



NEWS

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SUMMARY OF CASES ACCEPTED DURING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 18, 2004

[This news release is issued to inform the public and the press of cases that the Supreme Court has accepted and of their general subject matter. The description or descriptions set out below do not necessarily reflect the view of the court, or define the specific issues that will be addressed by the court.]

#04-118 *Soukup v. Stock*, S126864. (B154311; 118 Cal.App.4th 1490; Los Angeles County Superior Court; BC247941.) Petition for review after the Court of Appeal reversed an order denying a special motion to strike.

#04-119 *Soukup v. Law Offices of Herbert Hafif*, S126715. (B152759, B154311, B154184; unpublished opinion; Los Angeles County Superior Court; BC247941, BC249367.) Petition for review after the Court of Appeal reversed orders denying special motions to strike.

Stock and *Hafif* include the following issue: Is a cause of action for malicious prosecution subject to a special motion to strike under the anti-SLAPP statute (Code Civ. Proc., § 425.16) if the underlying action that allegedly was maliciously prosecuted was itself dismissed pursuant to a special motion to strike under that statute?

#04-120 *People v. Sykes*, S127529. (B168042; 120 Cal.App.4th 1331; Los Angeles County Superior Court; BA229844.) Petition for review after the Court of Appeal remanded for resentencing and otherwise affirmed a judgment of conviction of criminal offenses.

#04-121 *People v. Vonner*, S127824. (B169476; 121 Cal.App.4th 801; Los Angeles County Superior Court; MA025497.) Petition for review after the Court of Appeal affirmed a judgment of conviction of criminal offenses.

(over)

The court ordered briefing in *Sykes* and *Vonner* deferred pending decision in *People v. Black*, S126182 (#04-83), which presents the following issues: (1) What effect does *Blakely v. Washington* (2004) __ U.S. __, 124 S.Ct. 2531 have on the validity of defendant's upper term sentence? (2) What effect does *Blakely* have on the trial court's imposition of consecutive sentences?

DISPOSITIONS

#03-76 *People v. Salinas*, S115134, was dismissed.

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