1	IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
2	x
3	BLAINE LAFLER, :
4	Petitioner :
5	v. : No. 10-209
6	ANTHONY COOPER. :
7	x
8	Washington, D.C.
9	Monday, October 31, 2011
0	
1	The above-entitled matter came on for oral
_2	argument before the Supreme Court of the United States
_3	at 10:03 a.m.
4	APPEARANCES:
_5	JOHN J. BURSCH, ESQ., Solicitor General, Lansing,
-6	Michigan; on behalf of Petitioner.
_7	WILLIAM M. JAY, ESQ., Assistant to the Solicitor
8_	General, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.;
_9	for United States, as amicus curiae, supporting
20	Petitioner.
21	VALERIE R. NEWMAN, ESQ., Assistant Defender, Detroit,
22	Michigan; appointed by this Court, on behalf of
23	Respondent.
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(10:03 a.m.)
3	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: We'll hear argument
4	first this morning in Case 10-209, Lafler v. Cooper.
5	Mr. Bursch.
б	ORAL ARGUMENT OF JOHN J. BURSCH
7	ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONER
8	MR. BURSCH: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice,
9	and may it please the Court:
10	There are three points that I would like to
11	press this morning regarding deficient plea advice.
12	First, this Court has consistently limited the effective
13	assistance right to ensuring the reliability of the
14	proceedings where a defendant is adjudicated guilty and
15	sentenced. Mere outcome is not the Strickland prejudice
16	standard.
17	Second, when asserting an ineffective
18	assistance claim, the defendant
19	JUSTICE KAGAN: Could I can I stop you on
20	the first? You say mere outcome is not enough,
21	reliability of the proceedings. How does that fit with
22	Kimmelman, where we said it, the right to effective
23	assistance, does attach to suppression hearings,
24	obviously where evidence would not make the proceedings
25	more reliable?

1	MR.	BURSCH:	Justice	Kagan,	even	in

- 2 Kimmelman, the Court remanded back to the lower courts
- 3 to determine whether there was prejudice, and the
- 4 obvious implication was that if there was no prejudice
- 5 on the fairness of the adjudicatory proceeding itself,
- 6 there would be no Sixth Amendment violation.
- 7 The second point that I wanted to press this
- 8 morning was that when asserting an ineffective
- 9 assistance claim, a defendant must show deprivation of a
- 10 substantive or procedural right, and this Court has
- 11 already held that a defendant has no right to a plea
- 12 bargain.
- 13 Third, every possible remedy for deficient
- 14 plea advice creates intractable problems
- 15 demonstrating the right --
- 16 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Counsel, isn't there a
- 17 right to make a critical decision on whether to accept
- 18 or reject a plea bargain, once offered? There's no
- 19 right to demand one or to keep it, but isn't there a
- 20 right to make that kind of critical decision?
- 21 MR. BURSCH: Justice Sotomayor, the -- the
- 22 not guilty plea is an assertion of the defendant's
- 23 constitutional rights. It's invoking the right to trial
- 24 that the Sixth Amendment contemplates. And so this
- 25 situation is really more like Fretwell. It's not a

- 1 decision that you have, for example, whether to have a
- 2 jury or not to have a jury, or whether to have this
- 3 attorney appointed for your counsel or not, because in
- 4 each of those cases you have an underlying substantive
- 5 or procedural constitutional right; and you have no
- 6 right to a plea. And so this fork in the road is really
- 7 an illusory one, because you have no right to choose the
- 8 other side of the fork.
- 9 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Suppose this were a death
- 10 -- a death case, and roughly the same facts, failure --
- 11 failure to communicate. And that leaves me just one
- 12 other question based on your opening remarks. We can
- 13 think about adjudication as having a constitutional
- 14 violation, injury, and remedy. Are you saying that
- 15 there was a violation in the abstract here but no
- 16 injury, or was there a violation and an injury but just
- 17 no remedy?
- 18 MR. BURSCH: I'm saying --
- 19 JUSTICE KENNEDY: So if you could do all of
- 20 that, including the death penalty, I --
- 21 MR. BURSCH: Yes, I'm saying that there's no
- 22 violation, because in order to prove a Sixth Amendment
- 23 violation, you have to demonstrate unreliability of the
- 24 adjudicatory process. I'm also saying that there's no
- 25 reasonable remedy, and I'll talk about that in a minute.

1	With	respect	to	the	death	penalty	<i>i</i> in

- 2 particular, I would refer this Court right back to the
- 3 Fretwell decision, because there, too, defendant and his
- 4 counsel had an opportunity to raise a Collins objection
- 5 that would have changed the sentence to avoid the death
- 6 penalty in that case. Collins obviously was overruled
- 7 before habeas process, and this Court held that the
- 8 defendant could not use the vehicle of an ineffective
- 9 assistance claim to regain that lost opportunity because
- 10 he had no constitutional right in it. And so, really
- 11 the remedy -- I'm sorry. The severity of the sentence
- 12 doesn't enter the analysis once you've established that
- 13 there has been no violation.
- 14 JUSTICE GINSBURG: When you say no violation,
- 15 you don't mean that there was no ineffective assistance
- 16 of counsel? I thought that was conceded, that there was
- 17 ineffective assistance.
- 18 MR. BURSCH: That's correct, Justice
- 19 Ginsburg. We have conceded for purposes of argument
- 20 that there was ineffective assistance. But Strickland
- 21 is a two-part test, and even after you get past the
- 22 deficiency prong, there's still the question of whether
- 23 this casts some doubt on the reliability of the
- 24 proceedings.
- JUSTICE KAGAN: Well, I thought that the

- 1 second part of the test asked about harm. And here the
- 2 person is sitting in prison for three times as long as
- 3 he would have been sitting in prison had he had
- 4 effective assistance of counsel at the plea bargaining
- 5 stage. So, why doesn't that just meet the requirements
- of Strickland, both deficiency and prejudice?
- 7 MR. BURSCH: Well, that's actually the best
- 8 argument that the Respondent has in this case. And the
- 9 reason --
- 10 JUSTICE KAGAN: Sounds like a good argument.
- 11 (Laughter.)
- MR. BURSCH: Well, the reason why it's wrong
- is because this Court has been very careful to define
- 14 what that harm is. Specifically, the word was "outcome"
- 15 in Cronic and Strickland. If you --
- 16 JUSTICE KAGAN: And outcome -- there is a
- 17 different outcome here. He's sitting in prison for
- 18 three times as long. That's a different outcome.
- 19 MR. BURSCH: Yes, but the Court went on to
- 20 define "outcome" to mean reliability of the adjudicatory
- 21 process. In fact, specifically, the language was
- 22 whether absent the deficiency, the defendant -- I'm
- 23 sorry. Absent the deficiency, the factfinder would have
- 24 had a reasonable doubt respecting guilt. And what we
- 25 have here is a situation where everyone acknowledges --

- 1 JUSTICE KAGAN: Well, take the sentencing
- 2 cases. The sentencing cases, the determination of guilt
- 3 is over, and the question is, is this person sitting in
- 4 jail for 1 day longer because his counsel was
- 5 ineffective? And if he is, we would find prejudice
- 6 there. So, why isn't the same thing true here?
- 7 MR. BURSCH: Well, I don't believe it's quite
- 8 that simple. If there was some legal error, you know,
- 9 an error to which he had a constitutional right, then
- 10 certainly what you said is exactly true. But if you're
- 11 talking about more or less days because of, for example,
- 12 a judge thinking that the -- the difference between
- 13 crack and cocaine sentences was not appropriate or other
- 14 things that are really up to the discretion of the trial
- 15 court judge, Strickland says absolutely those things are
- 16 not Sixth Amendment violations.
- 17 JUSTICE KAGAN: Well, I guess I don't
- 18 understand that answer, because that answer seems to
- 19 suggest that the -- that the assistance being provided
- 20 was not ineffective. But here, as Justice Ginsburg
- 21 notes, you've conceded that the assistance is
- 22 ineffective. That assistance has led to a much, much,
- 23 much longer sentence. You know, as opposed to some of
- 24 the sentencing cases suggest that 24 hours is enough,
- 25 this is 10 years or something. And, you know, that

- 1 should be the end of the game, no?
- 2 MR. BURSCH: Well, let's try another
- 3 sentencing hypothetical, where it's clear that there was
- 4 deficient performance. Say that there's a local trial
- 5 court judge and everyone knows that he has a certain
- 6 predilection that if you like the local sports team,
- 7 he's going to give you a break. If the attorney comes
- 8 in and he does not press the argument that this
- 9 convicted defendant likes the local sports team, he gets
- 10 a higher sentence, that's still not a Sixth Amendment
- 11 violation.
- Really, once you shift to sentencing, the
- 13 question is, were you legally entitled to the result?
- 14 And simply because he failed to appeal to the right
- 15 discretionary tendencies of the trial court doesn't
- 16 really make a difference. Here we're talking,
- obviously, about the guilt phase, and it's much easier
- 18 here because it says clearly in Strickland and Cronic
- 19 and Kimmelman and many, many other cases that that
- 20 outcome difference, the harm difference, has to be
- 21 reliability of the process itself. It's a process --
- 22 JUSTICE SCALIA: You acknowledge, though,
- 23 that it's ineffective assistance of counsel if you're --
- 24 well, no, I guess you haven't acknowledged. Let me ask
- 25 you: Have you provided ineffective assistance of

- 1 counsel if you are a lousy bargainer? You're just no
- 2 good at the -- you know, at -- I don't know -- the game
- 3 of bargaining. And so, you do a bad job in bargaining
- 4 down the sentence, I mean a notoriously bad job. Is
- 5 that ineffective assistance of counsel?
- 6 MR. BURSCH: Under the Court's first prong of
- 7 Strickland, you would have to look at whatever the
- 8 standards of professional practice were, and depending
- 9 how lousy the bargainer was, it could or could not be
- 10 deficient. But the important thing is if it didn't have
- 11 any effect on the subsequent trial and sentencing, then
- 12 it would not be a Sixth Amendment violation.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Well, I don't even agree
- 14 with the first part. I don't think our legal process
- is -- is a bargaining game. Shouldn't be.
- 16 MR. BURSCH: Well, we could agree with that.
- 17 Bargaining is not what this is about, and that's why
- 18 this Court has held in Weatherford and other cases that
- 19 there is no right to the plea bargain itself. And
- 20 that's really the second --
- 21 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: You can -- you can agree
- 22 with that when 95 percent of the criminal cases are
- 23 disposed of by way of bargaining?
- 24 MR. BURSCH: Because in the 95 percent of
- 25 cases that are disposed of that way, this Court has

- 1 already held in Padilla and Hill that there is a
- 2 constitutional right to have effective counsel when
- 3 you're accepting that plea. And the difference is when
- 4 you're accepting a plea, you're being convicted. That
- 5 is the conviction. And this Court frequently
- 6 establishes different tests when you're waiving a right,
- 7 for example the right to go to trial, versus invoking a
- 8 right, going to trial.
- 9 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: How can you talk about
- 10 the reliability of a process or its fairness when you
- 11 have an attorney who has fundamentally misgauged the
- 12 law? How can a trial be fair when the attorney is going
- into a trial thinking his client can't be convicted
- 14 because the shots fired hit below the waist?
- MR. BURSCH: Because --
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: So, how can that kind of
- 17 trial ever be fair?
- 18 MR. BURSCH: Because there's no evidence
- 19 here, not even a contention, that his belief had any
- 20 impact whatsoever on the fairness of the trial
- 21 proceeding. And this Court has drawn a bright-line rule
- 22 at trial. You know, if you look at the preliminary
- 23 hearing, if there's attorney error there, deficiency --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, but you skipped over
- 25 a step. I think we do assume that the deficient advice

- 1 led to the -- the determination to plead not guilty.
- 2 MR. BURSCH: Right. Again -- but that fork
- 3 in the road is not one to which he has a substantive
- 4 procedural right.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, but that's the
- 6 question -- that's the question we're confronting. So,
- 7 I think --
- 8 MR. BURSCH: Well, I --
- 9 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- your answer was a
- 10 little too facile on that point.
- 11 MR. BURSCH: I think --
- 12 JUSTICE KENNEDY: We have to assume there's
- 13 ineffective assistance of counsel in advising the client
- 14 the nature of the charge for the -- so that the client
- 15 can make up his mind whether to plead guilty or not
- 16 guilty.
- 17 MR. BURSCH: Right.
- 18 JUSTICE KENNEDY: We have to assume that in
- 19 this case, correct?
- MR. BURSCH: Correct, we are assuming that.
- 21 But what I would submit respectfully is that the plea
- 22 stage isn't any different than a preliminary hearing or
- 23 a line-up or a suppression hearing, where if there was
- 24 some deficient attorney conduct, this Court would still
- 25 then look to see whether it had an adverse impact on the

- 1 adjudication of guilt.
- 2 JUSTICE GINSBURG: Suppose the defective
- 3 advice causes the defendant to enter a plea that he
- 4 would not have entered if he had been properly advised.
- 5 Can he get relief?
- 6 MR. BURSCH: Absolutely. Under Hill and
- 7 Padilla, this Court has said when you give up your right
- 8 to trial, that's a very different situation and that
- 9 there is a remedy for that. And --
- 10 JUSTICE GINSBURG: So, explain why defective
- 11 advice causing a plea, that qualifies, but defective
- 12 advice causing defendant to turn down a plea --
- MR. BURSCH: It's just --
- 14 JUSTICE GINSBURG: -- does not?
- 15 MR. BURSCH: It's just like the difference
- 16 between deciding to proceed with counsel, in which case
- 17 there's -- there's no barrier to entry, or deciding to
- 18 proceed without counsel, giving up the constitutional
- 19 right.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: No, the difference -- that's
- 21 not the difference at all. It seems to me the
- 22 difference is when you plead guilty you deprive yourself
- 23 of the 24-karat test of fairness, which is trial by jury
- 24 before nine people who have to find you guilty beyond a
- 25 reasonable doubt. When you plead guilty, you give up

- 1 that.
- When you don't plead guilty, you get what is
- 3 the best thing in our legal system. You can't do any
- 4 better than that.
- 5 MR. BURSCH: Justice Scalia, you said it much
- 6 more artfully, but that's exactly the point I was trying
- 7 to make with Justice Ginsburg, that when you invoke your
- 8 constitutional right, your right to have an attorney, to
- 9 go to a trial, to have a jury, we don't set up barriers
- 10 to entry. It's only when you give up those rights.
- 11 JUSTICE KAGAN: I take it, then, Mr. Bursch,
- 12 you would have the same answer if the State had never
- 13 provided counsel at all. So long as -- if the plea
- 14 negotiations were all done between the prosecutor and
- 15 the individual defendant, and the -- and the State
- 16 refused to provide the individual defendant with
- 17 counsel, but so long as the person in the end decided,
- 18 oh, I don't like this plea, I'll go to trial, then it's
- 19 all fine and dandy under the Sixth Amendment?
- MR. BURSCH: That would be our position,
- 21 because that's consistent with this Court's holding in
- 22 Coleman and Wade and Kimmelman, that --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: And that would also be your
- 24 position in a capital case?
- 25 MR. BURSCH: Yes. Under Fretwell, this Court

- 1 held definitively that so long as the reliability of the
- 2 adjudicatory process and sentence were intact, that the
- 3 deficient advice didn't affect it, that the severity of
- 4 the punishment was not legally relevant.
- 5 JUSTICE SCALIA: So, your position is you're
- 6 entitled to effective assistance of counsel before you
- 7 plead guilty, but you're not entitled to effective
- 8 assistance of counsel in evaluating plea offers?
- 9 MR. BURSCH: I would say it slightly
- 10 different --
- 11 JUSTICE SCALIA: All right.
- MR. BURSCH: -- that you are entitled to
- 13 effective counsel at every critical stage; however, it
- 14 is not a Sixth Amendment violation unless it casts doubt
- on the reliability of the adjudication of guilt.
- 16 JUSTICE KENNEDY: That gets back to my
- 17 question: Is it a violation in the abstract then, of
- 18 damnum absque injuria?
- MR. BURSCH: I'm sorry.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Damage without injury.
- 21 MR. BURSCH: No, because under the Strickland
- 22 and Cronic cases, there is no damage, there's no Sixth
- 23 Amendment violation, unless you can prove the prejudice.
- 24 JUSTICE ALITO: I mean, all of this is
- 25 theoretically interesting, and it may be that capital

- 1 cases are sui generis here. But I thought the heart of
- 2 your argument was that there just is no way to
- 3 unscramble the eggs in this situation; there is no --
- 4 and that was your third point, and I understood it.
- 5 MR. BURSCH: Correct.
- 6 JUSTICE ALITO: There is no remedy that can
- 7 put the parties back into the position where they would
- 8 have been had the error regarding the legal issue not
- 9 occurred.
- 10 MR. BURSCH: That's exactly right. And let's
- 11 talk about the two remedies that are most frequently
- 12 bandied about in the circuit courts. The first is to
- order a new trial. And to us, it makes no sense to
- 14 order a second trial after you've already had a first
- 15 error-free trial.
- 16 In addition, you think about these habeas
- 17 cases; if you're issuing a habeas writ and vacating a
- 18 sentence 8 or 9 years after the fact, like you are here,
- 19 essentially you're releasing the defendant, because
- 20 witnesses will die, they'll move away, memories will be
- 21 sparse. And so, that's the natural effect of that.
- 22 And in Cooper's brief, he doesn't even
- 23 advocate for a second trial; he asks for specific
- 24 performance. The problem with that is there you're
- 25 infringing on the prosecutor's discretion, which is

- 1 sacred, to say what his plea offer is going to be. And
- 2 circumstances have changed once a trial has taken place.
- 3 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Well, "sacred" is a
- 4 little strong, don't you think? I mean, it is a -- to
- 5 some extent, unfair to the prosecutor because he knows
- 6 already he's got a guilty verdict in his pocket, and he
- 7 has to go back. But why is it so terribly difficult to
- 8 tell the defendant he has a right to accept that offer
- 9 if he wants, but then go through the normal process,
- 10 which is it has to be approved by a judge and all that
- 11 stuff? I don't see what's terribly difficult about
- 12 that.
- 13 MR. BURSCH: We contend it violates the
- 14 separation of powers. But you bring up an important
- 15 point because circumstances have changed in two
- 16 respects. The first is that you learn more information.
- 17 So, here, for example, the prosecutor learned that not
- 18 only did Mr. Cooper shoot Kali Mundy, but he did it
- 19 while she was screaming and running away from him.
- 20 That's a changed circumstance. He might not give the
- 21 same plea. Even more so in Frye, where they learned
- 22 that he was picked for another criminal violation after
- 23 the plea was given, and the prosecutor testified that he
- 24 would have taken the plea back when he knew that.
- 25 But the bigger changed circumstance is the

- 1 trial itself, because the prosecutor has now gone
- 2 through the risk of having an acquittal. He has also
- 3 put, for example, the 8-year-old sexual abuse defendant
- 4 on the stand, something he tried to avoid with the plea
- 5 offer. And it truly is an egg that cannot be
- 6 unscrambled.
- 7 And unless there are further questions, I
- 8 will reserve of the balance of my time.
- 9 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
- 10 Mr. Jay.
- 11 ORAL ARGUMENT OF WILLIAM M. JAY
- 12 ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES, AS AMICUS CURIAE,
- 13 SUPPORTING THE PETITIONER
- MR. JAY: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it
- 15 please the Court:
- 16 Petitioner's convictions and sentence are
- 17 reliable because the proceedings that produced them were
- 18 reliable. And to collaterally attack his convictions or
- 19 his sentence based on allegedly ineffective assistance
- 20 of counsel, he has to show that the ineffective
- 21 assistance of counsel prejudiced him. As this Court's
- 22 Strickland cases have used that term, that means he has
- 23 to show that a reviewing court should lack confidence in
- 24 the proceeding that produced the convictions or the
- 25 sentence.

- JUSTICE BREYER: Well, you -- first, there's
- 2 nothing about this in the Sixth Amendment, is there? I
- 3 mean, the text of the Sixth Amendment talks about
- 4 criminal prosecutions requiring the assistance of
- 5 counsel for defense, period.
- 6 MR. JAY: The Sixth Amendment requires the
- 7 assistance of --
- 8 JUSTICE BREYER: Okay. So, there's nothing
- 9 in the Sixth Amendment that has these qualifications. I
- 10 haven't seen anything in any case which was other than
- 11 case specific. That is, this issue hasn't been decided
- 12 before, not to my knowledge. The language can be taken
- out of those cases, as you've very properly done. And
- 14 so, there's nothing that I could find in the cases.
- 15 Nothing in the Sixth Amendment itself. In 95 percent of
- 16 the cases, they do plead guilty. And what's the problem
- 17 about ordering the prosecution to simply repeat the
- 18 offer he gave before?
- 19 Well, I mean, I don't really see if there --
- 20 and prejudice? What if a person's been executed? If he
- 21 had gotten the -- if he had gotten the plea offer, he
- 22 would have pled guilty for 50 years in jail, okay?
- 23 That's my imaginary case. I can think of one where
- 24 there's prejudice. He's dead. All right? So, what's
- 25 the answer in my imaginary case, if it's not in the

- 1 amendment, not in -- not a holding, et cetera?
- 2 MR. JAY: Well, I think that -- let me
- 3 address that capital hypothetical that has come up
- 4 several times. And I think that it's instructive,
- 5 Justice Breyer, to look at this Court's Strickland cases
- 6 and look at what remedy they order when there has been
- 7 ineffective assistance that shakes the reviewing court's
- 8 confidence in the proceeding that produced it. They
- 9 order a new proceeding. They don't order a specific
- 10 sentence. That's why the outcome has never been the --
- 11 the yardstick by which ineffective assistance of --
- 12 JUSTICE BREYER: I don't want to -- I want to
- 13 stop you there because I don't understand it. The
- 14 suggestion is -- I'm not taking this case; I'm making up
- 15 a hypothetical since we're discussing it really based on
- 16 the next case. The defendant never heard the offer,
- 17 never heard it. It is crystal clear that if he'd heard
- 18 it, he would have accepted it. Okay? I'm trying to
- 19 separate out difficulties of this case, which strikes me
- 20 as difficult because of the facts, from the principle.
- 21 And what I want you to do is to tell me why I shouldn't
- 22 accept the principle, and then we can worry about what's
- 23 a clear case.
- MR. JAY: But I think the principle,
- 25 Justice Breyer, is that you look at what the -- you look

- 1 at what it is the Court's being asked to set aside.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Death. Let's say death.
- 3 MR. JAY: Right. So, in this case, you look
- 4 at the death sentence. How was that death sentence
- 5 produced? If the defendant can show, for example, that
- 6 he got bad advice about the plea --
- 7 JUSTICE BREYER: He shows that never did he
- 8 ever become aware, because his lawyer was sleeping and
- 9 moved on vacation and never told him about the plea
- 10 offer. That's my hypothetical.
- 11 MR. JAY: I think that's actually an easier
- 12 hypothetical than the bad advice because you could show
- 13 that if the lawyer then gets -- stands up and does a
- 14 bang-up job at trial, right -- the defendant is
- 15 convicted of capital murder. The defendant can't show
- 16 any prejudicial effect on the trial. That means that no
- 17 other lawyer doing a better job could have gotten the --
- 18 could even show a reasonable probability that a
- 19 different verdict would ensue.
- JUSTICE ALITO: No, the Court has said --
- 21 MR. JAY: That defendant has a reliable
- 22 capital murder conviction.
- JUSTICE ALITO: The Court has said that death
- 24 is different. And did you think it is inconceivable
- 25 that there could be a different rule for capital cases,

- 1 such as a rule requiring that, in a capital case, any
- 2 offer of a noncapital sentence as part of a plea bargain
- 3 actually be waived by the defendant in court so that
- 4 this doesn't come up? This is not a capital case.
- 5 MR. JAY: This is not a capital case, and I
- 6 think that it certainly --
- 7 JUSTICE BREYER: All right. If you don't
- 8 want to do the capital case? I'm still trying to get to
- 9 the principle.
- 10 MR. JAY: I'm happy to do the capital case,
- 11 Justice Breyer.
- 12 JUSTICE BREYER: I'll change my hypothetical
- 13 and say all that happened was that this perfect trial,
- 14 because of mandatory sentencing rules, led him to prison
- 15 for 50 years, as compared with a plea bargain which
- 16 would have given him 2 years. Now, he is in prison for
- 17 48 years more, and I consider that that's at least
- 18 harmful to him. So, where the amendment doesn't speak
- 19 of it, where the misbehavior of the lawyer is crystal
- 20 clear, where it's 48 years more in prison, what is it
- 21 that bars what seems to me obvious that an inadequate
- 22 assistance of counsel, remedial through a specific
- 23 decree saying reinstitute the offer, led to enormous
- 24 unfairness and prejudice?
- 25 MR. JAY: Two points, Justice Breyer. I'm --

- 1 and I want to make sure that I get out my answer to your
- 2 capital hypothetical, because you don't look just at
- 3 whether the sentence that resulted was worse than the
- 4 sentence that could have resulted. If that were the
- 5 case, Fretwell would have come out the other way.
- 6 That's death if -- with no objection made, life sentence
- 7 if the objection had been made. So, it's not an
- 8 outcome -- it's not a narrow comparison of outcomes.
- 9 What you look at is how the sentence was produced. Is
- 10 this defendant entitled, had this -- to a lesser
- 11 sentence?
- 12 Is this -- had this defendant had a better
- 13 lawyer at sentencing, is there even a reasonable
- 14 probability that the -- that that lawyer, through a
- 15 different strategy for identifying a legal error --
- 16 JUSTICE SCALIA: Mr. Jay, you disagree with
- 17 the assertion that Justice Breyer made that this was
- 18 unfair. This man deserved to get the sentence he got,
- 19 didn't he? He had a full and fair trial. A jury of 12
- 20 people, finding him guilty beyond a reasonable doubt,
- 21 determined that he deserved that sentence. How could it
- 22 be unfair to give him the sentence that he deserved?
- MR. BURSCH: Yes, that's correct. In every
- 24 case --
- 25 JUSTICE BREYER: The lists are legion where

- 1 people don't get the sentence that they deserve because,
- 2 for example, the lawyer was inadequate. I mean --
- 3 MR. JAY: And in those cases, Justice Breyer,
- 4 you show that the lawyer had a bad strategy at
- 5 sentencing. That may well have been the same bad
- 6 strategy that led the lawyer to recommend a not guilty
- 7 plea. Let's go to trial on my crazy strategy. If he
- 8 can show that and he can show that a better lawyer with
- 9 a better strategy would produce a different result, then
- 10 the Sixth Amendment entitles that person to a new
- 11 proceeding. The Sixth Amendment never entitles the
- 12 person to have a court order a particular sentence.
- 13 And you can't use the prosecutor's offer
- 14 made at a different time as the benchmark and say, well,
- 15 the prosecutor was okay with it at this other time;
- 16 therefore, the prosecution must be forced to live with
- 17 it now. And that's because a plea offer rests on a
- 18 number of considerations: the need to obtain the
- 19 defendant's cooperation in other cases; the desire to
- 20 spare the witnesses and the victim the burdens of trial;
- 21 and, frankly, to avoid the risk of an acquittal. And
- 22 the prosecution in this case and in cases like this one,
- 23 where there has been a reliable conviction and reliable
- 24 sentencing, the prosecution has already incurred all of
- 25 those burdens. So, to look at the 51-month minimum

- 1 offer that was made 8 years ago and have that be the
- 2 benchmark simply is not something that this Court has
- 3 ever done in its Strickland cases. And I think that
- 4 it's revealing about the Respondent's --
- JUSTICE KAGAN: Mr. Jay, you don't contest
- 6 that plea bargaining is a critical phase, entitling
- 7 somebody to a lawyer and to an effective lawyer, do you?
- 8 MR. BURSCH: We don't -- we don't think --
- 9 that's not part of our argument here.
- 10 JUSTICE KAGAN: Yes, because we've said that
- 11 many times; isn't that right?
- MR. BURSCH: Well, the Court -- let me be
- 13 precise, Justice Kagan, because there are two things
- 14 that the Court can be talking about. There's the --
- 15 there's the -- the interaction between the State and the
- 16 defendant, and that's where the Court has customarily
- 17 used language like "critical stage," a confrontation
- 18 between the defendant and the prosecution.
- 19 That's not what we have here. This is about
- 20 private advice between the lawyer and the client, and
- 21 we're not contesting that he has a right to have that
- 22 advice be effective.
- JUSTICE KAGAN: What we have recognized,
- 24 right, is that plea bargaining is a critical phase
- 25 because about 98 percent of the action of the criminal

- 1 justice system occurs in plea bargaining. And to
- 2 deprive somebody of a lawyer at that stage of the
- 3 process, where 98 percent of the action occurs, is
- 4 inconsistent with the Sixth Amendment. That's what
- 5 we've said. Isn't that right?
- 6 MR. BURSCH: Well, I don't think the Court
- 7 has faced up -- faced this particular situation, Justice
- 8 Kagan.
- 9 JUSTICE KAGAN: So, it's not a critical
- 10 phase. It's only a critical phase depending on the
- 11 outcome of what happens at that phase?
- MR. JAY: We are -- we are assuming that --
- 13 that Mr. Cooper in this case had a right to receive
- 14 effective advice about whether to enter this plea. But
- 15 we're -- our position is that he wasn't prejudiced
- 16 because what --
- 17 JUSTICE KAGAN: Has -- have you ever seen a
- 18 critical phase before in our Sixth Amendment
- 19 jurisprudence where the right to a lawyer depends upon
- 20 what has -- what happens during that critical phase,
- 21 where if one outcome results, there is no Sixth
- 22 Amendment right, but if another outcome results there
- 23 is?
- MR. JAY: Well, again, we don't think this is
- in any way crucial to deciding this case, but

- 1 Scott v. Illinois, Justice Kagan, is an example of that.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Mr. Jay, couldn't --
- 3 couldn't it be said that what our cases hold is that
- 4 pleading guilty is a critical phase? Would that be
- 5 enough to explain our cases?
- 6 MR. JAY: It certainly is correct that
- 7 pleading -- that a guilty plea hearing, where the
- 8 defendant --
- 9 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, it's correct, but is
- 10 it enough? Do you want us to write an opinion that plea
- 11 negotiations are not a critical stage of the criminal
- 12 process unless at the end of the day a guilty plea
- 13 results?
- MR. JAY: That's not at all what we're
- 15 asking, Justice Kennedy.
- 16 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Okay. So, we --
- MR. JAY: What we are asking -- I'm sorry.
- 18 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Justice Kagan and I want to
- 19 know what your test is.
- 20 MR. JAY: Our test to resolve this case is to
- 21 look at what it is that the habeas petitioner is
- 22 challenging. He's challenging conviction and his
- 23 sentence. In the conviction, he was found guilty by a
- 24 jury. He now says, page 14a of the red brief, that he
- 25 is guilty and he wishes he had pleaded guilty sooner.

1	No basis for challenging the conviction.
2	May I finish the thought on the sentence?
3	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Sure.
4	MR. JAY: And on this sentence, he was
5	sentenced in accordance with law. He had effective
6	representation at sentencing, and he got the sentence
7	that corresponds to the counts of conviction. What he
8	wants is to reinstate a deal that was in the
9	prosecution's discretion to offer once upon a time.
-0	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
1	MR. JAY: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice.
_2	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Ms. Newman.
_3	ORAL ARGUMENT OF VALERIE R. NEWMAN
4	ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT
_5	MS. NEWMAN: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice,
. 6	and may it please the Court:
_7	It is uncontroverted here that Anthony Cooper
-8	received incompetent advice from his counsel. It is
_9	uncontroverted here that, as a result of that
20	incompetent advice, Mr. Cooper is serving between 100
21	and 134 months of extra time of imprisonment.
22	JUSTICE GINSBURG: I think that's not that
23	he got ineffective assistance, yes, that's not
24	controverted. But that he would have gotten the 51
5	months or 68 is certainly controverted because of two

- 1 interventions. The prosecutor can say: No deal; I'm
- 2 withdrawing it, even after an initial acceptance. And
- 3 the judge can say: I think 51 to 68 is entirely
- 4 improper for what this man did.
- 5 MS. NEWMAN: Those are both true, Justice
- 6 Ginsburg -- Justice Ginsburg, but, however, the
- 7 Strickland test requires a reasonable probability of a
- 8 different result. And on this record, we have no
- 9 reasonable probability -- we have no reason to expect
- 10 that that's not exactly what would have happened.
- 11 JUSTICE ALITO: The relief that you want is
- 12 specific performance of the plea bargain.
- MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 14 JUSTICE ALITO: Isn't that correct?
- 15 What if it had come to light or come to the
- 16 prosecutor's attention during this intervening time that
- 17 your client had committed four or five other shootings?
- 18 Would you still be entitled to specific performance?
- 19 MS. NEWMAN: Yes. We evaluate the case, and
- 20 the Strickland analysis is an imperfect -- the
- 21 Strickland remedy is an imperfect remedy. It has always
- 22 been an imperfect remedy. It will always be an
- 23 imperfect remedy.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: What -- what is the judge
- 25 supposed to do? Let's say the remedy is it goes back

- 1 before the judge. We're trying to unwind the clock or
- 2 whatever the metaphor is. Does the judge have to
- 3 prescind all knowledge of what he learned in the trial?
- 4 MS. NEWMAN: Well, this Court has stated
- 5 numerous times that it presumes a conscientious
- 6 decisionmaker, and a conscientious decisionmaker would
- 7 put --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, I'm asking what --
- 9 I'm a conscientious decisionmaker, and I'm asking for
- 10 your advice on what I should do.
- MS. NEWMAN: That you would --
- 12 JUSTICE KENNEDY: I know the details of this
- 13 crime, which were more horrific than I would have
- 14 expected, because I've heard them at the trial. Do I
- 15 just somehow forget about that, prescind that?
- 16 MS. NEWMAN: You would evaluate the case as
- 17 you would have evaluated it at the time of the
- 18 proceedings.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: So, the answer is "yes."
- 20 I -- I ignore everything that I learned during the
- 21 trial.
- 22 MS. NEWMAN: Yes, because the deficient --
- 23 you evaluate things at the point of the deficient
- 24 performance. And at the point of the deficient
- 25 performance, the judge had a certain amount of

- 1 information before him, the prosecutor had a certain
- 2 amount of information before him, and the defense
- 3 attorney had a certain amount of information before him.
- 4 JUSTICE ALITO: I mean, that's pretty
- 5 incredible. It doesn't matter what the defendant has
- 6 done in the -- has been discovered to have done in the
- 7 interim? Committed 5 murders, 10 murders?
- MS. NEWMAN: Well, in that case --
- 9 JUSTICE ALITO: Wipe it out of your mind; you
- 10 get -- you get the plea bargain that was offered at an
- 11 early point in -- in the investigation of the case?
- MS. NEWMAN: Yes, because what happens in
- 13 ineffective assistance of counsel claims is the State
- 14 has to bear the burden of the unconstitutionality. And
- 15 so, that is a price that this Court has said the State
- 16 will bear when there is -- when there's a constitutional
- 17 violation, because there is no perfect --
- 18 JUSTICE GINSBURG: How can the judge -- the
- 19 judge -- he knows what the plea -- let's say he knows
- 20 what the plea bargain was, but he also knows that for
- 21 one of the crimes, felon in possession, that alone, the
- 22 sentencing range is 81 to 135. So, without any --
- 23 considering anything that happened at trial, the judge
- 24 knows that the plea bargain was for less than if the man
- 25 had been charged with -- only with a felon in

- 1 possession.
- MS. NEWMAN: Yes, that's accurate.
- JUSTICE GINSBURG: So, it -- it seems most
- 4 unlikely that a judge would have accepted the plea
- 5 bargain for 51 to 68 for the crimes that were charged.
- 6 MS. NEWMAN: No, I would disagree with that.
- 7 This -- in this Court -- and I can represent to the
- 8 Court, in my practice before this Court, which I have
- 9 practiced before this Court for many, many years, this
- 10 plea bargain was an ordinary plea bargain. This was not
- 11 anything extraordinary. It was very run of the mill.
- 12 It was -- it was a run-of-the-mill case --
- JUSTICE GINSBURG: That may be, but is it not
- 14 true that the sentence range was 81 to 135 for a felon
- 15 in possession?
- 16 MS. NEWMAN: I did not -- typically, you only
- 17 score out the guidelines for the most serious offense.
- 18 So, the guidelines may have been high for the felon in
- 19 possession offense, but, however, the judge -- in
- 20 fashioning the remedy, you're not going to -- this Court
- 21 would not take discretion away from the judge. So, in
- 22 fashioning the remedy, in adopting the remedy of the
- 23 Sixth Circuit if this Court were to do that, this case
- 24 would go back before this same judge if he's still on
- 25 the bench, and it would be -- would put people back --

- 1 Mr. Cooper would accept the plea, but the judge retains
- 2 sentencing discretion.
- JUSTICE BREYER: It wouldn't be a problem.
- 4 The problem with Justice Alito's hypothetical, I take
- 5 it, is what the order would say is that the prosecution
- 6 has to, for a reasonable time, extend the same offer.
- 7 And then if it's accepted, you go to the judge. The
- 8 judge doesn't have to accept the plea.
- 9 MS. NEWMAN: Right. You can't find --
- 10 JUSTICE BREYER: You can't make him do that.
- 11 But I have a bigger problem with this case, which is --
- 12 which I may be the only one to have. But as I've looked
- 13 at it, I don't see ineffective assistance of counsel
- 14 within the AEDPA meaning. That is, you have two courts
- 15 in the State which have said this is not ineffective.
- 16 And as I look at it, it's somewhat ambiguous at best.
- 17 And we have the Sixth Circuit saying it is. Well, I
- 18 know both sides agree, but I mean, both sides couldn't
- 19 make us decide a case by saying there's a murder when in
- 20 fact it's not.
- I mean -- so, what am I supposed to do about
- 22 that? I find this a tough case. I've read the record,
- and in my own opinion at this moment, perhaps no one
- 24 else's, there is no ineffective assistance of counsel
- 25 such that the Sixth Circuit could set that aside -- a

- 1 contrary finding of the State court.
- What do I do?
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: If Justice Breyer permits
- 4 me to add an addendum to give the reasons why I might
- 5 agree with him or a way of viewing this, as I read the
- 6 lower court's decisions, they said there wasn't
- 7 ineffectiveness because he was just trying to get a
- 8 better deal.
- 9 And I think that, translating what he said,
- 10 the very reasonable view by the court was the prosecutor
- 11 may think of a lesser charge, because if this guy really
- 12 wanted to kill this woman, he would have hit her head or
- 13 her chest, but he aimed low. So, he was really just
- 14 angry and shooting enough so that if he hit her, okay,
- 15 if she died, okay. But he really didn't have that
- 16 heinous intent to execute, you know, a gunshot to the
- 17 brain. And so, he was hoping to negotiate something
- 18 better. If that's -- Justice Breyer is shaking his
- 19 head. If that in fact -- if this is an AEDPA case, and
- 20 we have to give deference to the State courts, doesn't
- 21 that resolve this case?
- MS. NEWMAN: No.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: We have to give
- 24 deference to their finding.
- 25 MS. NEWMAN: You do have to give deference

- 1 to their finding. There's no question under AEDPA
- 2 there's -- there's deference. And there's actually no
- 3 question there's sort of a doubly deferential review,
- 4 given the Strickland analysis. However, the State
- 5 courts did not decide this case on Sixth Amendment
- 6 grounds. So, there is nothing to give deference to.
- 7 The State courts decided this, and the trial court said
- 8 Mr. Cooper made his own choices. That's not an
- 9 ineffective assistance of counsel analysis.
- 10 The court of appeals in Michigan also did
- 11 not engage in a Sixth Amendment analysis. They adopted
- 12 the trial court and said that Mr. Cooper made his own
- 13 choices. So, there is -- and this claim was raised
- 14 specifically on Sixth Amendment grounds from the very
- 15 beginning of the appeal until it reached this Court.
- 16 So, there is no AEDPA deference to give to the State
- 17 courts' decisions. There is no question as well that it
- 18 was ineffective assistance, because the State court
- 19 record does not bear out that Mr. McClain was trying to
- 20 get a better deal. The State court --
- 21 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: You said -- you said
- 22 earlier that the district court, the trial court judge,
- 23 still retains discretion as to whether or not to approve
- 24 the plea bargain, right, whether to accept it?
- MS. NEWMAN: The sentencing.

1	CHIEF	JUSTICE	ROBERTS:	Yes	 well.	which	is

- 2 it, the bargain or the sentence? It includes the
- 3 sentence, correct?
- 4 MS. NEWMAN: It's a sentence recommendation,
- 5 and under Michigan law, the judge cannot --
- 6 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: He has discretion --
- 7 he has discretion.
- MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 9 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: So, is he allowed to
- 10 take into consideration all that's happened before, not
- 11 just with respect to guilt or innocence or the result of
- 12 the trial, but in imposing the sentence or approving it?
- 13 MS. NEWMAN: Well, he can take into account
- 14 anything that he could have taken into account in the
- 15 first place. But in this case --
- 16 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: But nothing that he
- 17 learned at trial, I take it.
- 18 MS. NEWMAN: I would argue no. I mean,
- 19 certainly this Court's set of parameters --
- 20 JUSTICE SCALIA: What if he turns -- what if
- 21 he turns it down, Ms. Newman? He says, no, I can't
- 22 accept this. What happens then? You have a new --
- MS. NEWMAN: I would say that's not an
- 24 option -- oh, I'm sorry. For the judge --
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Yeah, the judge. It goes

- 1 back to the judge. We agree with you, and we send it
- 2 back to the judge. We reinstate the offer, okay? He
- 3 accepts the offer. It goes to the judge, and the judge
- 4 says: No, this is outrageous. I'm not going to approve
- 5 this plea bargain.
- 6 What happens then?
- 7 MS. NEWMAN: Well, in that case, the case
- 8 would proceed under Michigan law. In that case, the
- 9 judge would say --
- 10 JUSTICE SCALIA: We would have a new trial;
- 11 is that it?
- MS. NEWMAN: No. I don't -- I think it would
- 13 be perfectly acceptable to say a new trial is not -- not
- 14 an appropriate remedy in this case, because he had a
- 15 trial.
- 16 JUSTICE SCALIA: Okay. So, if the judge
- 17 turns it down, then the prior trial is valid; is that
- 18 right?
- MS. NEWMAN: It would depend on the reasons
- 20 why the judge would turn it down.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: He turned it down because --
- MS. NEWMAN: It would have to be a legitimate
- 23 reason under a State law; otherwise, there would --
- JUSTICE SCALIA. Yes. Yes, then the prior
- 25 trial is okay?

- 1 MS. NEWMAN: It's not that it's okay, but I
- 2 think under imperfect circumstances, it's the result
- 3 that we're seeking.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Well, why? Why? I mean,
- 5 why wouldn't the remedy be, as -- judging what you said
- 6 before, is an order saying to the prosecution
- 7 re-institute the plea bargain and give him whatever, a
- 8 week or whatever it is? Now, we imagine the defendant
- 9 says I accept. So, then they go to the judge, just as
- 10 they would have before.
- MS. NEWMAN: Right.
- 12 JUSTICE BREYER: And the judge has the
- 13 freedom to accept that or to reject it.
- MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 15 JUSTICE BREYER: If he rejects it, there is
- 16 no plea agreement. Now the defendant must plead. He
- 17 can plead quilty or not quilty. And whatever flows from
- 18 that, flows from it.
- MS. NEWMAN: That's a -- also a perfectly
- 20 acceptable remedy. I think the purpose -- the reason --
- 21 JUSTICE SCALIA: Wait. Both can't be
- 22 perfect. Either he has another trial, although he's
- 23 just been found guilty by a jury of 12 with an entirely
- 24 fair proceeding, or else he doesn't have a new trial.
- 25 Which is it?

- 1 JUSTICE BREYER: He does. He does. His
- 2 suggestion is perfect, but mine is more perfect.
- 3 (Laughter.)
- 4 MS. NEWMAN: Okay. The --
- 5 JUSTICE BREYER: You could do it. You don't
- 6 have to -- you would -- he's right, you would have to,
- 7 under my suggestion, have a new trial, even though there
- 8 was a trial that took place 2 years ago or whatever it
- 9 is, correct?
- 10 MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 11 JUSTICE BREYER: But that isn't the end of
- 12 the argument.
- 13 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: So, if you're the
- 14 defense counsel, the best thing for you to do is not
- 15 communicate any plea offer you get, and then if your
- 16 client is found quilty, then you can go back and say,
- oh, by the way, I didn't tell you about this, and he
- 18 gets a whole new trial.
- 19 MS. NEWMAN: No. The -- the bar on habeas --
- 20 well, the bar on Strickland, even not on habeas, is a
- 21 very high bar, as this Court said in Padilla. And it's
- 22 not a bar that can often be met. And so, you have to
- 23 show under a Strickland analysis deficient performance
- 24 and prejudice. So --
- JUSTICE ALITO: Well, I don't know if that's

- 1 going to be so --
- 2 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: A deficient
- 3 performance --
- 4 JUSTICE ALITO: I don't know that that's
- 5 going to be so hard to show. Do you think it's feasible
- 6 to draw a distinction between this case, where there was
- 7 arguably inaccurate legal advice, and the case in which
- 8 the defense attorney simply makes a terribly mistaken
- 9 calculation about the chances of a favorable verdict at
- 10 trial? A favorable plea bargain is offered, caps the
- 11 guy's possible sentence at, let's say, 3 years. The
- 12 defense attorney says: We've got a great shot at an
- 13 acquittal. Let's go to trial. I'm going to rip the
- 14 prosecution's witnesses apart.
- The trial turns out to be a disaster.
- 16 Convicted on all counts, 25 years. Do you think that
- 17 it's impossible for the rule that you want us to adopt
- 18 here to be applied in that situation as well?
- 19 MS. NEWMAN: I think it would be much more
- 20 difficult, because this Court on habeas review and State
- 21 courts on non-habeas review are very deferential to
- 22 strategic decisions. Almost anything that qualifies --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, you say that. But,
- 24 as an administrative matter, I think we have to have
- 25 some concern that these plea negotiations and

- 1 discussions are in myriad circumstances. The defense
- 2 attorney is by the water cooler; the prosecutor walks by
- 3 and says I'm thinking of offering you a good bargain in
- 4 the Jones case. He knows he's going to have that
- 5 prosecutor in court the next day and really beat him.
- 6 He thinks he's going to soften him up. So, he doesn't
- 7 communicate it to the client, and the prosecutor later
- 8 says withdrawn.
- 9 We're going to have inquiries post hoc on
- 10 all of these negotiations and discussions. And it seems
- 11 to me that, absent some other rule, which I don't think
- 12 we have the authority to impose, that all plea offers
- 13 must be in writing and be stated with specificity, that
- if -- what you're proposing is simply unworkable.
- 15 MS. NEWMAN: I disagree, Your Honor. We've
- 16 had Hill -- we've had Strickland and Hill jurisprudence
- 17 for three decades. There's -- there was a floodgates
- 18 argument when Hill was decided, that we're going to have
- 19 all these people that the -- and we've had, since
- 20 McMann v. Richardson, this Court saying plea bargaining
- 21 is a critical stage, and --
- 22 JUSTICE KAGAN: And most of the circuits
- 23 follow your rule; isn't that right?
- MS. NEWMAN: Right. We already have
- 25 unanimity --

- 1 JUSTICE KAGAN: And the floodgates have not
- 2 opened.
- 3 MS. NEWMAN: I'm sorry.
- 4 JUSTICE KAGAN: Go ahead.
- 5 MS. NEWMAN: Yes, we have unanimity in the
- 6 Federal circuits, and we have -- almost every State that
- 7 has addressed this issue has addressed it in the same
- 8 manner. And so --
- 9 JUSTICE GINSBURG: What is the unanimity on
- 10 the remedy? Here, the court said that the writ shall be
- 11 granted conditioned on the State taking action to offer
- 12 the 51-to-85-month plea. So, that doesn't bind the
- 13 judge, but it does bind the prosecutor.
- MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 15 JUSTICE GINSBURG: And it removes the
- 16 possibility of the prosecutor saying, I would have
- 17 withdrawn that initial offer.
- MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 19 JUSTICE GINSBURG: So, the prosecutor -- the
- 20 remedy is -- is that the remedy that's uniform? That
- 21 the prosecutor has no discretion, only the judge does?
- MS. NEWMAN: Well, the remedies vary. When I
- 23 said "unanimity," I didn't mean every -- every court in
- 24 every circuit does -- handles this exactly the same way.
- 25 Unanimity in the sense that every Federal circuit and

- 1 almost every State that has addressed this issue, and
- 2 they've addressed this issue for over 30 years, has
- 3 found that there is an -- there is a cognizable Sixth
- 4 Amendment violation that can be remedied on appeal.
- 5 JUSTICE KAGAN: And perhaps the lack of
- 6 unanimity on the remedy question is appropriate. I
- 7 mean, people have been trying to suggest different
- 8 remedies. But perhaps one way to deal with the remedy
- 9 question is to recognize that these cases present very
- 10 different factual circumstances, that there are a lot of
- 11 variation in them, and to give a substantial amount of
- 12 discretion to the lower courts to work out what the best
- 13 remedy is, consistent with that factual variation.
- MS. NEWMAN: Absolutely. And it's the same
- thing the courts have been doing, again, since
- 16 Strickland and Hill were decided.
- 17 JUSTICE SCALIA: Like what? What factual
- 18 variation do you think justifies a categorically
- 19 different remedy? I mean, it seems to me some of the
- 20 remedies are good and some are bad.
- MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 22 JUSTICE SCALIA: What factual -- I mean, give
- 23 me an example of the different remedies and how a
- 24 certain fact situation could make one okay and the other
- 25 not okay.

- 1 MS. NEWMAN: Well, even in the two cases
- 2 before the Court today -- I mean, in Mr. Frye's, case he
- 3 accepted a plea, and the State court ordered a new trial
- 4 as the remedy for the -- for the ineffective assistance
- of counsel violation. In my case and Mr. Cooper's
- 6 case --
- 7 JUSTICE SCALIA: Right. And why was that
- 8 okay there?
- 9 MS. NEWMAN: -- rejected -- pardon?
- 10 JUSTICE SCALIA: Why was that okay there?
- 11 What -- what factual circumstances made that okay there?
- MS. NEWMAN: Well, that just -- I don't know
- 13 that the factual circumstances make it okay, but it was
- 14 the remedy that the State -- I'm not sure I understand
- 15 your question. It was a remedy that the State ordered,
- 16 and, in this case, it's just the remedy that was ordered
- 17 by the Federal court was the remedy --
- JUSTICE ALITO: You have a situation where
- 19 the -- where the defendant turns down -- where a plea is
- 20 turned down and the defendant goes to trial. Are there
- 21 any facts in -- any facts that would make any remedy
- 22 other than specific performance the correct remedy in
- 23 that situation?
- MS. NEWMAN: These cases are so
- 25 fact-specific, Your Honor, I don't want to evade the

- 1 question about a hypothetical, but there's -- every case
- 2 is so fact-specific that I think there's -- the
- 3 possibility exists that a -- that the remedy would --
- 4 JUSTICE ALITO: You recommend -- you
- 5 recommend specific performance as the remedy for your
- 6 case, and I agree with you that is -- if there is to be
- 7 a remedy, it's the only remedy that makes a -- any
- 8 modicum of sense. The remedy of giving a new trial when
- 9 the person has already had a fair trial makes zero
- 10 sense.
- MS. NEWMAN: That's correct.
- 12 JUSTICE ALITO: So, what I'm looking for is
- 13 any situation in which -- you said leave it to the
- 14 discretion of the trial judge. But what is -- what
- 15 discretion is there? What remedy in that situation
- other than specific performance would be an
- 17 appropriate -- would remedy what you claim to have been
- 18 the violation?
- 19 MS. NEWMAN: Well, in Mr. Cooper's case, I
- 20 think the -- the remedy in the Sixth Circuit is the only
- 21 appropriate remedy that -- that puts every -- that is
- 22 narrowly tailored to the Sixth Amendment violation, and
- 23 that's what this Court has said.
- I mean, this Court has given direction to
- 25 the courts, to the lower courts, that you just narrowly

- 1 tailor the remedy to fit the situation, because there's
- 2 so many factual discrepancies --
- JUSTICE BREYER: Well, what's wrong -- let me
- 4 go back because I'm now becoming convinced -- I'm trying
- 5 out what Justice Scalia suggested. Maybe that does work
- 6 better. What -- what you'd say is, first, throw the
- 7 defendant out, unless you are convinced that not only is
- 8 there ineffective assistance, but also it would have
- 9 made a difference; he would have accepted the plea
- 10 bargain.
- 11 MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 12 JUSTICE BREYER: So, now they have to hold
- 13 the plea bargain open. They then do it. They then go
- 14 to the judge, like any plea bargain. Ninety percent of
- 15 the time the judge will say fine, and that's the end of
- 16 it.
- MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 18 JUSTICE BREYER: But should the judge decide
- 19 that this is a case where he would reject a plea bargain
- 20 for any one of a variety of reasons, then our assumption
- 21 was wrong, and we reinstate the previous trial. Now,
- 22 the -- just say it's over? You were tried, you were
- 23 convicted, that's the end of it.
- Now, what's wrong with that as a remedy? I
- 25 mean, what's -- why is that -- why does that muck up the

- 1 criminal justice system in some way?
- 2 That's, I think, pretty much what
- 3 Justice Scalia suggested, and I -- and I am now trying
- 4 that out, because the more I think about it, the more I
- 5 think maybe that's okay.
- 6 MS. NEWMAN: Well, I -- I believe it is what
- 7 he suggested. And I --
- 8 JUSTICE SCALIA: Don't -- don't blame it on
- 9 me. I don't --
- 10 (Laughter.)
- 11 JUSTICE SCALIA: I don't -- it's your
- 12 suggestion that we set aside a perfectly fair
- 13 conviction.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Yes, but I --
- 15 JUSTICE SCALIA: This is just a hypothetical.
- 16 If you're going to set it aside --
- MS. NEWMAN: Right.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: -- I think you should put it
- 19 back in.
- MS. NEWMAN: Well, again, right. It's going
- 21 to depend on what happens -- happens below, and that --
- 22 we don't -- I mean, the -- the concept here is one --
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: You're -- you are begging
- 24 the question.
- MS. NEWMAN: Okay.

- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Okay? Because I think,
- 2 yes, Justice Breyer's first statement, you have to prove
- 3 the guy was going to take the plea, because there's no
- 4 sense in -- in giving him a remedy that he --
- 5 MS. NEWMAN: Right.
- 6 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: -- would have never
- 7 sought.
- 8 MS. NEWMAN: Absolutely.
- 9 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: All right? But it goes
- 10 back to, I think it was Justice Alito or Chief -- or the
- 11 Chief Justice's question, on what basis can the judge
- 12 reject the plea? You have said earlier that he has to
- 13 put aside any information he learned during the trial.
- 14 And that's really the nub of this case. What are the
- 15 grounds that you're proposing the judge can use to
- 16 reject the plea?
- MS. NEWMAN: That -- any grounds that would
- 18 have existed in the original circumstances. So, if the
- 19 judge -- in -- in Michigan, there's a variety of reasons
- 20 why a judge can say I -- I'm not going to accept this
- 21 sentencing recommendation.
- 22 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: So, how are you ever
- 23 going to know that the defendant would have accepted the
- 24 plea agreement? Because by not accepting it, he's got a
- 25 chance of going scot-free. He's going to have a fair

- 1 trial, that's the assumption; and he may be acquitted.
- 2 So, how is a judge supposed to say -- I
- 3 mean, presumably the defendant will always say, I would
- 4 have taken that deal, because it's better. Well, how is
- 5 a judge supposed to go back and decide whether that's
- 6 true or not?
- 7 MS. NEWMAN: Well, always -- in large part,
- 8 it's not going to depend on the defendant; it's going to
- 9 -- in larger part it's going to defend on -- depend on
- 10 defense counsel --
- 11 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Why?
- 12 MS. NEWMAN: -- in making that determination,
- 13 because Strickland always looks at strategy. I mean,
- 14 that -- that's the underlying --
- 15 JUSTICE KENNEDY: I think you can --
- 16 MS. NEWMAN: -- value of Strickland.
- 17 JUSTICE KENNEDY: -- answer the Chief
- 18 Justice's question. The Chief Justice said how are you
- 19 going to know -- you have to show prejudice.
- MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 21 JUSTICE SCALIA: And there's no prejudice
- 22 unless he would have accepted the deal.
- MS. NEWMAN: Right.
- 24 JUSTICE KENNEDY: How are you going to know
- 25 that he would have? Of course, he's always going to say

- 1 he that would have, but how is the trial judge going to
- 2 make a credibility determination on that -- on that
- 3 issue? I guess it's just a credibility determination.
- 4 I don't know how he's going to do it. I think you can
- 5 answer the Chief Justice's question yes or no.
- 6 MS. NEWMAN: I don't think I can --
- 7 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: How is the judge --
- 8 MS. NEWMAN: -- answer it yes or no.
- 9 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: How is the judge --
- 10 how is the judge ever going to know, be able to decide,
- 11 whether the defendant would have accepted the deal or
- 12 not?
- MS. NEWMAN: The same way that the trial
- 14 courts decide any question of fact. In this case, we
- 15 had testimony from the trial attorney. The trial
- 16 attorney told the judge, I told him not to accept the
- 17 plea because he legally could not be convicted of the
- 18 charge. I mean, Mr. Cooper was --
- 19 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: It's the defendant's
- 20 choice; it's not the lawyer's choice. It's the
- 21 defendant's choice.
- 22 MS. NEWMAN: But he -- but he has a right to
- 23 the assistance -- to the effective assistance of counsel
- 24 in making that critical choice, and he didn't have the
- 25 effective assistance of counsel. He wrote -- Mr. Cooper

- 1 wrote letters to the judge --
- 2 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: That's the
- 3 ineffectiveness question. I understand that to be taken
- 4 out of the case by the concessions on the other side.
- 5 I'm talking about the prejudice question.
- 6 MS. NEWMAN: Correct.
- 7 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: How is a judge
- 8 supposed to know?
- 9 MS. NEWMAN: The judge looks at the record
- 10 before him. So, in this case, we had Mr. Cooper's
- 11 testimony --
- 12 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: People have
- 13 different -- some people are willing to take the chance.
- 14 Okay? Let's assume there's a 20 percent chance the
- 15 person will be found guilty.
- 16 Some people will say, I'm willing to take
- 17 that chance because I just don't want the chance of
- 18 going to jail; I'm willing to roll the dice. Other
- 19 people will say, no, that's too much.
- Now, whether you want to go to jail may cut
- 21 one way or the other, but how is a judge supposed to
- 22 decide? Ask him, are you -- do you take chances?
- MS. NEWMAN: No, by -- by looking at --
- 24 Mr. Chief Justice, by looking at the evidence in the
- 25 record before him. In this case, Mr. Cooper wrote --

- 1 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: So, the judge should
- 2 decide whether he would take the deal.
- 3 MS. NEWMAN: No --
- 4 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Look at the evidence
- 5 before him and say, boy, I'd take that deal.
- 6 (Laughter.)
- 7 MS. NEWMAN: No, no, no. Mr. -- Mr.
- 8 Cooper wrote two letters to the judge saying, I want to
- 9 accept a plea. Mr. McClain, the trial attorney who
- 10 provided the incompetent advice, told the judge in a
- 11 postconviction hearing that Mr. Cooper wanted to take a
- 12 plea. I mean, there -- there is no -- it is beyond
- 13 question in this case.
- 14 JUSTICE ALITO: Do you think the length and
- 15 the complexity of the trial has any bearing on this?
- 16 This was a relatively short and simple trial. But let's
- 17 say a prosecutor offers a plea deal in a case in which
- 18 the trial is going to take 6 months and it's going to
- 19 cost -- and it's going to cost a million dollars, and if
- 20 they try that case, there are going to be other cases
- 21 that they won't be able to try. The plea is rejected,
- 22 the case is tried, and then afterwards the -- the remedy
- 23 is to -- to -- to reinstate this plea offer, which was
- 24 predicated on the relieving the prosecutor of the burden
- 25 of having to try that case.

1	MS.	NEWMAN:	Well.	everv	plea	bargain	is

- 2 predicated on relieving the prosecution of having the
- 3 burden of -- of trying a case. I mean, the key here
- 4 is -- let's get back to what Strickland stands for, and
- 5 it's the unreliability or the unfairness of the
- 6 proceedings. It's not just an unreliability
- 7 determination.
- 8 So, in this case, Mr. Cooper had two
- 9 choices. He could take a certain plea with almost a
- 10 certain sentence or he could have really what was a
- 11 charade of a trial because his attorney told him you --
- 12 you can't be convicted of this offense; you will not be
- 13 convicted of this offense following a trial. You'll be
- 14 convicted of a lesser --
- 15 JUSTICE GINSBURG: You conceded -- you
- 16 conceded he had a fair trial.
- 17 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Right.
- 18 JUSTICE GINSBURG: That's not in the case.
- 19 JUSTICE KENNEDY: Right.
- MS. NEWMAN: I didn't --
- JUSTICE GINSBURG: It can't be a charade and
- 22 still be fair.
- MS. NEWMAN: It's an unfairness of the entire
- 24 proceedings that were presented. All right? So,
- 25 there's no separate habeas claim with respect to the

- 1 trial, but the -- but reality is when you look at the
- 2 criminal -- when you look at the Sixth Amendment, it
- 3 talks about the criminal proceedings.
- 4 JUSTICE KENNEDY: You're saying it was unfair
- 5 to have a fair trial?
- 6 MS. NEWMAN: I'm saying it's unfair to go to
- 7 trial when your attorney tells you, you can't be
- 8 convicted.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: You're saying it's unfair
- 10 to have a fair trial; isn't that correct?
- MS. NEWMAN: I'm --
- 12 JUSTICE KENNEDY: That has to be your
- 13 position.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Of course, it is.
- 15 MS. NEWMAN: I'm saying it's unfair to say
- 16 that the trial erases the unfairness when there was no
- 17 possibility but for a conviction at the end of the road.
- 18 So, this was a certain quilty plea or this was a long
- 19 guilty plea under the math of a trial.
- 20 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: But you can never say
- 21 that there's no possibility of acquittal. Juries can
- 22 decide not to convict no matter what the evidence.
- MS. NEWMAN: There was no defense. I mean,
- 24 there was no possibility --
- 25 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: That's up to the

- 1 jury. It's not up to us ex ante to decide this guy is
- 2 definitely going to lose; so, let's not waste our time.
- 3 Juries -- I don't want to say often, but it's not --
- 4 it's certainly not inconceivable that a jury may decide
- 5 for whatever reason we are not going to convict this
- 6 guy. Right?
- 7 MS. NEWMAN: That's true, but in this case,
- 8 Mr. McClain told Mr. Cooper he would be convicted. I
- 9 mean, he assured him of conviction. He said: You will
- 10 be convicted at the end of the trial; you're just going
- 11 to be convicted of a lesser offense. The guidelines --
- 12 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Counsel, what was the
- 13 defense at trial?
- MS. NEWMAN: I'm sorry.
- 15 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: What was the defense at
- 16 trial?
- MS. NEWMAN: There wasn't -- there was no
- 18 defense presented. There was no real defense presented
- 19 at trial because --
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Did he deny having
- 21 committed the act of the shooting?
- MS. NEWMAN: Never.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: At trial?
- MS. NEWMAN: No.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Is it the case that, in

- 1 most of the cases in which motions of this kind are
- 2 brought to trial, judges -- if there is a defense of
- 3 mistaken identity or of "I didn't do it," that judges
- 4 often find the defendant has not proven that they would
- 5 have taken the plea?
- 6 MS. NEWMAN: Sorry. I didn't hear the rest.
- 7 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: In most cases in which a
- 8 trial is had, where the defendant is pleading
- 9 misidentification or "I just didn't do this act," in
- 10 those cases, do most of the trial judges not permit or
- 11 don't find that the defendant has met their burden of
- 12 proving that he or she would have taken the plea?
- MS. NEWMAN: I don't know that the cases bear
- 14 out that if you have a valid defense, it would be
- 15 harder. But I -- I would agree with that -- if that's a
- 16 hypothetical, that if you have a valid defense, it would
- 17 be a lot harder to be in this position of showing that
- 18 you would have taken the plea.
- 19 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: I thought in this case,
- 20 and you can correct me if I am wrong, that your client
- 21 told the attorney from the beginning: I did it; I want
- 22 to plea.
- MS. NEWMAN: That's correct. There was never
- 24 -- there was no question in this case at any step, at
- 25 any stage of the proceedings, and there was no -- never,

- 1 never anything from the trial attorney other than
- 2 incompetent advice. He never --
- 3 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Did you -- I mean --
- 4 MS. NEWMAN -- went to trial for an acquittal.
- 5 He went to trial because he believed legally his client
- 6 would be convicted of a lesser offense that would put
- 7 him in a better position than if he had accepted the
- 8 plea. That was the only reason.
- 9 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: You said there's -- I
- 10 want to make sure I understand your point. You said
- 11 there was no defense. Does that mean you didn't -- he
- 12 had a frivolous defense or that he literally didn't put
- on a defense; just said, look, the State has to prove
- 14 the case and they haven't done it.
- 15 MS. NEWMAN: Well, he held the State to its
- 16 burden, and that is a defense. I mean, I...
- 17 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Did he -- did he --
- 18 MS. NEWMAN: I'm not saying literally no --
- 19 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Oh.
- 20 MS. NEWMAN: I'm not saying literally no
- 21 defense, and I apologize if that's the way it came
- 22 across, but no cognizable defense. It wasn't mistaken
- 23 identification or we didn't intend to hit her. I mean,
- 24 never contested the basic facts of that case.
- 25 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: That's something the

- 1 jury could have accepted, right? Even if it's not
- 2 legally true that if you shoot him -- at the -- the
- 3 person below the waist, that's not a defense, but I can
- 4 see a reasonable juror saying he probably didn't intend
- 5 to kill her. He shot her, you know, below the waist.
- 6 Maybe that is not such a bad strategy.
- 7 MS. NEWMAN: Except the defense counsel on
- 8 this record specifically said that he -- that he was not
- 9 running a strategy and hoping for that, that he told the
- 10 client legally that's the only thing that could happen
- 11 to him, so he was in a better position by going to
- 12 trial.
- 13 Thank you, Your Honor.
- 14 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
- Mr. Bursch, 4 minutes.
- 16 REBUTTAL ARGUMENT OF JOHN J. BURSCH
- 17 ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONER
- 18 MR. BURSCH: Thank you. I'd like to start at
- 19 the one point where I think all of us, including counsel
- 20 on both sides, agree, and that's that a second trial
- 21 after an error-free first trial doesn't make sense. And
- 22 that right there says a lot about Mr. Cooper's case,
- 23 because a Strickland remedy is typically a new trial.
- 24 And it's exceedingly strange that they're now saying
- 25 that I don't want a new trial. That demonstrates that

- 1 what they are claiming is not a Strickland violation.
- I would like to address, Justice Breyer,
- 3 your suggestion that maybe you could have specific
- 4 performance of the plea; and if it's rejected, then the
- 5 trial result could simply be re-imposed. And the
- 6 question is: Well, what's the problem with that? And I
- 7 can tick off at least five.
- 8 First, as Justice Ginsburg pointed out, it
- 9 takes away the prosecutor's ability to withdraw the
- 10 plea, which he or she undeniably would have had the
- 11 right.
- 12 Second, as Justice Alito said, it ignores
- 13 that there's information that could be learned in the
- 14 interim. Mr. Cooper shot three or four other people.
- Third, it ignores the fact that an
- 16 error-free trial has taken place. The prosecutor has
- 17 taken the risk of putting that 8-year-old sexual abuse
- 18 victim on the stand, and you cannot take that risk away.
- 19 Fourth, as I already mentioned, we've got
- 20 the separation of powers issue and prosecutorial
- 21 discretion.
- 22 Fifth, we're going to have intractable
- 23 problems. Say the offer was plead to A, we'll dismiss
- 24 B. He rejects it based on deficient advice. You go to
- 25 trial. He is convicted on A and acquitted on B. And

- 1 now we're going to try to enforce the plea on A? I
- 2 mean, that's almost a double jeopardy problem. So,
- 3 there's intractable problems.
- 4 The second point I want to make is about the
- 5 death situation. And that's one we take very seriously.
- 6 And, Justice Alito, it may be that in a death penalty
- 7 situation, there could be a due process right or some
- 8 other constitutional right that may mitigate in favor of
- 9 requiring something to be put on the record. But what's
- 10 clear is that, under this Court's existing precedent,
- 11 that is not a Strickland violation because the amount of
- 12 the sentence, whether it's death or 50 years, has
- 13 nothing to do with the reliability of the adjudicatory
- 14 proceeding and the sentence.
- 15 Finally, the last point that I want to make
- 16 is something else on which we can all agree. Mr. Cooper
- 17 is guilty of shooting Kali Mundy. He also got exactly
- 18 the sentence that the people prescribed for the crime
- 19 that committed. There is very little unfair about
- 20 holding him to that sentence. As Justice Kennedy said,
- 21 it's the position of Mr. Cooper that it is unfair to
- 22 have a fair trial. And from our perspective, that is
- 23 really the beginning and the end of this inquiry.
- 24 And unless you have any further questions --
- 25 JUSTICE KENNEDY: I have one, but it's more

- 1 appropriate, I think, for the Government of the United
- 2 States. Under the Federal rules, Rule 11, there has to
- 3 be a colloquy before a plea is entered. Do you think
- 4 the Federal rules and perhaps State rules should be
- 5 amended so that judges, trial judges, before imposing a
- 6 sentence inquire: Have there been plea offers; have
- 7 they all been communicated to the defendant?
- 8 Is that good practice?
- 9 MR. BURSCH: It could be good practice, but
- 10 it wouldn't have solved the problem here, because even
- 11 if they had put the fact of the plea on the record, the
- 12 problem was the alleged deficient advice that the lawyer
- 13 gave to the client in private. And so, that doesn't
- 14 solve the core problem. The core problem is that
- 15 they're trying to claim that it was unfair to have a
- 16 fair trial.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, if they had -- if
- 18 plea offer had come out -- well, I don't know how it
- 19 would work. When you enter a not guilty plea, you enter
- 20 a not guilty plea.
- 21 MR. BURSCH: Right. You know, the judge,
- 22 under your theory then, would have had to inquire:
- 23 Well, what advice did your attorney give you with
- 24 respect to that? And then evaluate whether that advice
- 25 was good advice or bad advice. And I would respectfully

1	submit that that would not be a good policy to adopt by
2	rule.
3	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
4	Counsel.
5	MR. BURSCH: Thank you.
6	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: The case is
7	submitted.
8	(Whereupon, at 11:04 a.m., the case in the
9	above-entitled matter was submitted.)
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