowment for the Arts
National Enforcement Commission
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
National Labor Relations Board, or regional office or officer
National Mediation Board
National Railroad Adjustment Board
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
National Security Agency
Office of Economic Opportunity
Office of Management and Budget
Office of Price Administration, or Price Administrator
Office of Personnel Management
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission
Office of Workers' Compensation Programs
Patent Office, or Commissioner of, or Board of Appeals of
Pay Board (established under the Economic Stabilization Act of 1970)
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation
U.S. Public Health Service
Postal Rate Commission
Provider Reimbursement Review Board
Renegotiation Board
Railroad Adjustment Board
Railroad Retirement Board
Subversive Activities Control Board
Small Business Administration
Securities and Exchange Commission
Social Security Administration or Commissioner
Selective Service System
Department or Secretary of the Treasury
Tennessee Valley Authority
United States Forest Service
United States Parole Commission
Postal Service and Post Office, or Postmaster General, or Postmaster
United States Sentencing Commission
Veterans' Administration or Board of Veterans' Appeals
War Production Board
Wage Stabilization Board
State Agency
Unidentifiable
varAuthorityDecision

7 Distinct Values

varAuthorityDecision is used in conjunction with:
authorityDecision1
authorityDecision2

Values:
1 judicial review (national level)
2 judicial review (state level)
3 Supreme Court supervision of lower federal or state courts or original jurisdiction
4 statutory construction
5 interpretation of administrative regulation or rule, or executive order
6 diversity jurisdiction
7 federal common law

varCaseDispositionLc

12 Distinct Values

varCaseDispositionLc is used in conjunction with:
lcDisposition

Values:
1 stay, petition, or motion granted
2 affirmed
3 reversed
4 reversed and remanded
5 vacated and remanded
6 affirmed and reversed (or vacated) in part
7 affirmed and reversed (or vacated) in part and remanded
8 vacated
9 petition denied or appeal dismissed
10 modify
11 remand
12 unusual disposition
### varCaseDispositionSc

**11 Distinct Values**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>stay, petition, or motion granted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>affirmed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>reversed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>reversed and remanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>vacated and remanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>affirmed and reversed (or vacated) in part</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>affirmed and reversed (or vacated) in part and remanded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>vacated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>petition denied or appeal dismissed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>certification to a lower court</td>
</tr>
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<td>11</td>
<td>no disposition</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### varCaseDispositionUnusual

**2 Distinct Values**

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<th>Description</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>unusual disposition</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### varCaseSources

**197 Distinct Values**

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<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>U.S. Court of Customs and Patent Appeals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>U.S. Court of International Trade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
U.S. Court of Claims, Court of Federal Claims
U.S. Court of Military Appeals, renamed as Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces
U.S. Court of Military Review
U.S. Court of Veterans Appeals
U.S. Customs Court
U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit
U.S. Tax Court
Temporary Emergency U.S. Court of Appeals
U.S. Court for China
U.S. Consular Courts
U.S. Commerce Court
Territorial Supreme Court
Territorial Appellate Court
Territorial Trial Court
Emergency Court of Appeals
District of Columbia Supreme Court
U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit
Alabama Middle U.S. District Court
Alabama Northern U.S. District Court
Alabama Southern U.S. District Court
Alaska U.S. District Court
Arizona U.S. District Court
Arkansas Eastern U.S. District Court
Arkansas Western U.S. District Court
California Central U.S. District Court
California Eastern U.S. District Court
California Northern U.S. District Court
California Southern U.S. District Court
Colorado U.S. District Court
Connecticut U.S. District Court
Delaware U.S. District Court
District Of Columbia U.S. District Court
Florida Middle U.S. District Court
Florida Northern U.S. District Court
Ohio Northern U.S. District Court
Ohio Southern U.S. District Court
Oklahoma Eastern U.S. District Court
Oklahoma Northern U.S. District Court
Oklahoma Western U.S. District Court
Oregon U.S. District Court
Pennsylvania Eastern U.S. District Court
Pennsylvania Middle U.S. District Court
Pennsylvania Western U.S. District Court
Puerto Rico U.S. District Court
Rhode Island U.S. District Court
South Carolina U.S. District Court
South Dakota U.S. District Court
Tennessee Eastern U.S. District Court
Tennessee Middle U.S. District Court
Tennessee Western U.S. District Court
Texas Eastern U.S. District Court
Texas Northern U.S. District Court
Texas Southern U.S. District Court
Texas Western U.S. District Court
Utah U.S. District Court
Vermont U.S. District Court
Virgin Islands U.S. District Court
Virginia Eastern U.S. District Court
Virginia Western U.S. District Court
Washington Eastern U.S. District Court
Washington Western U.S. District Court
West Virginia Northern U.S. District Court
West Virginia Southern U.S. District Court
Wisconsin Eastern U.S. District Court
Wisconsin Western U.S. District Court
Wyoming U.S. District Court
Louisiana U.S. District Court
Washington U.S. District Court
West Virginia U.S. District Court
Illinois Eastern U.S. District Court
South Carolina Eastern U.S. District Court
South Carolina Western U.S. District Court
Alabama U.S. District Court
U.S. District Court for the Canal Zone
Georgia U.S. District Court
Illinois U.S. District Court
Indiana U.S. District Court
Iowa U.S. District Court
Michigan U.S. District Court
| 169 | Mississippi U.S. District Court |
| 170 | Missouri U.S. District Court |
| 171 | New Jersey Eastern U.S. District Court (East Jersey U.S. District Court) |
| 172 | New Jersey Western U.S. District Court (West Jersey U.S. District Court) |
| 173 | New York U.S. District Court |
| 174 | North Carolina U.S. District Court |
| 175 | Ohio U.S. District Court |
| 176 | Pennsylvania U.S. District Court |
| 177 | Tennessee U.S. District Court |
| 178 | Texas U.S. District Court |
| 179 | Virginia U.S. District Court |
| 180 | Norfolk U.S. District Court |
| 181 | Wisconsin U.S. District Court |
| 182 | Kentucky U.S. District Court |
| 183 | New Jersey U.S. District Court |
| 184 | California U.S. District Court |
| 185 | Florida U.S. District Court |
| 300 | State Supreme Court |
| 301 | State Appellate Court |
| 302 | State Trial Court |
| 400 | Eastern Circuit (of the United States) |
| 401 | Middle Circuit (of the United States) |
| 402 | Southern Circuit (of the United States) |
| 403 | Alabama U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Alabama |
| 404 | Arkansas U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Arkansas |
| 405 | California U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of California |
| 406 | Connecticut U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Connecticut |
| 407 | Delaware U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Delaware |
| 408 | Florida U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Florida |
| 409 | Georgia U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Georgia |
| 410 | Illinois U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Illinois |
| 411 | Indiana U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Indiana |
| 412 | Iowa U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Iowa |
| 413 | Kansas U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Kansas |
| 414 | Kentucky U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Kentucky |
| 415 | Louisiana U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Louisiana |
| 416 | Maine U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Maine |
| 417 | Maryland U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Maryland |
| 418 | Massachusetts U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Massachusetts |
| 419 | Michigan U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Michigan |
| 420 | Minnesota U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Minnesota |
| 421 | Mississippi U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Mississippi |
| 422 | Missouri U.S. Circuit Court for (all) District(s) of Missouri |
| 423 | Nevada U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Nevada |
| 424 | New Hampshire U.S. Circuit Court for the District of New Hampshire |
New Jersey U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of New Jersey
New York U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of New York
North Carolina U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of North Carolina
Ohio U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of Ohio
Oregon U.S. Circuit for the District of Oregon
Pennsylvania U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of Pennsylvania
Rhode Island U.S. Circuit for the District of Rhode Island
South Carolina U.S. Circuit for the District of South Carolina
Tennessee U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of Tennessee
Texas U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of Texas
Vermont U.S. Circuit for the District of Vermont
Virginia U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of Virginia
West Virginia U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of West Virginia
Wisconsin U.S. Circuit for (all) District(s) of Wisconsin
Wyoming U.S. Circuit for the District of Wyoming

A7 varCertReason
13 Distinct Values

varCertReason is used in conjunction with:
certReason

Values:
1 case did not arise on cert or cert not granted
2 federal court conflict
3 federal court conflict and to resolve important or significant question
4 putative conflict
5 conflict between federal court and state court
6 state court conflict
7 federal court confusion or uncertainty
8 state court confusion or uncertainty
9 federal court and state court confusion or uncertainty
10 to resolve important or significant question
11 to resolve question presented
12 no reason given
13 other reason

A8 varChiefs
17 Distinct Values

varChiefs is used in conjunction with:
chief
### A9  
**varDecisionDirection**

3 Distinct Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Rutledge</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Ellsworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Taney</td>
</tr>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Chase</td>
</tr>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Waite</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Fuller</td>
</tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Taft</td>
</tr>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Hughes</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Stone</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Vinson</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Warren</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Burger</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Rehnquist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Roberts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

varDecisionDirection is used in conjunction with:
- lcDispositionDirection
- decisionDirection

### A10  
**varDecisionDirectionDissent**

2 Distinct Values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dissent in opposite direction</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>majority and dissent in same direction</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

varDecisionDirectionDissent is used in conjunction with:
- decisionDirectionDissent
### A11 varDecisionTypes

**6 Distinct Values**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>opinion of the court (orally argued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>per curiam (no oral argument)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>decrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>equally divided vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>per curiam (orally argued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>judgment of the Court (orally argued)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### A12 varDeclarationUncon

**4 Distinct Values**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>no declaration of unconstitutionality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>act of congress declared unconstitutional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>state or territorial law, reg, or const provision unconstitutional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>municipal or other local ordinance unconstitutional</td>
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### A13 varIssues

**277 Distinct Values**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10010</td>
<td>involuntary confession</td>
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<tr>
<td>10020</td>
<td>habeas corpus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10030</td>
<td>plea bargaining: the constitutionality of and/or the circumstances of its exercise</td>
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<tr>
<td>10040</td>
<td>retroactivity (of newly announced or newly enacted constitutional or statutory rights)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10050</td>
<td>search and seizure (other than as pertains to vehicles or Crime Control Act)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
search and seizure, vehicles

search and seizure, Crime Control Act

contempt of court

self-incrimination (other than as pertains to Miranda or immunity from prosecution)

Miranda warnings

self-incrimination, immunity from prosecution

right to counsel (cf. indigents appointment of counsel or inadequate representation)

cruel and unusual punishment, death penalty (cf. extra legal jury influence, death penalty)

cruel and unusual punishment, non-death penalty (cf. liability, civil rights acts)

line-up

discovery and inspection (in the context of criminal litigation only, otherwise Freedom of Information Act and related federal or state statutes or regulations)

double jeopardy

ex post facto (state)

extra-legal jury influences: miscellaneous

extra-legal jury influences: prejudicial statements or evidence

extra-legal jury influences: contact with jurors outside courtroom

extra-legal jury influences: jury instructions

extra-legal jury influences: voir dire (not necessarily a criminal case)

extra-legal jury influences: prison garb or appearance

extra-legal jury influences: jurors and death penalty (cf. cruel and unusual punishment)

extra-legal jury influences: pretrial publicity

confrontation (right to confront accuser, call and cross-examine witnesses)

subconstitutional fair procedure: confession of error


subconstitutional fair procedure: entrapment

subconstitutional fair procedure: exhaustion of remedies

subconstitutional fair procedure: fugitive from justice

subconstitutional fair procedure: presentation, admissibility, or sufficiency of evidence (not necessarily a criminal case)

subconstitutional fair procedure: stay of execution

subconstitutional fair procedure: timeliness

subconstitutional fair procedure: miscellaneous

Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure

statutory construction of criminal laws: assault

statutory construction of criminal laws: bank robbery

statutory construction of criminal laws: conspiracy (cf. subconstitutional fair procedure: conspiracy)

statutory construction of criminal laws: escape from custody

statutory construction of criminal laws: false statements (cf. statutory construction of criminal laws: perjury)

statutory construction of criminal laws: financial (other than in fraud or internal revenue)

statutory construction of criminal laws: firearms
statutory construction of criminal laws: fraud
statutory construction of criminal laws: gambling
statutory construction of criminal laws: Hobbs Act; i.e., 18 USC 1951
statutory construction of criminal laws: immigration (cf. immigration and naturalization)
statutory construction of criminal laws: internal revenue (cf. Federal Taxation)
statutory construction of criminal laws: Mann Act
statutory construction of criminal laws: narcotics
statutory construction of criminal laws: obstruction of justice
statutory construction of criminal laws: perjury (other than as pertains to statutory construction of criminal laws: false statements)
statutory construction of criminal laws: Travel Act, 18 USC 1952
statutory construction of criminal laws: war crimes
statutory construction of criminal laws: sentencing guidelines
statutory construction of criminal laws: miscellaneous
jury trial (right to, as distinct from extra-legal jury influences)
speedy trial
miscellaneous criminal procedure (cf. due process, prisoners' rights, comity: criminal procedure)
voting
Voting Rights Act of 1965, plus amendments
ballot access (of candidates and political parties)
desegregation (other than as pertains to school desegregation, employment discrimination, and affirmative action)
desegregation, schools
employment discrimination: on basis of race, age, religion, illegitimacy, national origin, or working conditions.
affirmative action
slavery
sit-in demonstrations (protests against racial discrimination in places of public accommodation)
reapportionment: other than plans governed by the Voting Rights Act
debtors' rights
deporation (cf. immigration and naturalization)
employability of aliens (cf. immigration and naturalization)
sex discrimination (excluding sex discrimination in employment)
sex discrimination in employment (cf. sex discrimination and employment discrimination)
Indians (other than pertains to state jurisdiction over)
Indians, state jurisdiction over
juveniles (cf. rights of illegitimates)
poverty law, constitutional
poverty law, statutory: welfare benefits, typically under some Social Security Act provision.
illegitimates, rights of (cf. juveniles): typically inheritance and survivor's benefits, and paternity suits
handicapped, rights of: under Rehabilitation, Americans with Disabilities Act, and related statutes
20220 residency requirements: durational, plus discrimination against nonresidents
20230 military: draftee, or person subject to induction
20240 military: active duty
20250 military: veteran
20260 immigration and naturalization: permanent residence
20270 immigration and naturalization: citizenship
20280 immigration and naturalization: loss of citizenship, denaturalization
20290 immigration and naturalization: access to public education
20300 immigration and naturalization: welfare benefits
20310 immigration and naturalization: miscellaneous
20320 indigents: appointment of counsel (cf. right to counsel)
20330 indigents: inadequate representation by counsel (cf. right to counsel)
20340 indigents: payment of fine
20350 indigents: costs or filing fees
20360 indigents: U.S. Supreme Court docketing fee
20370 indigents: transcript
20380 indigents: assistance of psychiatrist
20390 indigents: miscellaneous
20400 liability, civil rights acts (cf. liability, governmental and liability, nongovernmental; cruel and unusual punishment, non-death penalty)
20410 miscellaneous civil rights (cf. comity: civil rights)
30010 First Amendment, miscellaneous (cf. comity: First Amendment)
30020 commercial speech, excluding attorneys
30030 libel, defamation: defamation of public officials and public and private persons
30040 libel, privacy: true and false light invasions of privacy
30050 legislative investigations: concerning internal security only
30060 federal internal security legislation: Smith, Internal Security, and related federal statutes
30070 loyalty oath or non-Communist affidavit (other than bar applicants, government employees, political party, or teacher)
30080 loyalty oath: bar applicants (cf. admission to bar, state or federal or U.S. Supreme Court)
30090 loyalty oath: government employees
30100 loyalty oath: political party
30110 loyalty oath: teachers
30120 security risks: denial of benefits or dismissal of employees for reasons other than failure to meet loyalty oath requirements
30130 conscientious objectors (cf. military draftee or military active duty) to military service
30140 campaign spending (cf. governmental corruption):
30150 protest demonstrations (other than as pertains to sit-in demonstrations): demonstrations and other forms of protest based on First Amendment guarantees
30160 free exercise of religion
30170 establishment of religion (other than as pertains to parochiaid:)
30180 parochiaid: government aid to religious schools, or religious requirements in public schools
30190 obscenity, state (cf. comity: privacy): including the regulation of sexually explicit material under the 21st Amendment
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3020</td>
<td>obscenity, federal</td>
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<tr>
<td>40010</td>
<td>due process: miscellaneous (cf. loyalty oath), the residual code</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40020</td>
<td>due process: hearing or notice (other than as pertains to government employees or prisoners' rights)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40030</td>
<td>due process: hearing, government employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40040</td>
<td>due process: prisoners' rights and defendants' rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40050</td>
<td>due process: impartial decision maker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40060</td>
<td>due process: jurisdiction (jurisdiction over non-resident litigants)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40070</td>
<td>due process: takings clause, or other non-constitutional governmental taking of property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50010</td>
<td>privacy (cf. libel, comity: privacy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50020</td>
<td>abortion: including contraceptives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50030</td>
<td>right to die</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50040</td>
<td>Freedom of Information Act and related federal or state statutes or regulations</td>
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<tr>
<td>60010</td>
<td>attorneys' fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>60020</td>
<td>commercial speech, attorneys (cf. commercial speech)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60030</td>
<td>admission to a state or federal bar, disbarment, and attorney discipline (cf. loyalty oath: bar applicants)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60040</td>
<td>admission to, or disbarment from, Bar of the U.S. Supreme Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70010</td>
<td>arbitration (in the context of labor-management or employer-employee relations) (cf. arbitration)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70020</td>
<td>union antitrust: legality of anticompetitive union activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70030</td>
<td>union or closed shop: includes agency shop litigation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70040</td>
<td>Fair Labor Standards Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>70050</td>
<td>Occupational Safety and Health Act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70060</td>
<td>union-union member dispute (except as pertains to union or closed shop)</td>
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<tr>
<td>70070</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: bargaining</td>
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<tr>
<td>70080</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: employee discharge</td>
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<tr>
<td>70090</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: distribution of union literature</td>
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<tr>
<td>70100</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: representative election</td>
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<tr>
<td>70110</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: antistrike injunction</td>
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<tr>
<td>70120</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: jurisdictional dispute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70130</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: right to organize</td>
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<td>70140</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: picketing</td>
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<td>70150</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: secondary activity</td>
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<td>70160</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: no-strike clause</td>
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<td>70170</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: union representatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>70180</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: union trust funds (cf. ERISA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>70190</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: working conditions</td>
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<td>70200</td>
<td>labor-management disputes: miscellaneous dispute</td>
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<tr>
<td>70210</td>
<td>miscellaneous union</td>
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<tr>
<td>80010</td>
<td>antitrust (except in the context of mergers and union antitrust)</td>
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<tr>
<td>80020</td>
<td>mergers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80030</td>
<td>bankruptcy (except in the context of priority of federal fiscal claims)</td>
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<td>80040</td>
<td>sufficiency of evidence: typically in the context of a jury's determination of compensation for injury or death</td>
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<tr>
<td>80050</td>
<td>election of remedies: legal remedies available to injured persons or things</td>
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<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>-------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>80060</td>
<td>liability, governmental: tort or contract actions by or against government or governmental officials other than defense of criminal actions brought under a civil rights action. Economic Activity</td>
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<td>80070</td>
<td>liability, nongovernmental: other than as in sufficiency of evidence, election of remedies, punitive damages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80080</td>
<td>liability, punitive damages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80090</td>
<td>Employee Retirement Income Security Act (cf. union trust funds)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80100</td>
<td>state tax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80105</td>
<td>state and territorial land claims</td>
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<tr>
<td>80110</td>
<td>state regulation, especially of business (cf. federal pre-emption of state court jurisdiction, federal pre-emption of state legislation or regulation)</td>
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<td>80120</td>
<td>securities, federal regulation of</td>
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<tr>
<td>80130</td>
<td>natural resources - environmental protection (cf. national supremacy: natural resources, national supremacy: pollution)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80140</td>
<td>corruption, governmental or governmental regulation of other than as in campaign spending</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80150</td>
<td>zoning: constitutionality of such ordinances, or restrictions on owners' or lessors' use of real property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80160</td>
<td>arbitration (other than as pertains to labor-management or employer-employee relations (cf. union arbitration)</td>
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<td>80170</td>
<td>federal or state consumer protection: typically under the Truth in Lending; Food, Drug and Cosmetic; and Consumer Protection Credit Acts</td>
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<td>patents and copyrights: patent</td>
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<td>80210</td>
<td>patents and copyrights: patentability of computer processes</td>
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<td>patents and copyrights: railroad</td>
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<tr>
<td>80230</td>
<td>federal transportation regulation: boat</td>
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<tr>
<td>80240</td>
<td>federal transportation regulation: truck, or motor carrier</td>
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<td>80250</td>
<td>federal transportation regulation: pipeline (cf. federal public utilities regulation: gas pipeline)</td>
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<td>80260</td>
<td>federal transportation regulation: airline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80270</td>
<td>federal public utilities regulation: electric power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80280</td>
<td>federal public utilities regulation: nuclear power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80290</td>
<td>federal public utilities regulation: oil producer</td>
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<tr>
<td>80300</td>
<td>federal public utilities regulation: gas producer</td>
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<tr>
<td>80310</td>
<td>federal public utilities regulation: gas pipeline (cf. federal transportation regulation: pipeline)</td>
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<td>80320</td>
<td>federal public utilities regulation: radio and television (cf. cable television)</td>
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<tr>
<td>80330</td>
<td>federal public utilities regulation: cable television (cf. radio and television)</td>
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<tr>
<td>80340</td>
<td>federal public utilities regulation: telephone company</td>
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<td>80350</td>
<td>miscellaneous economic regulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>90010</td>
<td>comity, criminal and First Amendment: civil rights</td>
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<td>90020</td>
<td>comity, criminal and First Amendment: criminal procedure</td>
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<td>90050</td>
<td>comity, criminal and First Amendment: military</td>
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<tr>
<td>90060</td>
<td>comity, criminal and First Amendment: obscenity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90070</td>
<td>comity, criminal and First Amendment: privacy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
comity, criminal and First Amendment: miscellaneous
comity, civil procedure (cf. comity, criminal and First Amendment); deference to
foreign judicial tribunals
assessment of costs or damages: as part of a court order
Federal Rules of Civil Procedure
judicial review of administrative agency's or administrative official's actions and
procedures
mootness (cf. standing to sue: live dispute)
venue
no merits: writ improvidently granted
no merits: dismissed for want of a substantial or properly presented federal
question, or a nonsuit
no merits: dismissed for want of jurisdiction (cf. judicial administration: Supreme
Court jurisdiction or authority on appeal from federal district courts or courts of
appeals)
no merits: adequate non-federal grounds for decision
no merits: remand to determine basis of state or federal court decision (cf. judicial
administration: state law)
no merits: miscellaneous
standing to sue: adversary parties
standing to sue: direct injury
standing to sue: legal injury
standing to sue: personal injury
standing to sue: justiciable question
standing to sue: live dispute
standing to sue: parens patriae standing
standing to sue: statutory standing
standing to sue: private or implied cause of action
standing to sue: taxpayer's suit
standing to sue: miscellaneous
judicial administration: jurisdiction or authority of federal district courts or
territorial courts
judicial administration: jurisdiction or authority of federal courts of appeals
judicial administration: Supreme Court jurisdiction or authority on appeal or writ
of error, from federal district courts or courts of appeals (cf. 753)
judicial administration: Supreme Court jurisdiction or authority on appeal or writ
of error, from highest state court
judicial administration: jurisdiction or authority of the Court of Claims
judicial administration: Supreme Court's original jurisdiction
judicial administration: review of non-final order
judicial administration: change in state law (cf. no merits: remand to determine
basis of state court decision)
judicial administration: federal question (cf. no merits: dismissed for want of a
substantial or properly presented federal question)
judicial administration: ancillary or pendent jurisdiction
judicial administration: extraordinary relief
judicial administration: certification (cf. objection to reason for denial of certiorari
or appeal)
judicial administration: resolution of circuit conflict, or conflict between or among
other courts
judicial administration: objection to reason for denial of certiorari or appeal
judicial administration: collateral estoppel or res judicata
judicial administration: interpleader
judicial administration: untimely filing
judicial administration: Act of State doctrine
judicial administration: miscellaneous
Supreme Court's certiorari, writ of error, or appeals jurisdiction
miscellaneous, especially diversity jurisdiction
federal-state ownership dispute (cf. Submerged Lands Act)
federal pre-emption of state court jurisdiction
federal pre-emption of state legislation or regulation
executive authority vis-a-vis congress or the states
Submerged Lands Act (cf. federal-state ownership dispute)
national supremacy: commodities
national supremacy: intergovernmental tax immunity
national supremacy: marital and family relationships and property, including obligation of child support
national supremacy: natural resources (cf. natural resources - environmental protection)
national supremacy: pollution, air or water (cf. natural resources - environmental protection)
national supremacy: public utilities (cf. federal public utilities regulation)
national supremacy: state tax (cf. state tax)
national supremacy: miscellaneous
miscellaneous federalism
boundary dispute between states
non-real property dispute between states
miscellaneous interstate relations conflict
federal taxation, typically under provisions of the Internal Revenue Code
federal taxation of gifts, personal, business, or professional expenses
priority of federal fiscal claims: over those of the states or private entities
miscellaneous federal taxation (cf. national supremacy: state tax)
legislative veto
miscellaneous
real property
personal property
contracts
evidence
civil procedure
torts
wills and estates
commercial transactions
14 Distinct Values

varIssuesAreas is used in conjunction with:

issueArea

Values:
1  Criminal Procedure
2  Civil Rights
3  First Amendment
4  Due Process
5  Privacy
6  Attorneys
7  Unions
8  Economic Activity
9  Judicial Power
10 Federalism
11 Interstate Relations
12 Federal Taxation
13 Miscellaneous
14 Private Action

A15 varJurisdiction
12 Distinct Values

varJurisdiction is used in conjunction with:

jurisdiction

Values:
1  cert
2  appeal
3  bail
4  certification
5  docketing fee
6  rehearing or restored to calendar for reargument
7  injunction
8  mandamus
9  original
12 stay
13 writ of error
14 writ of habeas corpus
A16  varJusticeDirection
2 Distinct Values

varJusticeDirection is used in conjunction with:
direction

Values:
1 conservative
2 liberal

A17  varJusticeMajority
2 Distinct Values

varJusticeMajority is used in conjunction with:
majority

Values:
1 dissent
2 majority

A18  varJusticeOpinion
3 Distinct Values

varJusticeOpinion is used in conjunction with:
opinion

Values:
1 justice wrote no opinion
2 justice wrote an opinion
3 justice co-authored an opinion

A19  varJustices
114 Distinct Values

varJustices is used in conjunction with:
majOpinWriter
majOpinAssigner
justice
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WStrong
WHunt
MRWaite
JHarlan1
WBWoods
SMatthews
HGray
SBlatchford
LQLamar
MWFuller
DJBrewer
HHBrown
GShiras
HEJackson
EDEWhite
RWPeckham
JMcKenna
OWHolmes
WRDay
WHMoody
HHLurton
CEHughes1
WVanDevanter
JRLamar
MPitney
JCMcReynolds
LDBrandeis
JHClarke
WHTaft
GSutherland
PButler
ETSanford
HFStone
CEHughes2
OJRoberts
BNCardozo
HLBlack
SFReed
FFrankfurter
WODouglas
FMurphy
JFByrnes
RHJackson
WBRutledge
HHBurton
A20  varLawArea

9 Distinct Values

varLawArea is used in conjunction with:

lawType

Values:
1  Constitution
2  Constitutional Amendment
3  Federal Statute
4  Court Rules
5  Other
6  Infrequently litigated statutes (title and section of U.S. Code)
Infrequently litigated statute (volume and page of session laws)
State or local law or regulation
No Legal Provision

A21  **varLcDisagreement**

2 Distinct Values

varLcDisagreement is used in conjunction with:

lcDisagreement

Values:
0  no mention that dissent occurred
1  dissent in ct whose dec the sct reviewed

A22  **varLegalProvisions**

200 Distinct Values

varLegalProvisions is used in conjunction with:

lawSupp

Values:
-99  No Legal Provision
100  Article I, Section 1 (delegation of powers)
101  Article I, Section 10 (state bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or bills of credit)
102  Article I, Section 2, Paragraph 1 (composition of the House of Representatives)
103  Article I, Section 2, Paragraph 3 (apportionment of Representatives)
104  Article I, Section 4, Paragraph 1 (elections clause)
105  Article I, Section 5, Paragraph 1 (congressional qualifications)
106  Article I, Section 6, Paragraph 1 (speech or debate clause)
107  Article I, Section 6, Paragraph 2 (civil appointments)
108  Article I, Section 7, Paragraph 1 (origination clause)
109  Article I, Section 7, Paragraph 2 (separation of powers)
110  Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 1 (spending, general welfare, or uniformity clause)
111  Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 3 (interstate commerce clause)
112  Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 4 (bankruptcy clause)
113  Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 7 (postal power)
114  Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 8 (patent and copyright clause)
115  Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 11 (war power)
116  Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 14 (governance of the armed forces)
117  Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 15 (call-up of militia)
118  Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 16 (organizing the militia)
Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 17 (governance of the District of Columbia and lands purchased from the states)
Article I, Section 8, Paragraph 18 (necessary and proper clause)
Article I, Section 9, Paragraph 2 (suspension of the writ of habeas corpus)
Article I, Section 9, Paragraph 3 (bill of attainder or ex post facto law)
Article I, Section 9, Paragraph 4 (direct tax)
Article I, Section 9, Paragraph 5 (export clause)
Article I, Section 9, Paragraph 6 (preference to ports)
Article I, Section 9, Paragraph 7 (appropriations clause)
Article I, Section 10 (state bill of attainder or ex post facto law)
Article I, Section 10, Paragraph 1 (contract clause)
Article I, Section 10, Paragraph 2 (export-import clause)
Article I, Section 10, Paragraph 3 (compact clause)
Article II, Section 1 (executive power)
Article II, Section 1, Paragraph 8 (oath provision)
Article II, Section 2 (commander-in-chief)
Article II, Section 2, Paragraph 1 (presidential pardoning power)
Article II, Section 2, Paragraph 2 (appointments clause)
Article III, Section 1, Paragraph 1 (judicial power)
Article III, Section 2 (extent of judicial power)
Article III, Section 2, Paragraph 1 (case or controversy requirement)
Article III, Section 2, Paragraph 2 (original jurisdiction)
Article III, Section 2, Paragraph 3 (vicinage requirement)
Article III, Section 3 (treason clause)
Article IV, Section 1 (full faith and credit clause)
Article IV, Section 2, Paragraph 1 (privileges and immunities clause)
Article IV, Section 2, Paragraph 2 (extradition clause)
Article IV, Section 3, Paragraph 2 (property clause)
Article IV, Section 4 (guarantee clause)
Article VI, Section 2 (supremacy clause)
Article VI, Section 3 (oath provision)
Amendment Clause
Article V, Section 1 (courts)
First Amendment (speech, press, and assembly)
First Amendment (association)
First Amendment (free exercise of religion)
First Amendment (establishment of religion)
First Amendment (petition clause)
Fourth Amendment
Fifth Amendment (double jeopardy)
Fifth Amendment (due process)
Fifth Amendment (grand jury)
Fifth Amendment (Miranda warnings)
Fifth Amendment (self-incrimination)
Fifth Amendment (takings clause)
Fifth Amendment (equal protection)
Sixth Amendment (right to confront and cross-examine, compulsory process)
Sixth Amendment (right to counsel)
Sixth Amendment (right to trial by jury)
Sixth Amendment (speedy trial)
Sixth Amendment (other provisions)
Seventh Amendment
Eighth Amendment (prohibition of excessive bail)
Eighth Amendment (prohibition of excessive fines)
Eighth Amendment (cruel and unusual punishment)
Ninth Amendment
Tenth Amendment
Eleventh Amendment
Twelfth Amendment
Thirteenth Amendment (both sections 1 and 2)
Fourteenth Amendment (privileges and immunities clause)
Fourteenth Amendment (reduction in representation clause)
Fourteenth Amendment (citizenship clause)
Fourteenth Amendment (due process)
Fourteenth Amendment (equal protection)
Fourteenth Amendment (enforcement clause)
Fifteenth Amendment (other provisions)
Fifteenth Amendment (enforcement clause)
Sixteenth Amendment
Seventeenth Amendment
Twenty-First Amendment
Twenty-Fourth Amendment
Second Amendment
Americans with Disabilities Act
Age Discrimination in Employment
Aid to Families with Dependent Children provisions of the Social Security Act, plus amendments
Clean Air, plus amendments
Administrative Procedure, or Administrative Orders Review
Atomic Energy
Bankruptcy Code, Bankruptcy Act or Rules, or Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978
Medicaid provisions of the Social Security Act
Medicare provisions of the Social Security Act
Clayton
Civil Rights Act of 1964 (public accommodations)
Civil Rights Act of 1957
Civil Rights Act of 1991
Statutory provisions of the District of Columbia
Equal Access to Justice
Education Amendments of 1972
Employee Retirement Income Security, as amended
Elementary and Secondary Education
Federal False Claims
Communication Act of 1934, as amended
Federal Employees' Compensation
Civil Rights Attorney's Fees Awards
Federal Employers' Liability, as amended
Federal Election Campaign
Family Educational Rights and Privacy (Buckley Amendment)
Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic, and related statutes
Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide
Fair Labor Standards
Freedom of Information, Sunshine, or Privacy Act
Federal Power
Federal Trade Commission
Federal Water Pollution Control (Clean Water), plus amendments
Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets, National Firearms, Organized Crime Control, Comprehensive Crime Control, or Gun Control Acts
Education of the Handicapped, Education for All Handicapped Children, or Individuals with Disabilities Education Acts, or related statutes, as amended
28 U.S.C. § 2241-2255 (habeas corpus)
Fair Housing
Interstate Commerce, as amended
Immigration and Naturalization, Immigration, Nationality, or Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Acts, as amended
Internal Revenue Code
Internal Security
Jencks
Jones, or Death on the High Seas
Longshoremen and Harbor Workers' Compensation
Labor-Management Relations
Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure
Motor Carrier
Miller
National Environmental Policy
Natural Gas, or Natural Gas Policy Acts
National Labor Relations, as amended
Norris-LaGuardia
Occupational Safety and Health
Public Utility Regulatory Policy
Rehabilitation
Religious Freedom Restoration
Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations
Railway Labor
Robinson-Patman
Securities Act of 1933, the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, or the Williams Act
Selective Service, Military Selective Service, or Universal Military Service and Training Acts
Sherman
Submerged Lands Acts
Smith, Subversive Activities Control, Communist Control, or other similar federal legislation
Social Security, as amended, including Social Security Disability Benefits Reform Act
Supplemental Security Income
State or local legislative enactments
Truth in Lending
Federal Tort Claims, or Alien Tort Statute
Tucker
Trading with the Enemy Act, as amended
Universal Code of Military Justice
Voting Rights Act of 1965, plus amendments
Reconstruction Civil Rights Acts (42 U.S.C. § 1971)
Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title II)
Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title IV)
Civil Rights Act of 1964 (other)
Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII)
Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title IX)
Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI)
Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including Appellate Procedure, or relevant rules of a circuit court
Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, or relevant rules of a circuit court
Federal Rules of Evidence
Supreme Court Rules
Abstention Doctrine
Retroactive application of a constitutional right
Exclusionary Rule (Fourth Amendment)
Exclusionary Rule (Right to Counsel)
Exclusionary Rule (Miranda warnings)
Harmless Error
Res Judicata
Estoppel
Writ Improvidently Granted
Treaty
Interstate Compact
Executive Order
512 Territory Statute
513 International Law
600 Infrequently litigated statutes (title and section of U.S. Code)
700 Infrequently litigated statute (volume and page of session laws)
800 State or Territorial Law or Local Ordinance

A23 **varNaturalCourt**

*109 Distinct Values*

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`varNaturalCourt` is used in conjunction with: `naturalCourt`
varParties

A24

300 Distinct Values

varParties is used in conjunction with:

* petitioner
* respondent

Values:
attorney general of the United States, or his office
specified state board or department of education
city, town, township, village, or borough government or governmental unit
state commission, board, committee, or authority
county government or county governmental unit, except school district
court or judicial district
state department or agency
governmental employee or job applicant
female governmental employee or job applicant
minority governmental employee or job applicant
minority female governmental employee or job applicant
not listed among agencies in the first Administrative Action variable
retired or former governmental employee
U.S. House of Representatives
interstate compact
judge
state legislature, house, or committee
local governmental unit other than a county, city, town, township, village, or borough
governmental official, or an official of an agency established under an interstate compact
state or U.S. supreme court
local school district or board of education
U.S. Senate
U.S. senator
foreign nation or instrumentality
state or local governmental taxpayer, or executor of the estate of
state college or university
United States
State
person accused, indicted, or suspected of crime
advertising business or agency
agent, fiduciary, trustee, or executor
airplane manufacturer, or manufacturer of parts of airplanes
airline
distributor, importer, or exporter of alcoholic beverages
alien, person subject to a denaturalization proceeding, or one whose citizenship is revoked
American Medical Association
National Railroad Passenger Corp.
amusement establishment, or recreational facility
arrested person, or pretrial detainee
attorney, or person acting as such; includes bar applicant or law student, or law firm or bar association
author, copyright holder
bank, savings and loan, credit union, investment company
bankrupt person or business, including trustee in bankruptcy, or business in reorganization
establishment serving liquor by the glass, or package liquor store
water transportation, stevedore
bookstore, newsstand, printer, bindery, purveyor or distributor of books or magazines
brewery, distillery
broker, stock exchange, investment or securities firm
construction industry
bus or motorized passenger transportation vehicle
business, corporation
buyer, purchaser
cable TV
car dealer
person convicted of crime
tangible property, other than real estate, including contraband
chemical company
child, children, including adopted or illegitimate
religious organization, institution, or person
private club or facility
coal company or coal mine operator
computer business or manufacturer, hardware or software
consumer, consumer organization
creditor, including institution appearing as such; e.g., a finance company
person allegedly criminally insane or mentally incompetent to stand trial
defendant
debtor, excluding bankrupt person or business
real estate developer
disabled person or disability benefit claimant
distributor
person subject to selective service, including conscientious objector
drug manufacturer
druggist, pharmacist, pharmacy
employee, or job applicant, including beneficiaries of
employer-employee trust agreement, employee health and welfare fund, or multi-employer pension plan
electric equipment manufacturer
electric or hydroelectric power utility, power cooperative, or gas and electric company
eleemosynary institution or person
environmental organization
employer. If employer's relations with employees are governed by the nature of the employer's business (e.g., railroad, boat), rather than labor law generally, the more specific designation is used in place of Employer.
farmer, farm worker, or farm organization
father
female employee or job applicant
female
movie, play, pictorial representation, theatrical production, actor, or exhibitor or distributor of
fisherman or fishing company
food, meat packing, or processing company, stockyard

foreign (non-American) nongovernmental entity

franchiser

franchisee

homosexual person or organization

person who guarantees another's obligations

handicapped individual, or organization of devoted to

health organization or person, nursing home, medical clinic or laboratory, chiropractor

heir, or beneficiary, or person so claiming to be

hospital, medical center

husband, or ex-husband

involuntarily committed mental patient

Indian, including Indian tribe or nation

insurance company, or surety

inventor, patent assigner, trademark owner or holder

investor

injured person or legal entity, nonphysically and non-employment related

juvenile

government contractor

holder of a license or permit, or applicant therefor

magazine

male

medical or Medicaid claimant

medical supply or manufacturing co.

racial or ethnic minority employee or job applicant

minority female employee or job applicant

manufacturer

management, executive officer, or director, of business entity

military personnel, or dependent of, including reservist

mining company or miner, excluding coal, oil, or pipeline company

mother

auto manufacturer

newspaper, newsletter, journal of opinion, news service

radio and television network, except cable tv

nonprofit organization or business

nonresident

nuclear power plant or facility

owner, landlord, or claimant to ownership, fee interest, or possession of land as well as chattels

shareholders to whom a tender offer is made

tender offer

oil company, or natural gas producer

elderly person, or organization dedicated to the elderly

out of state noncriminal defendant

political action committee

parent or parents
parking lot or service
patient of a health professional
telephone, telecommunications, or telegraph company
physician, MD or DO, dentist, or medical society
public interest organization
physically injured person, including wrongful death, who is not an employee
pipe line company
package, luggage, container
political candidate, activist, committee, party, party member, organization, or elected official
indigent, needy, welfare recipient
indigent defendant
private person
prisoner, inmate of penal institution
professional organization, business, or person
probationer, or parolee
protester, demonstrator, picketer or pamphleteer (non-employment related), or non-indigent loiterer
public utility
publisher, publishing company
radio station
racial or ethnic minority
person or organization protesting racial or ethnic segregation or discrimination
racial or ethnic minority student or applicant for admission to an educational institution
realtor
journalist, columnist, member of the news media
resident
restaurant, food vendor
retarded person, or mental incompetent
retired or former employee
railroad
private school, college, or university
seller or vendor
shipper, including importer and exporter
shopping center, mall
spouse, or former spouse
stockholder, shareholder, or bondholder
retail business or outlet
student, or applicant for admission to an educational institution
taxpayer or executor of taxpayer's estate, federal only
tenant or lessee
theater, studio
forest products, lumber, or logging company
person traveling or wishing to travel abroad, or overseas travel agent
truck company, or motor carrier
television station
union member
unemployed person or unemployment compensation applicant or claimant
union, labor organization, or official of
veteran
voter, prospective voter, elector, or a nonelective official seeking reapportionment or redistricting of legislative districts (POL)
wholesale trade
wife, or ex-wife
witness, or person under subpoena
network
Army and Air Force Exchange Service
Atomic Energy Commission
Secretary or administrative unit or personnel of the U.S. Air Force
Department or Secretary of Agriculture
Alien Property Custodian
Secretary or administrative unit or personnel of the U.S. Army
Board of Immigration Appeals
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Prisons
Bonneville Power Administration
Benefits Review Board
Civil Aeronautics Board
Bureau of the Census
Central Intelligence Agency
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Department or Secretary of Commerce
Comptroller of Currency
Consumer Product Safety Commission
Civil Rights Commission
Civil Service Commission, U.S.
Customs Service or Commissioner of Customs
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
Drug Enforcement Agency
Department or Secretary of Defense
Department or Secretary of Energy
Department or Secretary of the Interior
Department of Justice or Attorney General
Department or Secretary of State
Department or Secretary of Transportation
Department or Secretary of Education
U.S. Employees' Compensation Commission, or Commissioner
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
Environmental Protection Agency or Administrator
Federal Aviation Agency or Administration
Federal Bureau of Investigation or Director
Federal Bureau of Prisons
Farm Credit Administration
Federal Communications Commission
Federal Credit Union Administration
Food and Drug Administration
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
Federal Energy Administration
Federal Election Commission
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Federal Housing Administration
Federal Home Loan Bank Board
Federal Labor Relations Authority
Federal Maritime Board
Federal Maritime Commission
Farmers Home Administration
Federal Parole Board
Federal Power Commission
Federal Railroad Administration
Federal Reserve Board of Governors
Federal Reserve System
Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation
Federal Trade Commission
Federal Works Administration, or Administrator
General Accounting Office
Comptroller General
General Services Administration
Department or Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare
Department or Secretary of Health and Human Services
Department or Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Interstate Commerce Commission
Indian Claims Commission
Immigration and Naturalization Service, or Director of, or District Director of, or Immigration and Naturalization Enforcement
Internal Revenue Service, Collector, Commissioner, or District Director of
Information Security Oversight Office
Department or Secretary of Labor
Loyalty Review Board
Legal Services Corporation
Merit Systems Protection Board
Multistate Tax Commission
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Secretary or administrative unit of the U.S. Navy
National Credit Union Administration
National Endowment for the Arts
National Enforcement Commission
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
National Labor Relations Board, or regional office or officer
National Mediation Board
National Railroad Adjustment Board
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
National Security Agency
Office of Economic Opportunity
Office of Management and Budget
Office of Price Administration, or Price Administrator
Office of Personnel Management
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission
Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs
Patent Office, or Commissioner of, or Board of Appeals of
Pay Board (established under the Economic Stabilization Act of 1970)
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation
U.S. Public Health Service
Postal Rate Commission
Provider Reimbursement Review Board
Renegotiation Board
Railroad Adjustment Board
Railroad Retirement Board
Subversive Activities Control Board
Small Business Administration
Securities and Exchange Commission
Social Security Administration or Commissioner
Selective Service System
Department or Secretary of the Treasury
Tennessee Valley Authority
United States Forest Service
United States Parole Commission
Postal Service and Post Office, or Postmaster General, or Postmaster
United States Sentencing Commission
Veterans' Administration
War Production Board
Wage Stabilization Board
Unidentifiable

A25 varPartyWinning
3 Distinct Values

varPartyWinning is used in conjunction with:
partyWinning
A26 varPrecedentAlteration

2 Distinct Values

varPrecedentAlteration is used in conjunction with:
prece dentAlteration

Values:
0 no favorable disposition for petitioning party apparent
1 petitioning party received a favorable disposition
2 favorable disposition for petitioning party unclear

A27 varSplitVote

2 Distinct Values

varSplitVote is used in conjunction with:
splitVote

Values:
1 first vote on issue/legal provision
2 second vote on issue/legal provision

A28 varStates

61 Distinct Values

varStates is used in conjunction with:
petitionerState
respondentState
adminActionState
caseOriginState
caseSourceState

Values:
1 Alabama
2 Alaska
3 American Samoa
A29 varThreeJudgeFdc

2 Distinct Values

varThreeJudgeFdc is used in conjunction with:
threeJudgeFdc

Values:
0 no mention that a 3-judge ct heard case
1 3-judge district ct heard case

A30 varVote

8 Distinct Values

varVote is used in conjunction with:
vote

Values:
1 voted with majority or plurality
2 dissent
3 regular concurrence
4 special concurrence
5 judgment of the Court
6 dissent from a denial or dismissal of certiorari, or dissent from summary affirmation of an appeal
7 jurisdictional dissent
8 justice participated in an equally divided vote
varVoteUnclear

2 Distinct Values

varVoteUnclear is used in conjunction with:
voteUnclear

Values:
0 vote clearly specified
1 the vote in the case not clear