

You can tie a bow on Closing Arguments' first full year of production...



# COURTHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

## Closing Arguments

*The week in Courthouse News*

December 27, 2024

As 2024 fizzles with a quiet week at the nation's courts, it's the perfect time to revisit the trials that kept our reporters locked in this year.

Let your guide be the Sidebar podcast team, which tied a bow on this year in its special episode: [TL;DR 2024 — YSL, NFL, NRA](#). What does that spell? Here's a preview...

—Rapper Young Thug's [RICO trial in Atlanta](#) alongside other alleged members of Young Slime Life — or **YSL** — became the [longest-running criminal trial](#) in Georgia's history. [Megan Butler](#) is on the beat.

—Reporter [Erik Uebelacker](#) set his sights on the [National Rifle Association's legal troubles](#) in New York, where a pair of trials centered on former **NRA** president [Wayne LaPierre's](#) misuse of [organization funds](#) for personal luxury.

—The **NFL** won a [verdict turnover](#) when a judge tossed out a \$4.7 billion antitrust [verdict](#) linked to its [Sunday Ticket package](#). Post-game analysis by [Edvard Pettersson](#).

And that'll do it for 2024! Thank you for joining us for the journey. We wish you a happy and healthy new year.

Til then, a bit more Courthouse News.

— [Nina Pullano](#)

Here's what happened in court this week:



Significantly limiting the National Labor Relations Board's powers to demand compensation for victims of labor violations, the [Third Circuit reversed a ruling](#) ordering Starbucks to pay extensive relief to two former employees who were fired for seeking union representation. [[Jackson Healy](#)]

» Ninth Circuit judges upheld the FTC's decision to boot a Chinese state-owned telecommunications operator from U.S. markets over national security concerns. [[Michael Gennaro](#)]

» A man accused of killing a woman on the subway by setting her on fire [faces murder charges](#) in New York. [[Nika Schoonover](#)]

» Federal courts don't have jurisdiction over CNN host Don Lemon's [fraud and breach of contract suit](#) against Elon Musk, a judge ruled. [[Michael Gennaro](#)]

» Judges in New York separately [denied two bids](#) to block the imminent launch of America's first "congestion pricing" toll on drivers entering the busiest roads in Manhattan. [\[Josh Russell\]](#)

### 2024 Top 8: What you read this year

1. [Ninth Circuit finds that convicted felons also have Second Amendment rights](#)
2. ['Top Gun' actor's lawsuit over use of his image in sequel appears on thin ice](#)
3. [Ninth Circuit tosses Michael Avenatti's 14-year sentence for stealing from clients](#)
4. [Special counsel tells Supreme Court that Donald Trump is not above the rule of law](#)
5. [Colorado judge sentences serial suer to 12 years in prison](#)
6. ['Love Is Blind' cast member reaches \\$1.4 million settlement with Netflix in class action over unpaid wages](#)
7. [Government offices close as three Southern states memorialize Confederacy](#)
8. [Judge dismisses felony gun possession case against rapper Boosie Badazz](#)



Regifting: On Christmas Eve, the Third Circuit [restored Second Amendment protections](#) to a Delaware man who [lost those rights](#) when he pleaded guilty to felony welfare fraud in 1995. [[Jackson Healy](#)]

## Rulings on our radar

» **Northern District of Texas:** The Department of Health and Human Services can't enforce a new HIPAA rule that restricts the disclosure of information about legal reproductive health care to criminal or civil investigators.

» **Third Circuit:** The court [upheld](#) the denial of New Jersey residents' and landscapers' efforts to keep the town of Montclair from enforcing restrictions on gas-powered leaf blowers.

» **Western District of North Carolina:** NASCAR [cannot stay](#) a preliminary injunction granted to two stock car racing teams that compete in the Cup Series while it resolves an appeal.

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