

Plus: Shohei Ohtani's translator charged with stealing \$16 million from the LA Dodgers designated hitter.



COURTHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Closing Arguments

The week in Courthouse News

April 12, 2024

Environmentalists on the domestic and international fronts scored a pair of groundbreaking legal wins this week.

In the first international court decision on climate change, [Europe's top rights court sided with a group of senior Swiss women](#) who argued their government violated their rights by failing to protect them from the impact of a warming planet. [[Molly Quell](#)]

"These rulings are a call to action. They underscore the importance of taking our national governments to court," climate activist Greta Thunberg, who attended the hearing, told reporters.

Stateside, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [issued its first-ever restrictions](#) of toxic "forever chemicals" known as PFAS in drinking water.

The substances include chemicals used in nonstick pans, food packaging and firefighting foam, and have been linked to cancer, liver and heart problems and other severe health issues.

Public drinking water systems have five years to comply with the new rules, which EPA officials estimate will reduce exposure for 100 million people. [[Nolan Stout](#)]

Keep reading for much more Courthouse News.

— [Nina Pullano](#)

Here's what else happened in court this week:



Arizona's Supreme Court [lifted a stay on a near-total ban on abortions](#) dating to the Civil War, allowing the state to prosecute anyone who performs the procedure except when deemed necessary to save the mother's life. [[Joe Duhownik](#)]

» Donald Trump thrice attempted and [thrice failed to delay the start](#) of his upcoming criminal trial, which will begin in Manhattan on Monday, April 15. Prosecutors say the ex-president falsified business records to pay hush money to adult film star Stormy Daniels in an effort to cover up a past extramarital relationship between the two. [[Erik Uebelacker](#)]

» Former Trump Organization finance chief Allen Weisselberg was [sentenced to five months in jail for perjury](#), after he [pleaded guilty](#) to lying during his testimony last year in Trump's civil fraud case. [[Erik Uebelacker](#)]

» The mother and father of Oxford High School shooter Ethan Crumbley were both [sentenced to 10 to 15 years in prison](#) as punishment for their respective convictions on four involuntary manslaughter charges. [[Dave Byrnes](#)]

» Actor Jonathan Majors avoided jail time will undergo [one year of domestic violence counseling](#) on assault and harassment charges in connection to a Manhattan altercation last spring with his then-girlfriend. [[Josh Russell](#)]

» The Ninth Circuit [will decide whether Apple, Meta and Google enjoy Section 230 immunity](#) from lawsuits over gambling apps offered on their platforms. [[Natalie Hanson](#)]



The former translator for Los Angeles Dodgers designated hitter Shohei Ohtani [faces charges of stealing more than \\$16 million](#) from the Japanese baseball star to pay his gambling debts to illegal sports bookmakers. [[Edvard Pettersson](#)]

Top 8: This week's most-read stories

1. [Special counsel tells Supreme Court that Donald Trump is not above the rule of law](#)
2. [\[January 2018\] KFC Franchisee Loses Fight to Market Chicken as Muslim-Friendly](#)

3. [Judge skeptical of Judiciary Committee suit to enforce subpoenas in Biden impeachment probe](#)
4. [Final Four brings surge of fans, revenue to the Phoenix metro](#)
5. [Three dead in Las Vegas law firm shooting](#)
6. [Trump files second recusal motion in hush-money case](#)
7. [Rare total solar eclipse set to dazzle Central Texas](#)
8. [Smith & Wesson takes fight over Highland Park massacre to Seventh Circuit](#)



In Los Angeles, a federal judge [ruled against the widow and son of the author](#) of the original 1983 "Top Guns" magazine article, who claimed Paramount Pictures' 2022 "Top Gun: Maverick" sequel infringed on their copyright to the story. [[Edvard Pettersson](#)]

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

» **Walmart pays up:** FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Following 11 days of trial, a federal court in Arkansas [ordered Walmart to pay \\$101.2 million to London Luxury](#) after the big box store wrongly canceled a contract with the manufacturer for pandemic protective gloves. London Luxury must pay \$350,000 to the retail giant on counter-claims that the glove maker offered its global sourcing director incentives to overlook its own breaches of contract. The nine-person jury's verdict was split.

» **Practicing in prison:** NEW ORLEANS — The Fifth Circuit [reversed a Texas federal court's judgment](#) in favor of the state's criminal justice department, which was sued by a Muslim inmate who says he is unable to pray in peace. He has shown that Muslim inmates are given only an hour each week for religious programming — much less time than the six hours allowed to Jewish and Native American inmates — and has proposed reasonable solutions to deficiencies in policy.

» **Needs more honey:** OAKLAND, Calif. — A federal court in California [allows one of a consumer's false advertising claims to proceed](#) against Proctor and Gamble, whose NyQuil product allegedly overstates how much real honey is in the syrup. The customer's contract and warranty lack evidence, but some consumers might be misled with regard to what percentage of honey makes up the medicine.

— *[Daniel Conrad](#)*

© 2023 Courthouse News Service
www.courthousenews.com



[Unsubscribe](#) - [Unsubscribe Preferences](#)