

Plus: Nine years later, the climate kids lawsuit may finally head to trial



COURTHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Closing Arguments

The week in Courthouse News

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The Supreme Court's [Friday afternoon decision to determine Donald Trump's 2024 ballot eligibility](#) was perhaps an appropriate end to the first week of a year that's sure be dominated by the presidential election.

Trump had spent the week fighting to get back on the ticket in states where he's been disqualified from running based on his involvement in the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol insurrection.

He filed suit [to appeal Maine Secretary of state Shenna Bellows' decision deeming him ineligible](#) to run, and [asked SCOTUS to reverse a Colorado high court ruling](#) to the same effect. [[Erik Uebelacker](#), [Kelsey Reichmann](#)]

Disqualification stems from a Civil War-era provision to the 14th Amendment barring oath violators from running for office. Trump argues the section doesn't apply to the presidential oath, because it's different from the one other officers take, and maintains that the events of Jan. 6 didn't constitute an insurrection.

SCOTUS taking up the case was enough for Colorado to certify its primary ballots with Trump's name on them.

“The US Supreme Court has agreed to hear arguments to the Colorado Supreme Court’s decision that Donald Trump is ineligible to appear on the Colorado Presidential Primary ballot,” Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold said in a statement Friday. “His name will appear on the 2024 Presidential Primary ballot as a result.”

Plenty happened beyond Friday's big ruling, however, so keep on reading on.

— [Nina Pullano](#)

Here's what else happened in court this week:

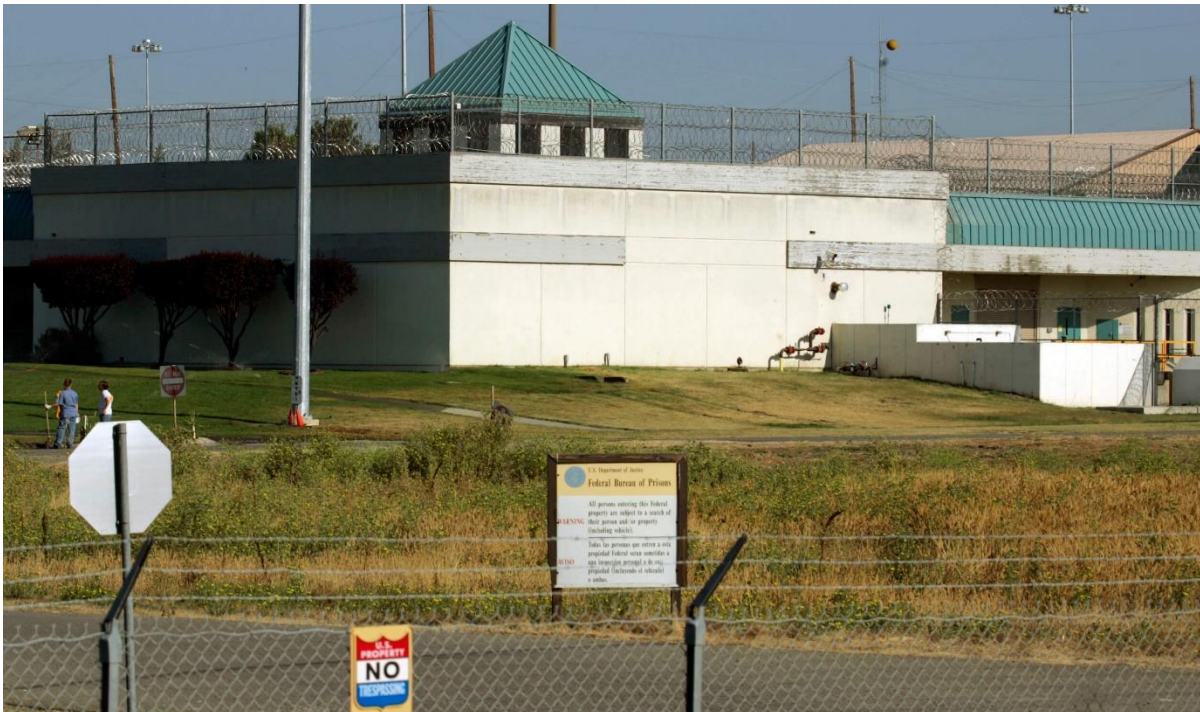


National Rifle Association [CEO Wayne LaPierre stepped down](#) days before he and the NRA face a [New York City corruption trial](#) that experts have called "existential" to the group's future. His ouster had been among NY AG Letitia James' goals in bringing the suit; she accuses LaPierre of using the NRA as his "personal piggy bank." [[Erik Uebelacker](#)]

» As part of a [\\$2.1 million settlement with a class of 400 trans women who sued Colorado](#) over gender discrimination, denial of medical treatment and sexual assault, the state will also set up two new housing options for trans detainees. [[Amanda Pampuro](#)]

» New York City Mayor Eric Adams [sued 17 charter bus companies for transporting asylum-seekers to the city from Texas](#) over the past two years. He wants to recoup more than \$700 million the city has spent to care for some 33,600 migrants. [[Nika Schoonover](#)]

» Elon Musk's SpaceX [asked a judge to block an impending National Labor Relations Board hearing](#) over whether the company illegally fired employees for criticizing Musk. [[Cameron Langford](#)]



Women incarcerated at the Federal Correctional Institute in Dublin, east of San Francisco, [testified in federal court](#) about [widespread sexual abuse and exploitation by faculty staff](#), including including rape, harassment, coercion, voyeurism, drugging and abuse during medical exams. [[Natalie Hanson](#)]

Top 8: This week's most-read stories

From across the Courthouse News website, including news from Capitol Hill, state legislative decisions and major research developments.

1. [Illinois has banned assault weapon ownership. But local sheriffs say they won't enforce it. Now what?](#)

2. [Porn websites block North Carolina access days before age verification law sets in](#)
3. [Federal judge rules in California's favor in open carry firearm dispute](#)
4. [Judge sides with conservative group in Georgia voter intimidation case](#)
5. [Judge dumps 'wildly overbroad' Iowa LGBTQ book ban](#)
6. [\[Brief\] Corrupt Louisiana policing](#)
7. [\[September 2016\] Rape Allegations Refiled Against Trump](#)
8. [Wisconsin judge shakes up absentee ballot witness address requirements](#)



The climate change "kids" lawsuit brought nine years ago may finally head to trial after [a Los Angeles judge allowed two claims to proceed](#). The young plaintiffs accuse the feds of contributing to climate change through fossil fuel production, threatening their constitutional rights to life, liberty and property. [[Alanna Mayham](#)]

[ICYMI: New cases and rulings on our radar](#)

» **West Point affirmative action:** MANHATTAN — A federal court in New York [denied the preliminary injunction requested by Student for Fair Admissions](#), whose Supreme Court case against Harvard saw the high court decide that affirmative action in university admissions is unconstitutional, in the group's lawsuit against West Point. The court is not convinced that the

group is likely to succeed on its similar claims against the military academy due to an incomplete factual record before the court.

» **E-cig marketing:** NEW ORLEANS — The Fifth Circuit [granted e-cigarette manufacturers' petitions for review of the FDA's denial of their applications](#) for premarket tobacco approval. The court said the FDA sent the companies on a regulatory “wild goose chase” before pretending “it never gave ... instructions” and “imposed new testing requirements without notice.”

» **Diabetic discrimination:** CHICAGO — A federal court in Illinois [declined to dismiss a former Chicago Transit Authority electrician's disability discrimination claims](#) against the agency, which plausibly refused to return the diabetic worker to his post for more than a year after he fainted due to low blood sugar, despite a doctor's clearance for him to return to work.

» **Passenger or trespasser?:** WASHINGTON — The D.C. Circuit [certified a question posed to the Court of Appeals](#) concerning a case where the Metropolitan Transit Authority argues that a person who fatally fell from a train platform became a trespasser, not a passenger, when he fell over the retaining ledge and, therefore, the agency was not required to render aid.

— [Daniel Conrad](#)

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