

# The Supreme Court: Greatest Hits of 2024

Phil Carchman

## Course Information

Mondays from 10:00 a.m.–noon for six weeks beginning September 30 through November 4.

**HYBRID - LECTURE/DISCUSSION - UNLIMITED**

## Course Description

Every Supreme Court term is filled with cases that generate headlines because of their impact on the law and society as well as the rights of citizens (and non-citizens, as well), the government and the governed and both the reality of and the public's perception of the rule of law as a basic tenet of our nation. The 2023-2024 Term, which ended on July 1, 2024, fulfilled that promise and more, not only with the cases and issues that were decided and those that were not, where the Supreme Court “punted” and left the decision for another day. But this term was different. The Court decided cases that will have substantial impact on everyone in both a positive and negative way. How did the decisions change the law? How were the decisions received by the public? How did they impact on one's perception of the rule of law? These questions and others will be addressed in this course.

This course will not only explore, in detail decisions and issues addressed by the Court, but will place them in the historical context of Supreme Court decision making. The course will include an exploration of the tradition, history and structure of the Court as well as a review of early decisions made in the formative years of the Court including *Marbury v Madison*, which presaged what was decided this term.

The 2024 cases that will be discussed include reproductive rights ((*FDA v Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine (Mifepristone)*) and *Moyle v United States (EMTALA)*); the 2nd Amendment ((*United States v Rahimi (restricting domestic violence offenders from possessing firearms)*) and *Gaylord v Cargill (restricting*

bump stocks)); presidential immunity and disqualification (United States v Trump and Trump v Anderson); deference to administrative agencies (Loper Bright Enterprises v Raimondo; SEC v Jackes; Relentless v Dept of Commerce; Ohio v EPA.) In addition, the course will include discussion of US v Fisher (January 6 defendants) and the “social media” cases (Moody v Net Choice and Murthy v Missouri). The course will also address the topic of judicial ethics and how the Supreme Court ethics rules differ from those applying to all other judges.

This is a LECTURE course; however, there will be time for some discussion, and no question will go unanswered!! Some of the materials included in the lectures have been presented in earlier lectures and will be repeated here.

Suggested readings will be distributed the week before each lecture.

## **Leader**

Philip Carchman is a retired judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division, and also served as the Mercer County prosecutor.