

# **Supreme Court Coverage & Analytics Application, Version 2.0**

## **User Manual**

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Written by Darin Ellis & Evan Cole

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# Introduction

The Supreme Court Coverage/Analysis Tool (SCOTUSApp) is a web application that collects and stores U.S. Supreme Court-related news articles and allows users to view and download them.

## History

SCOTUSApp was originally developed by computer science students at the University of Kentucky at the request of Dr. Justin Wedeking and Dr. M Michael Zilis of the UK Political Science department in the fall of 2017. The tool has since been worked on by several students, but is now maintained by Evan Cole and Darin Ellis, UK alumni and former members of the original development team.

## Description

SCOTUSApp will automatically collect Supreme Court-related articles from the internet throughout the day. These articles are stored in a database and can be viewed using a web page. Filters can be applied to view a subset of the articles, which can then be downloaded directly to your computer.

## Platform Requirements

SCOTUSApp is a web application and, as such, can be accessed on any platform by using a web browser.

## Developer Contact Information

Questions and bug reports should be sent to the project email:  
[ukscotusapp@gmail.com](mailto:ukscotusapp@gmail.com)

# Supported Web Browsers

## Google Chrome

We can guarantee full functionality of the webpages when they are viewed on the Google Chrome web browser.

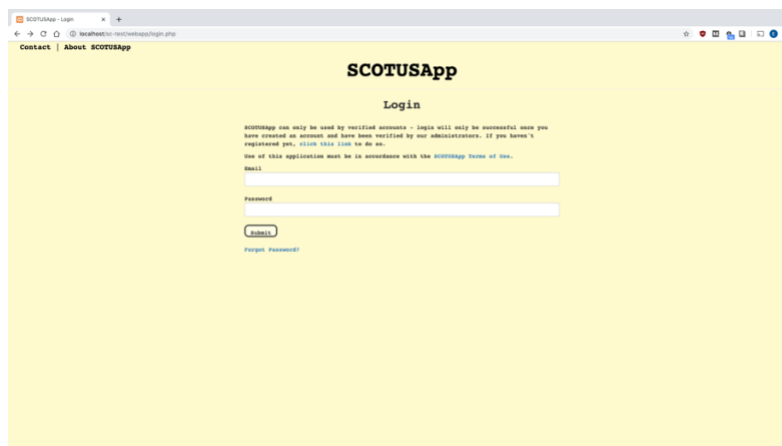
## Others

The Safari and Firefox web browsers, while not as thoroughly tested, should also be suitable. Other web browsers should work as well, but we cannot guarantee that they will.

# Application Pages

## User Account Pages

SCOTUSApp is a closed-access application that can only be used upon approval from our administrators. Therefore, users must register an account (.edu email required) and be approved by our administrators before using the application. Upon successful registration, an email and approval link will be sent to the administrators with the user's information. The administrators can decide to approve or reject an account and provide notes to the user; the user will be notified (emailed) of their decision. If approved, users can then log in and make use of SCOTUSApp. Should users forget their password or desire to alter their account information, those options are available.



SCOTUSApp - Login

Contact | About SCOTUSApp

### SCOTUSApp

#### Login

SCOTUSApp can only be used by verified accounts - login will only be successful when you have created an account and have been verified by our administrators. If you haven't registered yet, click this link to do so.

Use of this application must be in accordance with the [SCOTUSApp Terms of Use](#).

Email:

Password:

[Forgot Password?](#)

Login page

SCOTUSApp - Register

Contact | About SCOTUSApp

## SCOTUSApp

### Register Account

SCOTUSApp can only be used by verified accounts - once you register, your information (name and password) will be sent to our administrators for review. Upon verification, you will be sent a welcome email and can begin use of SCOTUSApp.

\* = Required

Name \*

Email (must end in .edu) \*

Password \* (at least 8 characters, no "control characters")

Confirm Password \*

Notes (why you want to use SCOTUSApp, any necessary information, etc... - 1000 characters max)

I agree to the SCOTUSApp Terms of Use ☐

Registration page

SCOTUSApp - Update Account

Contact | About SCOTUSApp

## SCOTUSApp

### Update Account

If you need to change any of your account information, do so below. Leave fields as-is if you don't want to change anything.

\* = Required

Name \*

Evan Cole

Email (must end in .edu) \*

New Password \* (at least 8 characters, no "control characters")

Confirm New Password \*

Notes (why you want to use SCOTUSApp, any necessary information, etc... - 1000 characters max)

Submit

Evan Cole | Logout

Account Information page

SCOTUSApp - Forget Password

Contact | About SCOTUSApp

## SCOTUSApp

### Reset Password

Enter your password reset code and desired new password.

Token

Password (at least 8 characters, no "control characters")

Confirm Password

Submit

Password reset page

## Article Search / Download (Main Page)

In the figure below you can see an example of the Search (or main) page. By default it displays all articles. You can search the stored articles by entering your search terms in the search bar – the application looks for articles with matching titles and/or keywords. Searching can be refined further – you can directly search for articles from a date range using the “From” and “To” boxes, from a list of sources using the “Sources” box (listing sources separated by whitespace), or for direct articles by searching for a list of article IDs via the “IDs” box (also separated by whitespace). Source searching can also be accomplished after a search by using the Sources sidebar – just check the sources you want and hit “Apply Filter.”

The second primary feature of this page is the “Download Results” button, which enables you to download the results of search as a zip archive. This archive contains .txt files of the each result’s article text (titled by article ID), and a CSV of the results with all metadata and analysis data included as columns.

The Restart button next to the download button allows you to clear all of your search terms and filters (clicking the top “SCOTUSApp” header also accomplishes this).

The screenshot shows the SCOTUSApp web interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with "Contact" and "About SCOTUSApp" links, and a user profile "Evan Cole | Logout". The main heading is "SCOTUSApp". Below it, there's a search bar with the placeholder "Enter keyword(s) or leave empty" and a "Submit" button. Underneath the search bar are two input fields for "From:" and "To:". Below those are two input fields for "Sources:" and "IDs:", both with the placeholder "Separate sources by spaces...". To the right of these fields are "Restart" and "Download Results" buttons. On the left side, there's a sidebar titled "Sources (3043)" with an "Apply Filter" button. Below this, there's a list of sources with checkboxes next to them, including "1063thegroove (1)", "10news (3)", "10tv (3)", "11alive (1)", "1310kika (1)", "1380kicm (2)", "13newsnow (2)", "13wham (1)", "13wmax (5)", "14news (1)", "247wallst (4)", "27east (2)", "360aproko (1)", "41nbc (1)", "5280 (1)", "6abc (3)", "710keel (2)", "71republic (1)", "90min (1)", and "972mag (1)". The main content area displays a table of search results with columns "ID", "Title", "Source", and "Date". The table shows 25 entries, with the first few rows visible. The first row has ID 28339, Title "A German Princess, a Cardinal, and an Anti-LGBT Activist Walk Into the Supreme Court...", Source "motherjones", and Date "2019-11-08". The second row has ID 28338, Title "SC Ayodhya ruling: Rare show of unanimity that strikes a chord with people", Source "business-standard", and Date "2019-11-09". The third row has ID 28337, Title "Judges are 'independent and yet dependent': Justice Mansoor", Source "dawn", and Date "2019-11-08". The fourth row has ID 28336, Title "Supreme Court to Tackle DACA. What Does It Mean for Students, Teachers, and Schools?", Source "edweek", and Date "2019-11-08". The fifth row has ID 28335, Title "UPDATE 1-U.S. Supreme Court to consider blocking Booking.com trademark", Source "yahoo", and Date "2019-11-08". The sixth row has ID 28334, Title "Trump lawyers to ask high court to hear tax case appeal by Thursday", Source "bostonglobe", and Date "2019-11-08". The seventh row has ID 28333, Title "Trump's lawyers will appeal to Supreme Court to block the subpoena from the Manhattan DA for taxes: report", Source "rawstory", and Date "2019-11-08". The eighth row has ID 28332, Title "PM's address to nation following SC verdict on Ayodhya", Source "pib", and Date "2019-11-09". The ninth row has ID 28331, Title "The verdict of Supreme Court marks the start of a new dawn: PM", Source "pib", and Date "2019-11-09". The tenth row has ID 28330, Title "The Homophobic Activist Who Won an Audience with Two Supreme Court Justices", Source "newyorker", and Date "2019-11-08". The eleventh row has ID 28329, Title "Trump to Appeal Ruling on Vance Subpoena to Supreme Court", Source "yahoo", and Date "2019-11-08". The twelfth row has ID 28328, Title "Trump to ask US Supreme Court to review tax returns decision", Source "reuters", and Date "2019-11-08". The thirteenth row has ID 28327, Title "Trump's lawyers to ask US Supreme Court to hear fight over his tax returns", Source "syndicate", and Date "2019-11-08". The fourteenth row has ID 28326, Title "US Supreme Court to Consider Blocking Booking.com Trademark", Source "nytimes", and Date "2019-11-08".

Article Search / Download page

## Article Page

By clicking on a result on the search page, users can view an article's full details – article text (for legal reasons only a third of the text is displayed on the page), metadata, keywords, image analysis, and social media popularity metrics.

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the SCOTUSApp interface. The page has a yellow header with the title "SCOTUSApp" and a "Restart" button. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column contains a "Details" section with metadata: ID: 28339, Alt ID: 2019-11-08\_042, Author: Stephanie Hescimer, Source: motherjones, Publication Date: 2019-11-08 15:11:12, URL: https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/11/a-german-princess-a-cardinal-and-an-anti-lgbt-activist-walk-into-the-supreme-court/, Sentiment Score: N/A, and Magnitude: N/A. Below this is a "Source Bias" section with "AllSides" and "Bias: Left". The middle column contains the article title "A German Princess, a Cardinal, and an Anti-LGBT Activist Walk Into the Supreme Court..." and the beginning of the article text. The right column contains the rest of the article text, which is partially obscured by a vertical line.

**Details**

ID: 28339

Alt ID: 2019-11-08\_042

Author  
Stephanie Hescimer

Source  
motherjones

Publication Date  
2019-11-08 15:11:12

URL  
<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2019/11/a-german-princess-a-cardinal-and-an-anti-lgbt-activist-walk-into-the-supreme-court/>

Sentiment Score: N/A  
Magnitude: N/A

**Source Bias**

AllSides

Bias: Left

**SCOTUSApp**

**A German Princess, a Cardinal, and an Anti-LGBT Activist Walk Into the Supreme Court...**

Last week, two of the Supreme Court's most ardent Catholic justices, Samuel Alito and Brett Kavanaugh, met at the court with an odd trio of visitors: Brian S. Brown, who runs several anti-gay advocacy groups; German Princess Gloria von Thurn und Taxis, once known as a 1980s party girl; and Gerhard Ludwig Müller, a right-wing German cardinal who has said publicly that a "homosexual network" inside the church is responsible for the clergy sexual abuse scandals.

While the trio may have a vested interest in the court's LGBT-rights jurisprudence—one of Brown's groups has filed an amicus brief in cases currently pending before the court—their visit is notable for another, unexpected, reason: All three are in the vanguard of a political, right-wing movement that's been pushing to topple Pope Francis. By posing for a photo op, the powerful Catholic justices provided an all but official expression of support for their work.

"It is striking that these Catholic justices met with some of the most vocal and vociferous of all the Holy Father's opponents," says Father James Martin, an American Jesuit priest who has supported better treatment of LGBT people in the church and who Pope Francis appointed as a consultant to the Vatican's communications arm. "I wonder if this were, say, 20 years ago, whether they would have posed with people who had accused St. John Paul II of heresy and implied that his papacy was illegitimate—and smiled while doing so."

"It is striking that these Catholic justices met with some of the most vocal and vociferous of all the Holy Father's opponents."

Since his election in 2013, Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the first Latin American pope, has moved to reform the church in ways not seen since Pope John XXIII abolished the Latin Mass and freed nuns from wearing their hair-concealing habits in the 1960s. He has supported allowing some divorced people to take communion and pushed for greater tolerance of LGBT people. But he has also used his powerful platform to preach progressive Catholic social teaching, condemning the death penalty and imploring the world to fight climate change.

Francis has been particularly outspoken in his support for immigrants, telling a group of German pilgrims visiting the Vatican in late 2016, "It's hypocrisy to call yourself a Christian and chase away a refugee." He has celebrated mass on the Mexican border and suggested that President Donald Trump is not Christian because of his anti-immigrant policies. Perhaps most importantly, Francis has taken direct aim at inequality, global capitalism, and the evils of

## Article Page