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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 11.29.21

[Sherman, “Supreme Court . . . Abortion Fight,” Associated Press, 11.27.21.](https://apnews.com/article/donald-trump-us-supreme-court-voting-rights-samuel-alito-07ecdb3661032c4c6ececd4d07c70655)

1. What does the author suggest about the importance of the upcoming Supreme Court case?
2. What recent state law is in question?
3. What notable precedent/case law might be altered?
4. What did Shannon Brewer, operator of the Mississippi abortion clinic, say?
5. What change in the Court’s membership might alter the Court’s view on the subject?
6. What do conservatives say about this upcoming ruling?
7. What does the Court look like, ideologically, since *Casey* decision?
8. What are other states poised to do depending on the outcome of this case/ruling?
9. How does the 14th Amendment play into this case?

[Wehle, “Rittenhouse case puts Spotlight on Election of Judges,” *The Bulwark*, 11.22.21.](https://www.thebulwark.com/rittenhouse-case-puts-spotlight-on-the-election-of-judges/)

1. How old is Judge Schroeder?
2. What charges against Rittenhouse did Judge Schroeder throw out? Why might this be relevant?
3. From the author’s list, name a unique ruling/statement the judge made?
4. What does the author suggest about how electing judges may impact their approach in court?
5. Can the losing side, the prosecution, appeal this verdict? Why or why not? What amendment would prevent this?
6. Does the author seem to have an opinion about the Rittenhouse case? What is it?

[Feuer, “Jan. 6 Defendant . . . Q Anon Shaman . . . 41 months,” *NY Times*, 11.17.21.](https://www.nytimes.com/2021/11/17/us/politics/qanon-shaman-jan-6-sentenced.html)

1. Describe the Q-Anon Shaman, and what is his real name?
2. What had his lawyer asked for?
3. How have most defendants in the Jan. 6 attack plead?
4. How many cases are pending?
5. The Shaman has been held in court since soon after the riot and denied bail. What constitutional amendment guides bail?
6. Describe the defendant’s behavior days after the attack. How might this have influenced the judge’s sentencing?
7. Do you think his sentence was fair? Why or why not?