

Gaetz is out, Jussie Smollet is off the hook, and so is Trump, in NY, for now...



COURTHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

Closing Arguments

The week in Courthouse News

November 22, 2024

Is it time for a Google breakup? The Justice Department asked a federal judge to [force the tech titan to sell off Chrome, its web browser](#), in addition to other major remedies stemming from a landmark antitrust case that could seriously change up Google's game.

U.S. District Judge Amit P. Mehta ruled in August that Google had an [illegal monopoly over online searches](#) — the outcome of a nine-week trial last year. Mehta will weigh the DOJ's proposal, and a forthcoming proposal from Google, at a yet-to-be-scheduled remedies trial.

At previous [proceedings in the remedies phase](#), the government has focused on the potential danger of [artificial intelligence](#) allowing Google to maintain search dominance, [Ryan Knappenberger](#) reports.

Next week a second antitrust trial against Google — this one concerning its ad technology — will [head into closing arguments](#) in the Eastern District of Virginia. At trial, reporter [Joan Hennessey](#) writes, Google called experts to [refute that it's a monopoly](#) and argued that the feds [misunderstand its business model](#).

More Courthouse News is next.

— [Nina Pullano](#)

P.S. We're off next week. Have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving. 🍂

Here's what else happened in court this week:



That was fast. Ex-Representative Matt Gaetz [withdrew from consideration](#) as President-elect Donald Trump's attorney general — and he [won't return to Congress](#), either. In his place Trump has tapped [Florida AG Pam Bondi](#). [[Ryan Knappenberger](#), [Benjamin S. Weiss](#)]

» Jose Ibarra was [sentenced to life in prison](#) without parole after he was found guilty of [murdering a 22-year-old nursing student](#) at the University of Georgia. In Colorado, a man accused of killing two people in a dorm [pleaded not guilty](#). [[Megan Butler](#), [Amanda Pampuro](#)]

» The Illinois Supreme Court reversed "Empire" star Jussie Smollett's 2021 disorderly conduct conviction [on double jeopardy grounds](#). [[Dave Byrnes](#)]

» Police in New Jersey's capital city of Trenton have [routinely used excessive force](#), including pepper spray, the DOJ reported. [[Nika Schoonover](#)]

» Sentencing in Trump's Manhattan criminal case has been [suspended indefinitely](#). [Erik Uebelacker]



The International Criminal Court [issued arrest warrants](#) for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, his former minister of defense and a senior Hamas official, charging them with war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Palestinian and Jewish advocacy organizations told a Dutch court that by sending weapons and parts to Israel, the Netherlands is [violating the Genocide Convention](#). [Molly Quell]

Top 8: What you've been reading

1. [Actress sentenced for swindling mentally ill doctor](#)
2. [Chesapeake Bay inches closer to national park status](#)
3. [Biden, NATO allies authorize missile strikes against Russia](#)
4. [Trump to judge: Dismissal of hush money case 'will happen'](#)

5. [Business jet executive sentenced to 16 years in prison for smuggling cocaine and running a \\$550 million Ponzi scheme](#)
6. [Senate After Dark: Democrats foresee more late nights confirming Biden judges amid GOP delay tactics](#)
7. [After banning trans women, Washington spa fights antidiscrimination laws at Ninth Circuit](#)
8. [Rudy Giuliani in hot water over repeated false claims of election fraud](#)



Federal wildlife officials proposed [adding giraffes to the endangered species list](#); three subspecies are under threat of extinction from poaching, urban encroachment and drought caused by climate change. [[Steve Garrison](#)]

Rulings on our radar

» **District of Maryland:** Claims against Six Flags over a 17-year-old's eye injury while riding the Superman: Ride of Steel rollercoaster [will proceed](#) in federal, not state, court.

» **Eastern District of New York:** A Black retired U.S. Army staff sergeant [can't depose NYPD top brass](#) in his race discrimination suit over a November 2023 traffic stop.

» **Supreme Court of Texas:** The court [reversed the dismissal](#) of a lawsuit against Planned Parenthood concerning the law that criminalizes abortion after a fetal heartbeat is detected.



The art world isn't limited to museums and galleries anymore. Courthouse walls around the country are lined with works created by the finest artists of the day, representing the justice system as they, and the court, see it. In [Sidebar's latest episode](#), [Amanda Pampuro](#) brings to life how sketch artists capture vivid portraits that transcend photography and document moments of social change.

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