

prerogatives attendant to our adversarial system of justice.<sup>306</sup> Second, defense counsel can deprive a defendant of effective assistance by failing to provide competent representation that is adequate to ensure a fair trial,<sup>307</sup> or, more broadly, a just outcome.<sup>308</sup> The right to effective assistance may be implicated as early as the appointment process. Cases requiring appointment of counsel for indigent defendants hold that, as a matter of due process, the assignment of defense counsel must be timely and made in a manner that affords “effective aid in the preparation and trial of the case.”<sup>309</sup> The Sixth Amendment also is implicated when a court appoints a defendant’s attorney to represent his co-defendant as well, where the co-defendants are known to have potentially conflicting interests.<sup>310</sup>

Restrictions on representation imposed during trial also have been stricken as impermissible interference with defense counsel. The Court invalidated application of a statute that empowered a judge to deny final summations before judgment in a nonjury trial: “The right to the assistance of counsel . . . ensures to the defense in a criminal trial the opportunity to participate fully and fairly . . . .”<sup>311</sup> And, in *Geders v. United States*,<sup>312</sup> the Court held that a trial judge’s order preventing a defendant from consulting his counsel during a 17-hour overnight recess between his direct and cross-examination, to prevent tailoring of testimony or “coaching,” deprived the defendant of his right to assistance of counsel and was invalid.<sup>313</sup> Other direct and indirect restraints upon counsel have been found to violate the Amendment.<sup>314</sup> Government investigators

<sup>306</sup> *E.g.*, *Geders v. United States*, 425 U.S. 80 (1976) (trial judge barred consultation between defendant and attorney overnight); *Herring v. New York*, 422 U.S. 853 (1975) (application of statute to bar defense counsel from making final summation).

<sup>307</sup> *Strickland v. Washington*, 466 U.S. 668, 686 (1984).

<sup>308</sup> *Lafler v. Cooper*, 566 U.S. \_\_\_, No. 10–209, slip op. (2012) (erroneous advice during plea bargaining).

<sup>309</sup> *Powell v. Alabama*, 287 U.S. 45, 71–72 (1932); *Glasser v. United States*, 315 U.S. 60, 70 (1942).

<sup>310</sup> *Glasser v. United States*, 315 U.S. 60 (1942).

<sup>311</sup> *Herring v. New York*, 422 U.S. 853, 858 (1975). “[T]he right to assistance to counsel has been understood to mean that there can be no restrictions upon the function of counsel in defending a criminal prosecution in accord with the traditions of the adversary factfinding process that has been constitutionalized in the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments.” 422 U.S. at 857.

<sup>312</sup> 425 U.S. 80 (1976).

<sup>313</sup> *Geders* was distinguished in *Perry v. Leeke*, 488 U.S. 272 (1989), in which the Court upheld a trial court’s order that the defendant and his counsel not consult during a 15-minute recess between the defendant’s direct testimony and his cross-examination.

<sup>314</sup> *E.g.*, *Ferguson v. Georgia*, 365 U.S. 570 (1961) (where Georgia statute, uniquely, barred sworn testimony by defendants, a defendant was entitled to the assistance of counsel in presenting the unsworn statement allowed him under Georgia law); *Brooks*