

With Super Tuesday days away, Trump and Biden hit the border, 300 miles apart



# COURTHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

## Closing Arguments

*The week in Courthouse News*

March 1, 2024

Court cases involving parents' rights over the past few weeks have demonstrated the wide range of legal quandaries surrounding the authority people have over the tiny people they raise.

This week, a Minnesota appellate court [ruled that a county could require chemotherapy treatments for a 5-year-old leukemia patient](#) whose parents refused to authorize them. The child's mother had told his treating physician that she would prefer natural remedies like garlic and lemon. [\[Andy Monserud\]](#)

That case stands in sharp contrast to a lawsuit New York City parents brought last week [accusing children's services officials of coercion and invasive searches](#) against the same families it's tasked with protecting — even searching and examining children's bodies without consent. [\[Erik Uebelacker\]](#)

In Southern California this week, a group of parents, teachers and students [lost its bid for an injunction](#) of their school district's ban on teaching critical race theory, after arguing the resolution was overly broad and had already caused teachers to self-censor. [\[Hillel Aron\]](#)

And in recent weeks parents have [fought school gender pronoun policies in Ohio](#), arguing on appeal, and in Iowa, where [parents settled with a school district over its accommodations](#) for trans kids. [\[Andy Monserud, Rox Laird\]](#)

Like all of us, parents run the gamut, and questions of their rights mirror wider conversations, from systemic rights abuse concerns to questions of identity and philosophy.

More Courthouse News is up ahead.

— [Nina Pullano](#)

**Here's what else happened in court this week:**



After four days of trial and amid mounting incriminating evidence and testimony, a Virginia high school graduation shooter [pleaded guilty in state court](#) to first-degree murder. [[Joe Dodson](#)]

» New York's attorney general [accused the American subsidiary of the world's largest beef producer, JBS Group, of misleading the public](#) about its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. [[Nika Schoonover](#)]

» Elon Musk [sued OpenAI, accusing the artificial intelligence company of betraying an agreement](#) to develop technology for the benefit of humanity rather than profit and saying it effectively operates as a Microsoft subsidiary. [[Candace Cheung](#)]

» A Southern California man [pleaded guilty to firebombing a Planned Parenthood clinic](#) in Costa Mesa two years ago. [[Edvard Pettersson](#)]



Days out from Super Tuesday, the leading 2024 presidential candidates [made dueling visits to the U.S.-Mexico border](#). President Joe Biden attended an "operational briefing" while 300 miles away former President Donald Trump visited the Texas National Guard headquarters with Governor Greg Abbott.

Meanwhile, as Trump is [trying to get back on the ballot in Illinois](#), appealing a judge's order taking him off, SCOTUS [gave him the gift of an unhurried timeline](#) for its [review of his immunity claims](#) in his Washington election subversion case. Trump had less luck in Manhattan where [a judge denied his bid to stay](#) the \$464 million fraud penalty against him.

[[Erik De La Garza](#), [Caitlyn Rosen](#), [Kelsey Reichmann](#), [Erik Uebelacker](#)]

## 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. [‘Top Gun’ actor sues over use of his image in 2022 sequel](#)
2. [Minnesota court approves removal of child whose parents refused him chemo](#)
3. [Challenging Cruz for Senate seat, two Texas Democrats emerge as frontrunners](#)
4. [Canned tomato packaging misleads consumers, federal judge rules](#)
5. [Federal judge rips California for denying gun purchases to ex-felons](#)
6. [Rebecca Grossman found guilty of murder](#)
7. [Indiana election officials and court remove Republican US Senate candidate from ballot](#)
8. [Feds say no indication widespread AT&T outage was a cyber attack](#)



The federal judge presiding over a prison abuse case [expressed concerns about potential retaliation at the Bay Area women's prison in question](#), where prisoners say officials have ramped up strip searches and bathroom surveillance. [[Natalie Hanson](#)]

## ICYMI: New cases and rulings on our radar

» **Kanye doc:** CHICAGO — A federal court in Illinois [dismissed claims brought by Cynthia Love, a woman who briefly danced in a 2003 Kanye West music video](#) and was depicted in the 2022 Netflix documentary, “Jeen-yuhs: A Kanye Trilogy.” She says her unflattering representation in the documentary constituted defamation, but the court finds the documentary did not depict her in a manner that was materially false, so her claims fail.

» **Native Hawaiian midwifery:** HONOLULU — Midwives, Native Hawaiian birth workers and their patients [are accusing Hawaii in a federal class action of implementing a law that places unreasonable restrictions on midwives without licenses](#), some of whom engage in Native Hawaiian birthing practices. The process for midwifery licenses, they say, are unreasonable, discriminatory and are compromising maternal health.

» **'13 Reasons Why:'** SAN FRANCISCO — The Ninth Circuit found that a California federal court [correctly dismissed a complaint against Netflix alleging that a girl died by suicide after watching the service’s show](#), “13 Reasons Why,” which portrayed the suicide of a high school girl. The complaint’s strict liability claims were not addressed because the father’s claim were time-barred and her brothers lack standing.

— [Daniel Conrad](#), [Candace Cheung](#)

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