1	IN THE SUPREME COURT OF	F THE UNITED STATES	
2		x	
3	BRIAN RUSSELL DOLAN,	:	
4	Petitioner,	: No. 09-367	
5	v.	:	
6	UNITED STATES.	:	
7		x	
8	Washing	gton, D.C.	
9	Tuesda	y, April 20, 2010	
10			
11	The above-entit	led matter came on for oral	
12	argument before the Supreme Court of the United States		
13	at 10:11 a.m.		
14	APPEARANCES:		
15	PAMELA S. KARLAN, ESQ., Stanford, California; on behalf		
16	of the Petitioner.		
17	TOBY J. HEYTENS, ESQ., Assista	ant to the Solicitor	
18	General, Department of Jus	tice, Washington, D.C.; on	
19	behalf of the Respondent.		
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	(10:11 a.m.)
3	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: We will hear
4	argument first this morning in Case 09-367, Dolan v.
5	United States.
6	Ms. Karlan.
7	ORAL ARGUMENT OF PAMELA S. KARLAN
8	ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONER
9	MS. KARLAN: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice,
10	and may it please the Court:
11	The Mandatory Victim Restitution Act makes
12	restitution a mandatory part of a defendant's sentence
13	for certain crimes, and it sets out two paths by which a
14	district court can meet its responsibilities.
15	First, section 3663A(a)(1) authorizes
16	district courts to impose restitution when sentencing a
L7	defendant; that is, at the same time that they impose
18	terms of imprisonment, fines, probation, or the like.
19	Second, section 3664(d)(5) of the Act allows final
20	determination of the amount of restitution to occur
21	during a period not to exceed 90 days.
22	Once those periods and the general deadlines
23	for correcting or appealing a sentence have passed, a
24	court's judgment is final, even if it fails to order
25	restitution. In this, the Mandatory Victim Restitution

- 1 Act is like all other mandatory sentencing provisions,
- 2 and as this Court confirmed 2 years ago in Greenlaw v.
- 3 United States, when a court fails to impose a mandatory
- 4 sentence, that error can be corrected only by following
- 5 what this Court called the dispositive direction
- 6 regarding sentencing errors.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Excuse me. Is your
- 8 argument that if the district court -- for whatever
- 9 reason, unlikely as it may be -- starts a hearing the
- 10 day after the rest of the sentence was imposed and has
- 11 to continue that hearing for 91 days before it can
- 12 render a judgment --
- MS. KARLAN: No.
- 14 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: -- that it's now barred
- 15 from entering that judgment?
- MS. KARLAN: No. If I understand your
- 17 question correctly, the district court has imposed
- 18 sentence on day one announcing imprisonment. Any time
- 19 during the next 90 days, it has a power to set a date
- 20 and make final determination of the restitution amount.
- 21 Once that 90-day period has run -- in this case, on
- October 28th, because the sentencing occurred on
- 23 July 30th -- the district court loses the authority to
- 24 impose restitution.
- 25 JUSTICE SCALIA: And the sentence is not

- 1 final until then?
- MS. KARLAN: That's our position.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: And -- and what if -- what
- 4 if the court does set a date for additional sentencing?
- 5 Then it's not final until then, right?
- 6 MS. KARLAN: No, Justice Scalia. It would
- 7 be that once a court has started the sentencing process,
- 8 it has 90 days within which to complete that process, if
- 9 it announces at the initial sentencing that it intends
- 10 to hold open the sentence for final determination of
- 11 restitution.
- 12 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: I -- I'm not sure I
- 13 understood your response to my question. It must impose
- 14 that restitution order, complete all its proceedings
- 15 within the 90-day period?
- MS. KARLAN: Yes, that's correct.
- 17 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: So it can't hold a
- 18 hearing over from the 90th day to the 91st day?
- MS. KARLAN: No, it cannot do that. And if
- 20 it were to do that in a case where restitution were
- 21 mandatory, the sentence would become final, the
- 22 government would file an appeal, and that appeal would
- 23 certainly succeed, because it's plain error not to have
- 24 to imposed the restitution.
- 25 JUSTICE ALITO: Your position is that if the

- 1 court puts off the order of restitution for 90 days,
- 2 during that period, the defendant cannot take an appeal?
- MS. KARLAN: If the court has announced at
- 4 the initial sentencing that it intends to do so, no, then
- 5 it cannot.
- 6 JUSTICE ALITO: Isn't that dramatically
- 7 contrary to the way criminal appeals have been handled
- 8 for a long time? There's a very short period of time
- 9 for a defendant to file a notice of appeal in a criminal
- 10 case, and you're saying that that is dramatically
- 11 extended by the possibility of -- of restitution later
- 12 on or by the fact that the restitution order will be
- 13 entered later?
- 14 MS. KARLAN: No, Justice Alito. What I'm
- 15 saying is that a defendant can only appeal from a final
- 16 sentence, and until the restitutionary term is imposed
- 17 within the time period allowed by the MVRA, there is not
- 18 a final sentence. Then he has from the time that
- 19 restitution is --
- 20 JUSTICE ALITO: Yes, I understand that. But
- 21 you're saying the defendant is -- the defendant is
- incarcerated, let's say; is convicted, is sentenced to
- 23 prison. The defendant wants to take a quick appeal.
- 24 The defendant thinks he's going to win on appeal. And
- you're saying, well, no, you have to wait 90 days

- 1 before you can file your notice of appeal?
- 2 MS. KARLAN: I believe that's correct,
- 3 because he has to have a final judgment before he can
- 4 appeal.
- 5 JUSTICE SCALIA: Well, what -- what do you
- 6 do about the further provision that at any time later,
- 7 if the government -- or the victim finds additional
- 8 basis for restitution, so long as after discovering it,
- 9 within 60 days after that, the victim can come to the
- 10 court and ask for restitution? What does that do?
- 11 Does that --
- MS. KARLAN: Well --
- JUSTICE SCALIA: I mean, doesn't that
- 14 necessarily mean that there are indeed two final
- 15 judgments? That -- that one has to be -- has to go up
- 16 on its own, doesn't it?
- 17 MS. KARLAN: That's correct, but section
- 18 3664(o) of the statute says that the initial restitution
- 19 amount constitutes a final judgment, even though there
- 20 can be amendment after it's been entered.
- 21 JUSTICE SCALIA: Where is that?
- MS. KARLAN: In our brief, it's on page --
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Oh. Oh -- "a sentence that
- 24 imposes an order" --
- MS. KARLAN: It's on page --

1 JUSTICE SCALIA: -- "is a final judgment, 2 notwithstanding the fact that" --3 MS. KARLAN: Yes, petition appendix 60a. 4 JUSTICE SCALIA: Got you. MS. KARLAN: So that's why that has to be in 5 6 there, because otherwise the defendant really would be 7 in the position that Justice Alito --8 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Is there any circuit 9 court who has addressed this issue of when an appeal is timely, in a situation in which a restitution order has 10 not been entered at the initial sentencing? 11 12 MS. KARLAN: Not in precisely that way. 13 There are a couple of cases that are -- that kind of 14 circle around that. 15 So for example, Kapelushnik, which we cite in our petition for certiorari and in our brief as the 16 wisest way of thinking about this, held that once the 17 18 90 days has lapsed, the judgment is final by operation 19 of law. 20 There's an opinion by Judge Posner in the 21 Seventh Circuit that's not on restitution but on a related issue, which says that if you have several 22 23 components to the sentence, until that last component is entered, the time for filing an appeal under F.R.A.P. 4 24 25 does not begin to run. And that's --

- 1 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: In this -- when the
- 2 judge did not enter a date for restitution, did you
- 3 object to that?
- 4 MS. KARLAN: We were not required to do so,
- 5 so we did not.
- 6 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Well, why not? It
- 7 seems that that's when the violation occurred. The
- 8 statute said the court shall set a date if they're not
- 9 ready to calculate the restitution, and he didn't do
- 10 that.
- 11 MS. KARLAN: Well, that's correct,
- 12 Mr. Chief Justice, but the statute doesn't say when he
- 13 has to set the date. The statute simply says the date
- 14 has to be set so that final restitution will occur
- 15 during the period -- and here I quote again from the
- 16 statute -- "not to exceed 90 days." So he can set that
- 17 date once he gets the information from --
- 18 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Well, I thought it
- 19 says -- maybe I am misreading it. It says the court --
- 20 this is at sentencing. When sentencing -- you look at
- 21 the previous provision -- what is it? 3663A(a)(1) --
- MS. KARLAN: Yes.
- 23 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: -- talks about what
- 24 you do when sentencing it.
- MS. KARLAN: Right.

- 1 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: And the statute
- 2 says, "the court shall set a date for the final
- 3 determination" ... "not to exceed 90 days." And he didn't.
- 4 MS. KARLAN: That's correct, he did not set
- 5 it. But the statute -- I'm now looking at petition
- 6 appendix 55a, which is where section 3664(d)(5) of the
- 7 Act is set out. It says, "The court shall set a date
- 8 for the final determination of the victim's losses, not
- 9 to exceed 90 days after sentencing."
- The 90 days modifies the final
- 11 determination. It doesn't modify the setting of the
- 12 date. So within that 90-day period, I think
- 13 that what was --
- 14 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: No, I think that's
- 15 right. I -- I agree with you that.
- MS. KARLAN: Yes.
- 17 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: In other words, the
- 18 final determination -- the date for the -- the final
- 19 determination can't exceed 90 days --
- MS. KARLAN: Right.
- 21 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: -- but that doesn't
- 22 mean that the provision saying the court shall set a date
- 23 can wait -- that he can wait 89 days to do that.
- 24 MS. KARLAN: No, I think it would be very
- 25 unwise for a district court to do that, but the court

- 1 can't really set the date until it receives the
- 2 information that it hopes to receive from the probation
- 3 office or from the victim. So that --
- 4 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: No, no, no --
- 5 JUSTICE GINSBURG: It can say 90 days. It
- 6 can say 90 days.
- 7 MS. KARLAN: It -- it could, yes. Or it
- 8 could say, as the district court did here, I'm going to
- 9 hold open the date. But it can only hold open that date
- 10 until the point at which it actually imposes the
- 11 restitution, within the 90 days.
- 12 JUSTICE GINSBURG: This is a -- this is, in
- one respect, Ms. Karlan, a technical argument, is it
- 14 not? Because it's true that this defendant, from the
- 15 probation officer's report, knew within the 90 days what
- 16 restitution was going to be recommended.
- 17 MS. KARLAN: Yes. He knew within the
- 18 90 days what the government's claim was going to be, but
- 19 the court did not hold the hearing and did not impose
- 20 the judgment. And so the August 8th judgment became
- 21 final by operation of law on October 28th, because that
- 22 was 90 days after the July 30th sentencing.
- 23 At that point, the government could have
- 24 filed an appeal in this case, and, quite frankly, they
- 25 would have won. As it was --

- 1 JUSTICE ALITO: How is your position -- how 2 is your position consistent with the thrust of the 3 victims' rights legislation that Congress has enacted in 4 recent years, including the statute that's before us 5 here? 6 Now, in this case, the victim -- the 7 victim's medical bills were paid by the United States. 8 But that isn't always going to be the case, and 9 sometimes victims are going to have a lot of lost 10 income. So you have the victim, like the victim here, 11 who is beaten to a pulp by a defendant and loses a 12 substantial amount of future income as a result, and you 13 say that if the judge makes a mistake, it's just too bad 14 for the victim. The victim gets nothing because the
- MS. KARLAN: No, I don't --
- 17 JUSTICE ALITO: Do you think that's what
- 18 Congress had in mind?

judge waited too long.

15

- MS. KARLAN: I don't say that, and I don't
- 20 think that's what Congress had in mind. First, what
- 21 Congress had in mind was to strike the balance it struck
- 22 in this statute, which was to give victims the right to
- 23 receive restitution as part of a criminal sentence, as
- long as it was done within 90 days of sentencing.
- 25 Second, the government can appeal if a court

- 1 doesn't follow the rules.
- 2 Third --
- JUSTICE ALITO: Yes, but wasn't -- wasn't
- 4 the whole thrust of the victims' rights legislation that
- 5 up to that point, Congress thought prosecutors were not
- 6 sufficiently attending to the rights and the interests
- 7 of victims? They were doing their own prosecutorial
- 8 thing, but they weren't involving victims, making sure
- 9 they knew about court proceedings, and so forth.
- 10 And you're saying, well, if the court makes
- 11 a mistake and the prosecution falls down in its
- 12 responsibility, the person who suffers is the victim who
- 13 gets victimized again.
- 14 MS. KARLAN: No, that's not what I'm saying.
- 15 What I'm saying is Congress struck a balance. They
- 16 wanted to give restitution to victims. They also wanted
- 17 final sentencing for defendants. Congress struck that
- 18 balance by giving a 90-day extension. It didn't provide --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, you're not
- 20 really -- you're not really answering Justice Alito's
- 21 question. He says he understands that, as I understand
- 22 the question. We understand that argument.
- 23 But it doesn't address the fact that the net
- 24 result of your argument is (a) unfair to the victim and
- 25 (b) inconsistent with the whole design and thrust of the

- 1 Victims Act.
- 2 MS. KARLAN: It's --
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: And you, it seems to me,
- 4 have to say: So be it; the technical rule prevails.
- 5 That's too bad.
- I mean, that's your argument, it seems
- 7 to me.
- 8 MS. KARLAN: No, my argument is Congress
- 9 struck that balance, and in some cases, yes, too bad --
- 10 JUSTICE SCALIA: Of course, the same thing
- 11 would happen if the trial judge makes a mistake of law
- 12 which causes the -- the defendant to be acquitted, so
- 13 that he not only escapes the liability to the victim, he
- 14 escapes any -- any criminal punishment. It happens all
- 15 the time. The judge makes a mistake; society pays for
- 16 it.
- 17 MS. KARLAN: That's correct, and Congress
- 18 here has said 90 days. And they meant it. If they had
- 19 meant to say, at any time, a victim can receive
- 20 restitution, they would have said that.
- 21 JUSTICE BREYER: But Congress says -- to
- 22 paraphrase and not get it accurate -- that the
- 23 Department of Transportation shall enact a rule
- 24 governing tire safety within 9 months from the
- 25 effective date of this legislation. And the Department

- of Transportation fails to do that. It doesn't
- 2 promulgate its law for 18 months. Is that law invalid?
- 3 The rule?
- 4 MS. KARLAN: No, generally, under this --
- 5 JUSTICE BREYER: Of course, it isn't.
- 6 MS. KARLAN: Because that's --
- 7 JUSTICE BREYER: So how is this different?
- 8 MS. KARLAN: Well, this is a criminal
- 9 sentencing statute which is different than a civil
- 10 agency action.
- 11 JUSTICE BREYER: I understand that point.
- 12 I'm just asking what's a relevant difference?
- MS. KARLAN: That is the incredibly relevant
- 14 difference, for the following reason --
- 15 JUSTICE BREYER: Because?
- MS. KARLAN: -- that finality in sentencing
- 17 is important, because otherwise a defendant cannot even
- 18 appeal his conviction.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Why couldn't he?
- MS. KARLAN: Because he --
- JUSTICE BREYER: You just read us the
- 22 provision.
- 23 MS. KARLAN: It's not a final --
- 24 JUSTICE BREYER: The judge enters a -- an
- 25 order, a final order. And that final judgment, as was

- 1 true here, says: I haven't decided restitution yet. He
- 2 can appeal. Then what it says is when you get around to
- 3 the restitution, then enter another judgment, and you'll
- 4 appeal that, as happens precisely in the case of
- 5 the 60 days -- you know, that extra stuff that Justice
- 6 Scalia was referring to. That's a possible
- 7 interpretation of the Federal Rules of Appellate
- 8 Procedure. I don't see, you know, the appeals thing. I
- 9 don't see anything -- I don't have in front of me the
- 10 language on filing an appeal, but I can't think of
- 11 anything that's contrary.
- MS. KARLAN: What's contrary to that is
- 13 that the Federal courts of appeals only have
- 14 jurisdiction to decide cases that come up, in criminal
- 15 cases, on final judgment or under the collateral order.
- 16 JUSTICE BREYER: That's right.
- 17 MS. KARLAN: This is not --
- 18 JUSTICE BREYER: It's a final judgment, and
- 19 because there is another provision that says an order of
- 20 restitution is itself a final judgment.
- 21 MS. KARLAN: No. With all respect,
- 22 Justice Breyer, there is no provision that says an order
- 23 of restitution --
- 24 JUSTICE BREYER: You read it to us. I mean
- 25 the one you read to us.

- 1 MS. KARLAN: No. That says --2 JUSTICE BREYER: What? MS. KARLAN: -- that a sentence that 3 4 includes a term of restitution can be a final judgment, 5 even though that 60-day provision to which 6 Justice Scalia pointed is on the books. 7 But you can't have a final judgment in a 8 criminal case that involves several different components 9 of a sentence until those aspects of the sentence have actually been imposed. 10 JUSTICE ALITO: Well, why isn't the --11 MS. KARLAN: Justice Scalia, I believe, was 12 13 referring to the 60-day provision.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Yes, the same problem.
- 15 MS. KARLAN: The 60-day provision is
- 16 specifically immunized from the final judgment rule by
- 17 section 3664(o) of the statute. The 90-day provision is
- 18 not. So until a defendant -- perhaps I could -- perhaps
- 19 I could use a slightly different example, which is:
- 20 Suppose a defendant is supposed to be a sentenced to a
- 21 fine, a mandatory fine --
- JUTICE BREYER: I see.
- 23 MS. KARLAN: -- and a mandatory prison sentence.
- 24 If you sentence him to the mandatory prison sentence and
- 25 say I still need to calculate the fine -- there is no

- 1 final judgment. He cannot appeal that sentence.
- 2 JUSTICE ALITO: But isn't there a difference
- 3 between those two situations? A fine is a criminal
- 4 penalty. It goes -- it -- the prosecution is brought in
- 5 the same of the sovereign. The fine goes to the
- 6 sovereign. It's a traditional criminal penalty.
- 7 Restitution is not a traditional criminal
- 8 penalty. It's much like, arguably, attorneys' fees in a
- 9 civil case. It is -- it is like -- it is really a -- a
- 10 benefit for the victim. It is not something that inures
- 11 to the benefit of the sovereign.
- 12 And so why doesn't it make sense to view
- 13 that judgment of restitution as a separate judgment,
- 14 just as the award of an attorney's fees is a separate
- 15 final appealable order in a civil case?
- MS. KARLAN: Well, because this judgment of
- 17 restitution is not a civil judgment. It is part of the
- 18 defendant's criminal punishment, and, therefore, it is
- 19 not like attorneys' fees, something that's separate.
- As we point out in our reply brief, in order
- 21 to calculate the amount of imprisonment, in order to
- 22 calculate the fine, the Federal criminal sentencing
- 23 provisions -- and I should note that section 3664(a)
- 24 appears in Title 18 in the section under miscellaneous
- 25 sentencing provisions, not civil provisions. All of

- 1 those things interact. And so you can't calculate one
- 2 of those without knowing all of them.
- JUSTICE GINSBURG: But, functionally, isn't
- 4 it a substitute for the remedy that the victim of a
- 5 crime might have? Wasn't what Congress was trying to do
- 6 was to spare the victim the necessity of suing the
- 7 defendant and having his kind of civil restitution
- 8 tacked onto the criminal proceeding?
- 9 MS. KARLAN: That's certainly Congress's
- 10 purpose, but they did it within the context of
- 11 sentencing. So, for example, Justice Ginsburg, if this
- 12 really were a civil penalty, defendants would not be
- 13 entitled to the assistance of counsel in challenging the
- 14 amount of restitution, because the Sixth Amendment would
- 15 not apply. The dates for filing an appeal would be
- 16 different. There would be a jurisdictional bar that
- 17 doesn't exist in criminal cases.
- 18 This Court said several times that
- 19 restitution under these kinds of circumstances -- in
- 20 Hughey, under the predecessor to this Act, and in Kelly
- 21 v. Robinson -- is a penal statute. Justice Sotomayor in
- 22 her opinion for the Second Circuit in Varrone said this
- is a penal statute.
- 24 So there is no question here that this is a
- 25 substitute for a civil remedy or a supplement for a

- 1 civil remedy, but it is a criminal punishment. And
- 2 Congress has said that you have to order it at
- 3 sentencing or within 90 days, or else it is error that
- 4 can be corrected through Rule 35 or by appeal, but not
- 5 otherwise.
- 6 JUSTICE SCALIA: Now, what -- what can the
- 7 defendant do within that 90 days? He has to wait
- 8 90 days before he appeals the sentence that he has been
- 9 given; is that right?
- MS. KARLAN: That's correct. There is not a
- 11 final judgment in his case.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: That's 3 months that --
- 13 that he has to sit on his hands.
- MS. KARLAN: That's correct.
- 15 JUSTICE BREYER: Where does it say that?
- 16 MS. KARLAN: Well, the final judgment rule
- 17 says that.
- 18 JUSTICE BREYER: Well, this is a court-made
- 19 rule of what counts as a final judgment.
- 20 MS. KARLAN: Right. And -- and --
- 21 JUSTICE BREYER: All right. Is there
- 22 anything in the decisions of this Court interpreting
- 23 that rule? I mean, you could have collateral orders. You
- 24 could have all kinds of things. And doesn't it boil down
- 25 to the same question?

- I mean, I agree with you that if Congress
- 2 wanted to make a 90-day deadline, you really have to do
- 3 it, and you can't restitute thereafter. All right.
- 4 That's one thing. But if they didn't, why didn't they
- 5 equally intend the judgment without the restitution
- 6 order to be a final judgment?
- 7 MS. KARLAN: Well --
- 8 JUSTICE BREYER: And then later on, just as
- 9 in (o), if the judge does impose an order of restitution,
- 10 then of course, that's appealable, and that's a different
- 11 judgment. Is there -- what in the law prevents the --
- 12 that interpretation?
- MS. KARLAN: I think two things prevent that
- 14 interpretation.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Yes.
- MS. KARLAN: One is this Court's precedent,
- 17 and let me talk about that. And two is a proper reading
- 18 of section 3664(o). So I'll turn first to the
- 19 precedent and then to 3664(o).
- JUSTICE BREYER: So you have precedent.
- 21 MS. KARLAN: So the precedent is, for
- 22 example, this Court said in Parr v. United States, which
- 23 is cited on page 12 of the reply brief, among other
- 24 places, that "a judgment or decision is final for purpose
- 25 of appeal only when it terminates the litigation between the

- 1 parties on the merits of the case, and leaves nothing to
- 2 be done but to enforce by execution what has been determined."
- 3 Until restitution has been determined, a
- 4 case does not fit within Parr. Parr is, I believe, an
- 5 interpretation of 1291, 28 U.S.C. 1291, which is the
- 6 provision that gives the courts of appeals jurisdiction.
- 7 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: So you can -- under
- 8 your view, you can change the amount of jail time up to
- 9 the point at which you have to set the restitution. The
- 10 judge says: I'm going to sentence you to 3 years, and
- 11 I'm going to figure out the restitution.
- 12 He looks, and the restitution turns out to
- 13 be a lot more than he thought. So he says: Well, I'm
- 14 only going to give you 2 years. Or it's less, and he
- 15 says: I'm going to give you 4 years.
- 16 Because the judgment is still open, he can
- 17 do that?
- MS. KARLAN: I believe, Your Honor, that he
- 19 can. And the reason for that is the sentencing statute
- 20 itself -- 18 U.S.C. section 3553, I believe it is --
- 21 talks about how a court, in sentencing a defendant, is
- 22 supposed to be considering all of these penalties and
- 23 how they interact with one another.
- 24 So if a defendant can make restitution to a
- 25 victim by, for example, being put on community release

- 1 or probation rather than serving time in prison, a court
- 2 can take that into account in setting the sentence.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Must take it into account --
- 4 MS. KARLAN: Yes.
- 5 JUSTICE SCALIA: -- if you read 3553 the way
- 6 it's written.
- 7 MS. KARLAN: Yes, I think they must take it
- 8 into account. Now, whether -- how they'll actually
- 9 strike that balance is --
- 10 JUSTICE GINSBURG: Is there no -- is there
- 11 no possibility that a judge could say: I want to make
- 12 this analogous to 54(b) under the civil rules; that is,
- 13 I don't want to delay the time that the defendant can
- 14 appeal from the -- from the -- from the sentence. So
- 15 this order is final, and 3 months later, I'll take up
- 16 the question of restitution when all the information is
- 17 in. The court is prevented from doing that?
- 18 MS. KARLAN: I'm unaware of any criminal
- 19 rules analogue to Rule 54(b) in the civil context, because
- in general, as I understand the way this Court's
- 21 precedents have worked, there have been what might look
- 22 like interlocutory appeals in criminal cases, but they've
- 23 always involved collateral issues.
- 24 And the problem here, for the reason that
- 25 Justice Scalia just pointed to, is restitution and the

- 1 amount of imprisonment are not collateral to one
- 2 another; that is, they may interact. And a fine
- 3 certainly isn't, because the statute itself says you
- 4 can't impose a fine to the extent that it will impair
- 5 restitution. So if --
- 6 JUSTICE GINSBURG: So the judge -- but the
- 7 judge could say -- once she thinks she needs -- that
- 8 they need time for more information: I'm going to
- 9 defer the whole sentencing. So, Defendant, you'll have to
- 10 wait 3 months to find out how much time you're going to
- 11 serve. That would be all right. You could use the
- 12 90-day period to extend the time for imposing the
- 13 sentence.
- 14 Well, in effect, you're saying the sentence
- 15 isn't final, so she could change it any time within the
- 16 90 days?
- 17 MS. KARLAN: There's a slight complication
- 18 there, but I think the answer to your question is yes;
- 19 that is, the judge could delay the entire sentencing
- 20 under Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 32.
- 21 Look, we're not saying that you couldn't
- 22 get restitution in a case like this. We're simply
- 23 saying that you have to follow the rules.
- JUSTICE BREYER: All right. Well, what about
- 25 that as a possible answer? If we accept -- the -- the judge,

- 1 of course, could say to the defendant: I'm not going to
- 2 sentence you; I'm not going to put that sentence -- I'm
- 3 not going to sentence you at all --
- 4 MS. KARLAN: That's correct.
- 5 JUSTICE BREYER: -- for 100 days.
- 6 MS. KARLAN: That's correct.
- JUSTICE BREYER: And your remedy, then,
- 8 might be to ask for mandamus, if that was too long a
- 9 period?
- 10 MS. KARLAN: It -- it might be. I --
- 11 JUSTICE BREYER: And -- and -- so why
- 12 wouldn't that be similar here? If the judge is going to
- 13 go after the 90 days, he'd have the power to do it,
- 14 but it would be like a continuance, and he'd have to
- 15 exercise that reasonably.
- 16 MS. KARLAN: Because you have to follow the
- 17 rules as laid down.
- JUSTICE BREYER: No, no. I know. You're
- 19 interpreting it literally, and --
- MS. KARLAN: Yes. Yes.
- JUSTICE BREYER: -- and that's --
- MS. KARLAN: -- that is, there are many
- 23 mechanisms for ensuring that a victim --
- 24 JUSTICE BREYER: But I mean, if I thought,
- 25 for argument's sake --

1 MS. KARLAN: You can't --2 JUSTICE BREYER: -- that Congress doesn't care about 3 whether it's after 90 days -- it was just to sort of speed things up -- on that assumption, wouldn't you 4 5 still have a remedy, because it would be like the 6 unreasonable continuance? 7 MS. KARLAN: That's correct. 8 JUSTICE BREYER: That is correct? I've got it? 9 10 MS. KARLAN: If -- if you -- you can't have a continuance from the 90 days. You can have a 11 12 continuance --13 JUSTICE BREYER: No, no. I'm thinking of --14 MS. KARLAN: -- of sentencing itself. JUSTICE BREYER: I'm thinking of the 15 16 general problems --17 MS. KARLAN: Yes. 18 JUSTICE BREYER: -- of continuances for 19 sentencing. 20 MS. KARLAN: Yes, that's correct. JUSTICE BREYER: And your argument is that 21 22 90 days is long enough? 23 MS. KARLAN: That's correct. 2.4 JUSTICE BREYER: Okay. I've got it. 25 MS. KARLAN: And I'd like to reserve the

- 1 remainder --
- 2 JUSTICE STEVENS: May I ask you one
- 3 question?
- 4 JUSTICE SCALIA: I -- I have a question going
- 5 just to that. It seems to me that if 3553, as -- as I said
- 6 -- maybe you shouldn't have agreed -- requires the
- 7 sentencing court to consider the totality of the
- 8 sentence it's imposing, including the restitution,
- 9 that would mean that the judge cannot impose a sentence
- 10 before the expiration of the 90 days; that is, has to
- 11 wait until the restitutionary issue is resolved to
- 12 impose the incarceration part of the sentence. No?
- MS. KARLAN: I think the way that the
- 14 statute is written contemplates that the judge will do
- 15 the regular sentencing at which he imposes these other
- 16 terms, but may keep it open for 90 days.
- 17 JUSTICE STEVENS: May I ask this question
- 18 before you sit down? Are you aware -- maybe you cite
- 19 them in the briefs and I didn't catch it -- of any cases
- 20 in which the courts -- a court of appeals has
- 21 dismissed an appeal because it was taken before the --
- the civil remedy had been imposed?
- 23 MS. KARLAN: I'm not aware of a case that
- 24 does that directly under the Mandatory Victims
- 25 Restitution Act.

1 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel. 2 Mr. Heytens. 3 ORAL ARGUMENT OF TOBY J. HEYTENS 4 ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT 5 MR. HEYTENS: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice, 6 and may it please the Court: 7 To begin by addressing the question just 8 raised by Justice Stevens, the government agrees that we 9 are not aware of any cases that directly confront this 10 finality question. There are, however, at least four 11 cases in the courts of appeals where one of two things 12 happened: Either the defendant took an appeal from the 13 original term of his imprisonment, then later took an 14 appeal from the order of restitution and the appeals 15 were consolidated. That happened, among other things, in the Cheal case, which is the First Circuit decision 16 cited in our brief. There are at least two other 17 18 circuit court cases that do that as well. 19 JUSTICE SCALIA: Was it within the 90 days? 20 MR. HEYTENS: No. It --21 JUSTICE SCALIA: The restitution sentence 22 was after the 90 days? 23 MR. HEYTENS: That's correct, Justice Scalia. Now --24 25 JUSTICE STEVENS: In those -- in those -- in

- 1 that case, or any of those four cases, did they discuss
- 2 the problem of whether there was -- both appeals were
- 3 proper?
- 4 MR. HEYTENS: Justice Stevens, I'm not
- 5 aware of any case that squarely --
- 6 JUSTICE STEVENS: They just went ahead and
- 7 consolidated?
- 8 MR. HEYTENS: That's correct, Justice
- 9 Stevens. I'm not aware of any case that directly
- 10 confronts this issue. Now --
- 11 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Under your view of
- 12 things, however, that's fortuity that the underlying
- 13 conviction was still in the appeal process, because
- 14 there is no statute of limitations under your reading.
- 15 A victim could come 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, or 100 years
- 16 later and say: I'm entitled to restitution.
- 17 MR. HEYTENS: The statute --
- 18 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: And absent prejudice to
- 19 the defendant, that would be okay?
- 20 MR. HEYTENS: Absent prejudice or some sort
- 21 of double jeopardy problem, that's correct. The
- 22 statute, by its terms, says as long as the victim comes
- 23 forward within 60 days of the discovery of his losses,
- 24 (d)(5) expressly says that the victim can do that. So I
- 25 think this --

- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: I'm sorry, that's
- 2 60 days after the restitution order has been issued. Am
- 3 I --
- 4 MR. HEYTENS: I believe that's incorrect,
- 5 Your Honor. The provision that we're referring to,
- 6 subsection (d)(5), is reproduced on page 6A of the
- 7 appendix to the government's brief. It's the, I
- 8 believe, second sentence of (d)(5) that we're
- 9 discussing right now that states: "If the victim
- 10 subsequently discovers further losses, the victim shall
- 11 have 60 days after the discovery of those losses in
- 12 which to petition the court for an amended restitution
- 13 order."
- 14 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: That 60 days says after
- 15 there has been an -- a restitution order. I'm positing
- 16 the situation where the victim comes 10 years later.
- 17 MR. HEYTENS: That's correct.
- 18 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: That says there's no
- 19 restitution order. It's the initial action. And
- 20 you're saying that's okay? It's an endless statute?
- 21 MR. HEYTENS: It is -- it is certainly not
- 22 okay, Your Honor. Congress has directed that this
- 23 determination must be made and that it must be made
- 24 within 90 days. And Federal district courts are
- 25 required to comply with that obligation.

- But what Congress has not done is to specify
- 2 a consequence that occurs in the situation where the --
- JUSTICE SCALIA: But it -- it -- it's sort
- 4 of a ridiculous consequence that 5 years later, and
- 5 the judge who tried the original case is dead.
- I think it's bad enough to have the issue of
- 7 whether this victim suffered \$100,000 damages
- 8 decided by the judge, if that's what you're going to be
- 9 sentenced to, but at least it's being decided by the
- 10 judge who tried the case. And under your proposal, it
- 11 can be decided by some other judge who is just -- just
- 12 pulled in, because the -- the trial judge has -- has
- 13 been deceased. That doesn't seem to me to make any
- 14 sense at all.
- 15 MR. HEYTENS: Your Honor, I don't think it
- 16 is our proposal. Congress has not specified -- Congress
- 17 has certainly required this to be done within 90 days.
- 18 That meant Congress wanted it to be done within 90 days.
- 19 But Congress has not specified a consequence for --
- 20 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Well, the
- 21 consequence is the usual consequence when trial courts
- 22 make errors, which is to appeal.
- 23 MR. HEYTENS: Your Honor, I think this Court
- 24 said in Montalvo-Murillo what the consequence is in this
- 25 category of cases, which is when a trial court fails to

- 1 comply with a mandatory time limitation for doing
- 2 something that the court is required to do, the remedy
- 3 is -- unless Congress provides otherwise, such as it
- 4 does in the Speedy Trial Act, the remedy is not a loss
- 5 of the power on the part of the court to act.
- 6 JUSTICE SCALIA: Doesn't the statute
- 7 establish time limits for filing an appeal?
- 8 MR. HEYTENS: The statute does, Your Honor.
- 9 JUSTICE SCALIA: Does it -- does it state a
- 10 remedy for it? I don't think so. But if you don't
- 11 comply with the time limit, you're too late; you can't
- 12 file the appeal.
- MR. HEYTENS: Justice Scalia --
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Same thing here.
- 15 MR. HEYTENS: There's a critical difference
- 16 between a statute of limitations for filing a notice of
- 17 appeal and what's happening here that's illustrated by
- 18 the example given by Judge Gorsuch in his opinion for
- 19 the courts of appeals.
- 20 There can be two kinds of time limits. The
- 21 first kind can say, if you want to do something -- you're
- 22 not required to do it -- but if you want to do it,
- 23 you have to do it within a certain time. That's what a
- 24 statute of limitations is.
- 25 The second kind of time limit is to say you

- 1 must do something and you must do it within a second --
- 2 within a certain amount of time. This case is the
- 3 second category, just as the statute at issue in
- 4 Montalvo-Murillo was in the second category of cases, and
- 5 just as --
- 6 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Except that that was a
- 7 bail question, where there's not issues of finality at
- 8 play, and bail is a question that repeats itself
- 9 throughout the proceedings. Defendants are denied bail
- 10 and then make a different showing of other
- 11 resources or less danger or whatever, and they get out.
- 12 And vice versa, defendants are out and are put in.
- 13 That's it. There are no finality questions there.
- 14 What do you do in this situation when you're
- 15 dealing with a criminal sentence where there are
- 16 finality rules?
- 17 And I'm going to tie that back to my starting
- 18 point, which is I'm looking in your brief for the
- 19 precedent and/or legal basis for us to treat restitution
- 20 as not part of the final judgment in this criminal
- 21 action. What -- what other examples do we have in the
- 22 criminal context?
- 23 MR. HEYTENS: We cited the things we cite in
- 24 our brief. There is, however, also a statute; I
- 25 apologize to the Court, it is not cited in our brief,

- 1 but it is section 18 U.S.C. section 3582(b). That
- 2 provision is captioned Imposition of a Sentence of
- 3 Imprisonment. Subsection (b) -- subsection (b) of that
- 4 provision says Effect of Finality of the Judgment. It
- 5 then says, "Notwithstanding the fact that a sentence of
- 6 imprisonment can subsequently be" modified or altered in
- 7 certain ways, and then this is the critical language: "a
- 8 judgment of conviction that includes such a sentence
- 9 constitutes a final judgment for all other purposes."
- In this case there was a judgment of
- 11 conviction. It was entered on July 3, 2007. And that
- 12 judgment of conviction imposed a sentence of
- imprisonment on Mr. Dolan.
- 14 JUSTICE BREYER: Okay, now suppose -- now
- 15 we're getting to exactly the point where I thought your
- 16 co-counsel, your sister counsel had a good point that I
- 17 wasn't -- hadn't thought through, and that is what
- 18 happens now in -- on day -- we're finished the
- 19 trial. The sentencing is over. They got the
- 20 presentence report, and the judge enters -- suppose he
- 21 entered a judgment but didn't say anything about
- 22 restitution, because he says: I'd like to give you a
- 23 chance to appeal this. And I'm not going to deal with
- 24 restitution for a month when the victim recovers -- all
- 25 within the 90 days.

- 1 Can the defendant appeal that piece of
- 2 paper?
- 3 MR. HEYTENS: Yes.
- 4 JUSTICE BREYER: The answer is because of
- 5 this provision?
- 6 MR. HEYTENS: We think because of that
- 7 provision and because of general principles of law.
- 8 JUSTICE BREYER: Whoa, whoa. What about
- 9 what the -- what -- what you just heard quoted,
- 10 forgetting this particular sentence in the code, was that
- 11 a judgment isn't final -- you can only appeal a final
- 12 judgment until all the parts that are there, and the
- 13 restitution is part of it. And so until it's final, you
- 14 can't appeal it. That's what -- that's what the case
- 15 Parr, which it quoted. What is -- what is your response
- 16 to that?
- 17 MR. HEYTENS: That certainly establishes the
- 18 general rule that this Court has said repeatedly --
- 19 JUSTICE BREYER: Yes.
- 20 MR. HEYTENS: -- that the jurisdiction of the
- 21 Federal courts is established by Congress.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: Well, I just want to make
- 23 clear where we are. Justice Breyer said, can the
- 24 defendant appeal? You said yes. Suppose he said, must
- 25 the defendant appeal?

1	MR. HEYTENS: The defendant in our view is	
2	required to appeal	
3	JUSTICE KENNEDY: Must?	
4	MR. HEYTENS: Once the district court enters	
5	a judgment that imposes a sentence of imprisonment, if	
6	the defendant wishes to appeal that sentence of	
7	imprisonment he has 14 days to do so following the entry	
8	of the judgment, yes, which is the normal rule in	
9	Federal criminal cases.	
10	JUSTICE GINSBURG: And if he misses	
11	JUSTICE KENNEDY: Even though even though	
12	he says the restitution shall be held in abeyance	
13	pending receipt of information?	
14	MR. HEYTENS: Well, to the extent that he	
15	has an objection to the district court's it depends	
16	on the precise circumstances of the case, Justice	
17	Kennedy. To the extent what he says is, I think the	
18	district court needs to, when it imposes the sentence of	
19	restitution, take into account the other aspects of the	
20	sentence, at that time the issues become interrelated.	
21	JUSTICE SCALIA: Let me see if I understand	
22	this. He has 14 days to appeal that. And if he doesn't	
23	do that, then later within the 90 days or even after the	
24	90 days, a sentence of restitution is imposed, he can	
25	he can appeal that sentence of restitution, right?	

- 1 MR. HEYTENS: Absolutely.
- 2 JUSTICE SCALIA: On the same grounds on
- 3 which he would have appealed the -- the sentence of
- 4 imprisonment, right?
- 5 MR. HEYTENS: Well, it -- to the extent --
- 6 JUSTICE SCALIA: If -- if it's an error in
- 7 the trial, he claims: I was innocent.
- 8 MR. HEYTENS: No, Justice Scalia.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: No?
- 10 MR. HEYTENS: To the -- his time for
- 11 appealing from the judgment of conviction runs from the
- 12 entry of the judgment of conviction, which is
- 13 contemporaneous with the imposition of the sentence of
- 14 imprisonment. If he wants to appeal that, he needs to do
- 15 that like any other --
- JUSTICE BREYER: Well, I suppose it's no -- no
- 17 imprisonment; it's supervised release. Now what
- 18 happens?
- 19 MR. HEYTENS: If it's -- if the judge imposes a
- 20 sentence of supervised release, I am not aware if there
- 21 is a specific statute.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Yes, but I mean, what's
- 23 bothering me about this, and I'm not aware -- but you're
- 24 quoting a sentence that wasn't in your brief and what I
- 25 hadn't taken in at all is the extent to which this is

- 1 inextricably mixed up with the rules of appeals, which are
- 2 very important.
- 3 So unless I have in my own mind how -- how
- 4 this all fits together, I -- I don't know how to decide
- 5 this case. I don't want to say something in here that's
- 6 going to muck up the -- the rules of appealing from a
- 7 criminal case.
- 8 Now, what you've told me is I'm supposed to say
- 9 that within 14 days of a -- of a judgment imposing imprisonment,
- 10 he has to appeal, but of course if it's supervised release,
- 11 he doesn't, or I'm not sure.
- 12 MR. HEYTENS: Justice Breyer, first and
- 13 foremost, the Court doesn't need to say anything about
- 14 any of these issues.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Why not?
- 16 MR. HEYTENS: For one very simple reason:
- 17 The only thing that this defendant has ever attempted to
- 18 appeal at any point is the order of restitution. He
- 19 never attempted to appeal from his guilty plea.
- 20 JUSTICE BREYER: Yes, but if -- but I have
- 21 to be able to write my reasons, and in doing that I have
- 22 to respond to the argument of the other side, which is
- 23 that the strongest reason for thinking Congress intended
- 24 this to be final and not beyond 90 days is that if you
- 25 don't do that, you muck up the rules of appeal. Now,

- 1 explain to me why that isn't so.
- MR. HEYTENS: A couple of reasons, Your
- 3 Honor: First of all, I think it's actually one of the
- 4 strongest arguments against their position, because it
- 5 creates the unlikely scenario where it will be
- 6 routinely -- we know that Congress has authorized these
- 7 determinations to be made up to 90 days after the
- 8 imposition of sentence. So their rule would create the
- 9 situation where it would be completely consistent with
- 10 Congress's intent to routinely create a situation where
- 11 a Federal criminal defendant has to wait 3 months after
- 12 sentencing until he can appeal.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Which is just what you say
- 14 he has to do if the sentence is supervised release.
- 15 MR. HEYTENS: What I'm saying, Justice
- 16 Breyer, is I -- I -- I know there is a statute that
- 17 governs imprisonment. I believe there is a similar
- 18 statute that governs a sentence of probation.
- 19 JUSTICE SCALIA: What was that statute on
- 20 imprisonment?
- 21 MR. HEYTENS: 18 U.S.C. 3582(b), Justice
- 22 Scalia. I know there is a statute that governs that.
- 23 We also know there is a statute governing a term of
- 24 restitution itself. That's the provision cited, 3664(o),
- 25 which is reproduced at 11a of the appendix to our

- 1 brief --
- JUSTICE SCALIA: I've got it.
- 3 MR. HEYTENS: -- which is the rules
- 4 governing finality with regard to an order imposing
- 5 restitution.
- 6 JUSTICE GINSBURG: Mr. Heytens, one problem
- 7 with the -- we have said that notice of appeal -- that
- 8 that time limit is jurisdictional, which means if the
- 9 defendant misses that deadline, no appeal. And we're
- 10 leaving this in a nebulous state if the judge says,
- 11 within -- this is -- this is a judgment of conviction
- 12 and sentence, but I'm still thinking about the
- 13 restitution.
- 14 The defendant has to know at that point,
- 15 must I appeal that first judgment? Because if I don't,
- 16 I'll never be able to appeal it.
- 17 But on your reading, the defendant can't
- 18 wait. When the judge imposes a sentence, the defendant
- 19 must meet the time clock for notice of appeal from the
- 20 sentence.
- MR. HEYTENS: That's correct,
- 22 Justice Ginsburg. In our view, the defendant -- when
- 23 the judgment of conviction was imposed on this case,
- 24 which imposed a sentence of imprisonment on Mr. Dolan,
- 25 the time for appealing the judgment of conviction and

- 1 the term of imprisonment began to run.
- 2 If I could go back to Justice Breyer's
- 3 question --
- 4 JUSTICE GINSBURG: But that -- that would
- 5 mean even if the judge says, I'm going to impose the
- 6 restitution order 10 days from now, defendant's time
- 7 clock for notice of appeal would begin at -- at the time
- 8 the sentence is imposed, not 10 days later when
- 9 restitution is --
- 10 MR. HEYTENS: That's correct. He files a
- 11 notice of appeal when the judgment of conviction
- 12 is entered, and then 10 days later he can file a second
- 13 notice of appeal, and courts of appeal can consolidate
- 14 that case in the ordinary course.
- 15 You don't -- to answer Justice Breyer's very
- 16 specific question about the supervised released, I have
- 17 been advised that a district court cannot impose a term
- 18 of supervised release unless it also imposes a sentence
- 19 of imprisonment. So that particular hypothetical that
- 20 Justice Breyer raised wouldn't arise. The court
- 21 can't just --
- 22 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Counsel, let's --
- 23 let's suppose there's no 3664(d)(5), and we're back to
- 24 just 363(a)(1), which says when sentencing a defendant,
- 25 the court shall order restitution. What if the

- 1 judge doesn't -- is that mandatory? It has to be when
- 2 sentencing the defendant?
- 3 MR. HEYTENS: I don't think so, Your Honor.
- 4 I think what --
- 5 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: So you think even
- 6 without 3664(d)(5), the judge can say: I know it says
- 7 when I'm sentencing I've got to order restitution.
- 8 But 2 months later, he can do it?
- 9 MR. HEYTENS: Mr. Chief Justice, let me
- 10 amend my answer slightly. He -- the judge is required
- 11 to do it when sentencing --
- 12 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Yes, but nothing
- 13 happens if he doesn't. Is that --
- 14 MR. HEYTENS: Well, the question then
- 15 becomes one of a remedy. The court is required to do it,
- 16 and the question becomes what is the remedy when the
- 17 court does not. And what the Court said in
- 18 Montalvo-Murillo is that we presume that Federal
- 19 district courts will comply with the law, and that it is
- 20 inappropriate in situations where Congress doesn't
- 21 specify a remedy for courts to impose their own remedy.
- 22 That was exactly the situation in Montalvo-Murillo.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Why don't we go back to my
- 24 hypothetical --
- MR. HEYTENS: Sure.

- 1 JUSTICE BREYER: -- and just substitute the
- word "fine" for "supervised release."
- 3 MR. HEYTENS: Justice Breyer, I'm -- I'm fairly
- 4 certain there is a statute that addresses the finality
- 5 when it comes to a sentence that imposes a term of a
- 6 fine, which is similar to the statute that addresses
- 7 finality of a judgment of conviction that imposes only
- 8 a term of imprisonment.
- JUSTICE BREYER: I'm not -- I'm not an
- 10 expert in this area, as you can see. And -- and I need
- 11 to have a place to go to look so that I can see that
- 12 these things, in your view, all work out, and you're
- 13 not creating some odd appellate system. Do you have any
- 14 suggestions for me as to what I could go and read and
- 15 look at that would help me?
- MR. HEYTENS: Justice Breyer, to address
- 17 your very specific fine question, there is in fact a
- 18 statute that addresses that as well. That is 18 U.S.C.
- 19 3572(c). It's structured very similarly to the -- the
- 20 section regarding judgments of imprisonment that I
- 21 quoted to the Court earlier, and Congress has addressed
- 22 that. It says: "Notwithstanding the fact that a
- 23 sentence to pay a fine can subsequently be altered in
- 24 various respects, a judgment that includes such a
- 25 sentence is a final judgment for all other" --

1 JUSTICE BREYER: Can the (o) -- you 2 remember -- you know what I'm referring to by (o)? 3 MR. HEYTENS: Yes, Justice Breyer. 4 JUSTICE BREYER: All right. Can that be 5 read to refer to initial -- an initial judgment of 6 restitution as well as an amended judgment? 7 MR. HEYTENS: Absolutely, Justice Breyer. 8 That's exactly what the First Circuit said in the Cheal 9 case, which is cited in our brief. The First Circuit in 10 that case addressed an initial judgment that said, 11 similarly, somewhat, to the judgment in this one -- the original judgment, if you recall, in this case says the 12 13 Mandatory Victims Restitution Act is applicable; 14 however, the court does not have sufficient information 15 to calculate restitution at this time. What the First Circuit reasoned in Cheal is that that can be 16 17 interpreted as a judgment imposing a restitution 18 obligation, which is thus final under subsection (o). 19 If you conclude that, you don't need to look at any 20 other statute to resolve --21 JUSTICE SCALIA: Even though there's no 22 amount given? 23 MR. HEYTENS: Yes, Justice Scalia. Because the one thing we know for certain is that even if it had 24 25 stated an amount, the fact that the amount can be amended

- 1 later doesn't deprive the judgment of finality.
- JUSTICE STEVENS: May I ask this --
- 3 JUSTICE SCALIA: Simply because when you
- 4 state an amount, that amount can be amended later, that
- 5 leads to the conclusion that you need not even state an
- 6 amount? Do you do the same thing for imprisonment? You
- 7 say: I'm going to send you to prison; I'm not sure how
- 8 many years, but I'm going to send you to prison. Is
- 9 that appealable right away?
- 10 MR. HEYTENS: Well, Justice Scalia, the
- 11 district court is not permitted to do any of this.
- 12 Congress has required the district court to set the
- 13 amount --
- 14 JUSTICE SCALIA: I understand that, but
- 15 district courts don't always do what they are supposed
- 16 to. And it seems to me a very strange result that
- 17 you're --
- 18 MR. HEYTENS: It's true that, regrettably,
- 19 district courts sometimes don't do what they are
- 20 supposed to. What this Court has said, most notably in
- 21 Montalvo-Murillo, is that we should assume that they
- 22 will, and that it's inappropriate for courts to craft
- 23 legal rules that are based on the presumption that they
- 24 are going to violate their legal obligations.
- JUSTICE STEVENS: May I ask this

- 1 hypothetical? Supposing the defendant fails to appeal
- 2 when he's sentenced, and then 90 days later, they impose
- 3 a restitution order and he appeals from that. May he
- 4 raise the issues about guilt and innocence and error in
- 5 the trial in that appeal?
- 6 MR. HEYTENS: Justice Stevens, just to make
- 7 sure I understand -- I want to make sure I understand
- 8 the hypothetical -- it's that the district court
- 9 sentences him, enters a judgment of conviction, and then
- 10 90 days later imposes an order of restitution?
- 11 JUSTICE STEVENS: Correct.
- 12 MR. HEYTENS: Okay. In that situation, no.
- 13 It is the government's view that he has -- the time for
- 14 appealing the judgment of conviction and the sentence of
- 15 imprisonment has run.
- 16 JUSTICE STEVENS: But he -- he can appeal
- 17 just the restitution order.
- 18 MR. HEYTENS: Just the restitution order, in
- 19 that situation, yes. Now, if he has appealed them both,
- 20 they can be consolidated, which has been done in several
- 21 cases in the courts --
- JUSTICE STEVENS: No, I understand that.
- 23 MR. HEYTENS: -- in the circuit court of
- 24 appeals.
- JUSTICE KENNEDY: You attach no significance

- 1 to the fact that in this case the judge said: I shall
- 2 order restitution? It's the same as if he said nothing
- 3 at all about restitution, so far as you are concerned?
- 4 MR. HEYTENS: We think this makes it an
- 5 easier case, in terms of it establishes that there is no
- 6 conceivable prejudice to Mr. Dolan as a result of the
- 7 delay in this case.
- 8 JUSTICE STEVENS: Let me ask you this
- 9 question: If we conclude there's a hole in the statute
- 10 that Congress has to amend, is it more likely that
- 11 Congress will cure the statute if we rule for you or if
- 12 we rule against you? It's pretty clear, the answer to
- 13 that, isn't it?
- 14 MR. HEYTENS: Yes, Justice Stevens. I think
- 15 Montalvo-Murillo supplies the answer to that.
- 16 Montalvo-Murillo says, where Congress does not supply a
- 17 remedy for violation of a statutory time obligation, it
- 18 is inappropriate for courts to invent their own in order
- 19 to coerce district courts into complying --
- 20 JUSTICE GINSBURG: So this then becomes a
- 21 goal, not a time line -- a deadline?
- MR. HEYTENS: I think -- at some point, it
- 23 becomes a debate over precise wording, Justice Ginsburg.
- 24 I think it is a deadline. I think Congress intended for
- 25 district courts to do this. I think district courts who

- 1 have sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution and laws
- 2 of the United States are required to do it.
- The question is: What is the remedy in the
- 4 rare, regrettable situation where they do not do it? And --
- 5 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: So a -- a defendant
- 6 who is sentenced to a week in prison, and he decides,
- 7 that's no big deal, I'm not going to appeal, and then
- 8 finds out, you know, 90 days later he has got to pay a
- 9 million dollars in restitution, is just out of luck,
- 10 right?
- MR. HEYTENS: Well, that would be -- yes.
- 12 That would be our view, Mr. Chief Justice. Now, what I
- 13 would say is, it is, first of all, our view that the Court
- 14 doesn't need to resolve any of this. But, second of all,
- 15 one of the reasons is there is another way the Court
- 16 could resolve this, which is to follow the approach the
- 17 Court took in its decision in Corey v. United States,
- 18 which is cited in the blue brief.
- Now, Corey involved a statute. It's
- 20 presentence -- it's pre-Federal sentencing guidelines.
- 21 It involves a statute that said if, at the time of the
- 22 sentencing, the district court feels like it needs more
- 23 information to decide how long to send the defendant to
- 24 jail for, it may commit the defendant to the discretion
- of the Attorney General for a period of either 3 to

- 1 6 months; get, essentially, a PSR, before there were
- 2 PSRs; and then make a determination then.
- 3 The Court in Corey faced the question: When
- 4 the district court does that -- it says, I'm going to
- 5 give you to the Attorney General, and we'll come back in
- 6 6 months and decide what your sentence will be -- when
- 7 does the defendant have to appeal? That was the
- 8 question before the Court in Corey.
- 9 What the Court said in Corey is that the
- 10 defendant may appeal either at the time he is committed
- 11 to the discretion of the Attorney General or at the time
- 12 the district court imposes the final sentence. The
- 13 reason the Court said that -- this is the language
- 14 that's cited in the blue brief -- is the Court said it
- 15 would be extraordinary to tell a Federal criminal
- 16 defendant that he might have to wait up to 6 months in
- 17 order to take a notice of appeal from his judgment of
- 18 conviction.
- 19 JUSTICE BREYER: Look, you straightened me
- 20 out, from your point of view. But now you've mixed me
- 21 up again.
- 22 (Laughter.)
- 23 MR. HEYTENS: Sorry. I didn't realize,
- 24 Justice Breyer.
- JUSTICE BREYER: Because I think you said

- 1 that the defendant is just out of luck. But, previously,
- 2 you had said that (o) applies, so I thought what you
- 3 were saying was that the sentence of imprisonment is
- 4 immediately appealable and must be appealed within
- 5 14 days because of that 3582.
- 6 MR. HEYTENS: That's our --
- 7 JUSTICE BREYER: And then you said (o)
- 8 applies, and (o) says that a sentence that imposes an
- 9 order of restitution is a final judgment. So if (o)
- 10 applies, when, 8 months later or 20 months later,
- 11 that restitution is made final and embodied in another
- 12 judgment, that is a final judgment which can't be
- 13 appealed.
- 14 So if you're right about (o) applying, then
- 15 the answer to the question is, no, he is not out of
- 16 luck. Now, don't just agree with me because I seem to
- 17 be on your side in this question.
- 18 (Laughter.)
- MR. HEYTENS: No --
- 20 JUSTICE BREYER: I've got to figure this
- 21 out.
- MR. HEYTENS: I apologize, Justice Breyer.
- 23 The government's position is that at the time the
- 24 judgment of conviction and the sentence of imprisonment
- 25 are entered, that is the time at which the defendant has

- 1 to appeal and, in our view, he may appeal. Later, when
- 2 the sentence of restitution is imposed, that is when
- 3 he appeals that.
- What I was suggesting is that, to the extent
- 5 the Court has any concern about that, the alternative
- 6 way of resolving this issue would be the same way the
- 7 Court approached the issue in Corey, and you could say
- 8 that the defendant could appeal at either time.
- 9 Now, we think that would be incorrect, but
- 10 it would be open to the Court to do so to -- or to leave
- 11 the issue open in order to resolve this case. Because
- 12 as I said before, this defendant never attempted to
- 13 appeal his judgment of conviction or his original term
- 14 of imprisonment. So it's not, in this case, necessary
- 15 to decide what exactly would have happened had he
- 16 attempted to do so.
- 17 JUSTICE SCALIA: This criminal judgment of
- 18 restitution -- I assume it's the judge who finds that the
- 19 victim suffered so much money?
- MR. HEYTENS: That's correct,
- 21 Justice Scalia.
- JUSTICE SCALIA: Does he find that beyond a
- 23 reasonable doubt?
- 24 MR. HEYTENS: No, Justice Scalia. The
- 25 burden --

1 JUSTICE SCALIA: Just more likely than not? 2 MR. HEYTENS: That's correct. JUSTICE SCALIA: And it's a criminal --3 4 it's a criminal judgment? 5 MR. HEYTENS: That's what Congress has 6 provided. And in this Court's decision in Oregon v. 7 Ice, the Court, admittedly in dictum, stated that restitution determinations are a category of 8 9 determinations that have been historically made by the 10 court, not by the jury. And regardless of what anyone 11 thinks is the answer to that question, it is certainly 12 not within the question presented. It has not been 13 raised at any point by the Petitioner in this case. 14 JUSTICE KENNEDY: I suppose that an answer to 15 the Chief Justice's concern about the 1-week sentence and 16 -- and he's not concerned -- is that all criminal 17 defendants know that an adjudication of guilt is preclusive of later issues with -- with respect to civil 18 -- civil liability, and they take their chances. 19 20 But that -- that points up a difference between this case and Montalvo-Murillo. In this case, 21 22 finality is central to the system, and that wasn't --23 that's not really -- wasn't really true in Montalvo. 24 MR. HEYTENS: That's certainly correct, 25 Justice Kennedy. That was by its terms a bail

- 1 determination, which by its nature is not a final
- 2 determination in the sense that a criminal statute is,
- 3 though the Court's language doesn't really suggest that
- 4 that would make any difference. And I would say that
- 5 some of the other cases in this same line of cases,
- 6 including some of the ones Justice Breyer mentioned, did
- 7 raise finality concerns. There was a very strong
- 8 finality concern raised in the Peabody Coal case. There
- 9 were finality concerns raised in Brock, that Congress
- 10 had said this needs to be done, and once it's done, it
- 11 needs to be done. And so, there are -- some of the
- 12 cases in this same line have also involved finality,
- 13 admittedly not in the criminal context.
- 14 But I think the -- the most important thing
- 15 that the Court said in -- the two most important things
- 16 that the Court said in Montalvo-Murillo, as are relevant
- 17 here, is that, first, when Congress doesn't specify a
- 18 remedy -- and Congress has not specified a remedy in
- 19 this case -- it's inappropriate for courts to impose
- 20 their own.
- 21 The second thing that the Court said is that
- 22 we should presume that Federal district courts are going
- 23 to comply with legal obligations, and we shouldn't make
- 24 rules based on the assumption that they won't.
- 25 And third is that when courts do impose

- 1 remedies, they shouldn't make -- impose a remedy where
- 2 there's a profound lack of fit between the violation that
- 3 occurred and the remedy that the defendant is asking
- 4 them to impose.
- 5 Let me give you an example on that. The
- 6 general rule in Federal criminal litigation is that the
- 7 Federal district court is supposed to impose sentence
- 8 without unnecessary delay. Now, say the district court
- 9 violates that obligation. It takes too long to impose a
- 10 sentence. I think it would be extraordinary to suggest
- 11 that the remedy of a district court's unnecessary delay
- in sentencing the defendant means the defendant should
- 13 get off scot-free.
- 14 The remedy is to tell the district court you
- 15 have taken too long to impose the sentence; impose the
- 16 sentence forthwith.
- 17 The same thing is true here. Congress has
- 18 told the district court you need to impose restitution
- in every case where the defendant is convicted of a
- 20 crime of violence.
- 21 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: So, your argument is
- 22 "not to exceed 90 days" means the same thing as "without
- 23 undue delay"?
- 24 MR. HEYTENS: We don't think it means the
- 25 same thing, Mr. Chief Justice. What we think it means

- 1 is the violation should have the same consequences. The
- 2 violation is to say if you don't do what you are
- 3 supposed to, the remedy is to do it immediately. The
- 4 remedy isn't to say you don't have to do it anymore.
- 5 If there are no further questions, the
- 6 government urges that the judgment of the court below be
- 7 affirmed.
- 8 CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
- 9 Ms. Karlan, you have 4 minutes.
- 10 REBUTTAL ARGUMENT OF PAMELA S. KARLAN
- ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONER
- 12 MS. KARLAN: I have three points -- excuse
- 13 me -- to make: The first goes to what the remedy is
- 14 here and what the error is here. The error here
- 15 occurred when the district court did not impose
- 16 restitution. The government should have filed a timely
- 17 appeal under Rule 4. They had 30 days to do so. The
- 18 government did not appeal the failure to make
- 19 restitution.
- That error is not before this Court now.
- 21 What's before this Court is a second judgment.
- JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: They couldn't do that
- 23 until the end of the 90 days. If the judge has 90 days
- 24 to order restitution, that's a vicious cycle argument.
- MS. KARLAN: No, Justice Sotomayor, because

- 1 had the -- had the government on October 28 looked and
- 2 said, there's no restitution order in this case, they
- 3 could have filed an appeal then under Rule 4, and they
- 4 would have won. They didn't do so.
- 5 Second --
- JUSTICE GINSBURG: Well, that's rather
- 7 theoretical because if that -- I mean, the -- the judge
- 8 surely would have acted before he could process an
- 9 appeal.
- MS. KARLAN: Well, he lacks actually the --
- 11 the power to do that. Once the appeal is taken, he
- 12 can't do that. And may I just say that here I think the
- 13 critical rule to understand is one sentence, one appeal.
- 14 So turning first --
- 15 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: But that's not true. I
- 16 don't know if you've had time to look at 3582 or 35 --
- MS. KARLAN: Yes, I have.
- 18 JUSTICE SOTOMAYOR: Those do appear to say
- 19 that once there's a term of imprisonment, that that
- 20 constitutes a final judgment.
- 21 MS. KARLAN: But they do so in the context
- of Section 3553(a), which is cited on page 6 of the
- 23 yellow brief, which says "the court shall impose a
- 24 sentence."
- Now, the different components can each be

- 1 added together. But there is one sentence in a criminal
- 2 case on a particular charge, and that sentence can
- 3 include restitution, it can include a fine, it can
- 4 include imprisonment. That doesn't make it three
- 5 sentences. And only when all of those have been imposed
- 6 is there a final judgment. Until then, the judgment --
- 7 JUSTICE ALITO: It can also include
- 8 forfeiture. What's -- what is the rule for forfeiture?
- 9 MS. KARLAN: I don't know the rule for
- 10 forfeiture. I do know the rule for all of the other criminal
- 11 proceedings, which is 3582(b), to which the government
- 12 refers; 3572(c) for fines; 3562(b) for community
- 13 release; and 3664(o) for restitution. All of those have
- 14 to make one sentence, and then there is one appeal.
- 15 Under our rule, which I think comports with
- 16 the plain language of the statute, we know when an
- 17 appeal takes place, and there will be one appeal. Under
- 18 the government's rule --
- 19 JUSTICE ALITO: What is the difference -- in
- 20 response to the last argument that your opponent made,
- 21 what is the difference between the provision here and
- 22 Rule 32(b)(1) of the criminal rules, the court must
- 23 impose sentence without unnecessary delay?
- 24 MS. KARLAN: There, the question is, did it
- 25 do it without unnecessary delay? Here the question is,

- 1 did it do it within 90 days? When it didn't, the
- 2 government had to appeal. The government did not do
- 3 that.
- 4 JUSTICE ALITO: So if the -- I didn't
- 5 understand the answer. If the sentence is not imposed
- 6 without unnecessary delay, the consequence is that there
- 7 can be no sentence?
- 8 MS. KARLAN: No. This Court has never
- 9 decided what the rule means there. But this is a
- 10 statute. And if I could turn to the question of what
- 11 the statute --
- 12 JUSTICE SCALIA: Before you do that, tell me
- 13 what the government appeal would consist of. The 90 days
- 14 has expired --
- 15 MS. KARLAN: And the judgment of August 8th
- 16 became final.
- 17 JUSTICE SCALIA: And you -- you tell
- 18 me the court -- the court has no ability to impose
- 19 restitution after 90 days.
- 20 MS. KARLAN: That's right. The --
- 21 JUSTICE SCALIA: What's the use of appealing?
- MS. KARLAN: Because on appeal you say the
- 23 court erred, and it imposed an illegal sentence --
- JUSTICE SCALIA: And the appellate court says
- 25 too bad --

1 MS. KARLAN: No --2 JUSTICE SCALIA -- 90 days are up. MS. KARLAN: No, Justice Scalia. In the 3 same way that if a court failed to impose a mandatory minimum 4 5 sentence and there was a final judgment, the government 6 could appeal. And the fact that the initial sentence 7 didn't do that doesn't mean anything at that point. JUSTICE SCALIA: There is no time limit on 8 9 the mandatory minimum. 10 MS. KARLAN: But the -- but -- but, Your 11 Honor, if the government appeals an illegal sentence, 12 that sentence can be corrected and the new mandate from the court of appeals saying you erred in not imposing 13 14 mandatory restitution starts the 90-day clock again. 15 Now, this is --JUSTICE BREYER: Could you go back to --16 could you go back to Justice Alito's question, 17 18 because --19 MS. KARLAN: Yes. 20 JUSTICE BREYER: -- that was exactly the same thing. I think what he may be saying, though, is 21 22 it makes more sense to read these statutes as saying 23 imprisonment or community -- or community service, a form of supervised release, or fines -- I don't know 24

about forfeiture -- can be appealed as separate final

25

Т	Judgments, because then you don't have to wait for
2	90 days.
3	MS. KARLAN: No.
4	JUSTICE BREYER: And if you read it that
5	way, it's fairer to the defendant, and you don't have to
6	worry about the restitution appeal because of (o).
7	Now, what blocks the reading what blocks
8	the reading I just gave?
9	MS. KARLAN: The principle that there must
0	be one sentence that determines each of the punishments
1	for a particular crime.
_2	CHIEF JUSTICE ROBERTS: Thank you, counsel.
_3	The case is submitted.
4	(Whereupon, at 11:08 a.m., the case in the
.5	above-entitled matter was submitted.)
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