

Supreme Court docket: Free-speech rights, violent video games, immigration law
Supreme Court docket: Free-speech rights, violent video games, immigration law

The Washington Post

October 3, 2010 Sunday, Suburban Edition

Copyright 2010 The Washington Post All **Rights** Reserved

The Washington Post
washingtonpost.com

Distribution: Every Zone

Section: A-SECTION; Pg. A11

Length: 471 words

Byline: - Robert Barnes

Body

The **Supreme Court** has accepted about two-thirds of the cases it will hear this term. Among the more important oral arguments the **court** is scheduled to hear before the end of the year:

I Tuesday: Will determine what kinds of questions the federal government may ask of contract employees, in this case, whether a background check can include questions about illegal drug use without violating the **right** to informational privacy.

I Wednesday: Poses questions about the First Amendment's protection of **free speech** vs. privacy **rights**. The **court** will examine protests by the Westboro Baptist Church of Kansas and its leader, the Rev. Fred W. Phelps, at military funerals. Albert Snyder sued the church after its 2006 protest in northern Maryland at the funeral of his son Matthew. A jury awarded Snyder millions of dollars, finding the protest constituted intentional infliction of emotional distress, but an appeals **court** said the group's protests were protected **speech**.

Connick v. Thompson

I Wednesday: Did a former district attorney shirk his duty to make sure his deputies complied with their obligations to turn over evidence to the defense? In this case, prosecutors did not turn over exonerating evidence, and a man was sent to death row before the incident was uncovered. A jury awarded him \$14 million.

I Oct. 12: Looks at whether the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act prevents a lawsuit by parents who say their child suffered seizures and mental impairment as a result of a vaccination.

I Oct. 13: Raises again the question of when a state must allow inmates the **right** to test DNA evidence that might show their innocence. A Texas death row inmate says state officials denying his request have violated his civil **rights** and his **right** to due process.

I Nov. 2: California is the latest state attempting to prevent the sale of "**violent**" **video games** to minors. An appeals **court** said, similar to decisions of **courts** elsewhere, that the **law** violates First Amendment **free-speech rights**.

Supreme Court docket: Free-speech rights, violent video games, immigration law
 Supreme Court docket: Free-speech rights, violent video games, immigration law

I Nov. 13: An Arizona law allows residents to designate a portion of the taxes they owe to "school tuition organizations" that provide scholarships, most of which have gone to students at religious schools. Those challenging the law say that violates the separation of church and state.

I Nov. 13: Federal regulations allowed Mazda to install either a lap seat belt or a shoulder belt in the second seat of its minivans. The family of a child injured in an accident says it should have the right to sue Mazda for its choice of the lap belt.

I Dec. 8: One of Arizona's attempts to crack down on illegal immigrants allows the state to yank the licenses of employers who hire undocumented workers. Business groups, civil rights organizations and the federal government say a state does not have the authority to implement immigration law.

- Robert Barnes

Classification

Language: ENGLISH

Publication-Type: Newspaper

Subject: LAW COURTS & TRIBUNALS (90%); EVIDENCE (90%); FREEDOM OF SPEECH (90%); SUITS & CLAIMS (90%); DAMAGES (90%); LITIGATION (90%); APPEALS (89%); APPELLATE DECISIONS (89%); HUMAN RIGHTS & CIVIL LIBERTIES LAW (89%); CAPITAL PUNISHMENT (89%); VERDICTS (89%); DEATHS & OBITUARIES (88%); JURY TRIALS (78%); SUPREME COURTS (78%); DUE PROCESS (78%); IMMIGRATION LAW (78%); CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (78%); PUBLIC PROSECUTORS (78%); APPEALS COURTS (78%); RECRUITMENT & HIRING (77%); INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS (76%); CIVIL RIGHTS (76%); WOUNDS & INJURIES (76%); PRIVACY RIGHTS (76%); FAITH BASED SCHOOLS (75%); CHURCH & STATE (75%); HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS (75%); FREEDOM OF RELIGION (75%); US STATE GOVERNMENT (75%); PROTESTANTS & PROTESTANTISM (75%); RELIGION (75%); STUDENTS & STUDENT LIFE (74%); SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS (73%); FORENSIC DNA TESTING (73%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (73%); VACCINES (72%); BACKGROUND CHECKS (72%); PRISONERS (71%); PRIVATE SCHOOLS (69%); FORENSICS (68%); DNA (66%); ACCIDENTAL INJURIES (65%); TUITION FEES (65%); IMMIGRATION (61%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (61%); FOREIGN LABOR (61%); ILLEGAL DRUGS (56%); DNA TESTING (50%)

Industry: FAITH BASED SCHOOLS (75%); VACCINES (72%); PRIVATE SCHOOLS (69%); MOTOR VEHICLES (60%)

Geographic: ARIZONA, USA (92%); CALIFORNIA, USA (79%); MARYLAND, USA (79%)

Load-Date: October 3, 2010