NCAA v. ALSTON

The U.S. Supreme Court expanded First Amendment rights, empowered the criminal justice system and tackled jurisdiction during its most recent term, which ended July 2. University of Virginia School of Law resident faculty were cited in seven cases: Professors Douglas Laycock with three; Caleb Nelson with two; and Rachel Bayefsky, John Duffy and Sakイラ久子 Prokash, and UVA Provost M. Elizabeth Magill ’95 with one each. (Two cases cited more than one professor.) Two professors had multiple books or articles cited: Laycock with three and Nelson with two.

EDWARDS v. VANNOY

The U.S. Supreme Court held that its decision last term in Ramos v. Louisiana, requiring jury unanimity for criminal convictions, would not apply retroactively to cases that were already final. In so doing, the court overturned TrRGBLET v. Lake, a case suggesting that certain “watershed” rules of criminal procedure could apply retroactively to benefit defendants convicted in years past. Importantly though, Edwards applies only in the federal context. The court expressly left open the door for Louisiana and Oregon to grant retroactive relief to prisoners convicted by nonunanimous verdicts under state law, in years or decades past, should they so choose.