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FEATURED CASES



Marbury v. Madison (1803) Judicial Review, Federalism

At the end of President John Adams' term, his Secretary of State failed to deliver documents commissioning William Marbury as Justice of the Peace in the District of Columbia. Once President Thomas Jefferson was sworn in, in order to keep members of the opposing political party from taking office, he told... Read more



Roe v. Wade (1973)

Abortion, Right to Privacy

Jane Roe was an unmarried and pregnant Texas resident in 1970. Texas law made it a felony to abort a fetus unless "on medical advice for the purpose of saving the life of the mother." Roe filed suit against Wade, the district attorney of Dallas County, contesting the statue on... Read more



Miranda v. Arizona (1966)

Self-Incrimination, Due Process

Ernesto Miranda was arrested after a crime victim identified him, but police officers questioning him did not inform him of his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination, or of his Sixth Amendment right to the assistance of an attorney. While he confessed to the crime, his attorney later argued that his... Read more



Tinker v. Des Moines (1969)

Student Speech, Symbolic Speech

John and Mary Beth Tinker of Des Moines, Iowa, wore black armbands to their public school as a symbol of protest against American involvement in the Vietnam War. When school authorities asked that the Tinkers remove their armbands, they refused and were subsequently suspended. The Supreme Court decided that the ... Read more

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Street Law, Inc. 1010 Wayne Avenue, Suite 870 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

(301) 589-1130 (301) 589-1131 fax clearinghouse@streetlaw.org Privacy Policy Terms of Use