



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF  
CALIFORNIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE COURTS  
Public Information Office  
455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688  
[www.courts.ca.gov](http://www.courts.ca.gov)

415-865-7740

Lynn Holton  
Public Information Officer

# NEWS RELEASE

Release Number: 46

Release Date: **September 7, 2011**

## **State Supreme Court to Hold Special Session at UC Hastings Today**

San Francisco—The California Supreme Court will hold a special oral argument session today, Wednesday, September 7, 2011, from 9 a.m. to 3:35 p.m. at the University of California Hastings College of the Law, 200 McAllister Street, San Francisco (<http://www.uchastings.edu/media-and-news/event/2011/09/supreme-court.html>).

Hundreds of law school students are expected to attend morning and afternoon sessions in the Justice Marvin and Jane Baxter Appellate Justice Center, which was dedicated in January 2010. Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye and Chancellor and Dean Frank Wu will speak at opening ceremonies.

Four cases will be argued before the court, including one death penalty appeal. Detailed case summaries and legal briefs are posted online in each case at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/15084.htm>. The court's calendar is posted at <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/SSEPC11.PDF> and appears below.

### **SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA ORAL ARGUMENT CALENDAR HASTINGS COLLEGE OF THE LAW SPECIAL SESSION WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2011—9:30 A.M.**

*The following case summaries are issued to inform the public and the press of cases that the Supreme Court has scheduled for oral argument and of their general subject matter. Generally, the descriptions set out below are reproduced from the original news release issued when review in each of these matters was granted and are provided for the convenience of the public and the press. The descriptions do not necessarily reflect the view of the court or define the specific issues that will be addressed by the court.*

***People v. Vang (Xue) et al., S184212***

#10-107 People v. Vang (Xue) et al., S184212. (D054343, D054636; 185

(more)

Cal.App.4th 309; Superior Court of San Diego County; SCD213306.)

Petition for review after the Court of Appeal modified and affirmed a judgment of conviction of a criminal offense. The court limited review to the following issues:

(1) Did the Court of Appeal correctly find that the trial court erred in permitting the use of hypothetical questions of the prosecution expert witness? (2) If so, did the Court of Appeal correctly find the error to be harmless?

*Expanded case summary:* <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/S184212-casesummary.pdf>.

***Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority v. Alameda Produce Market LLC et al., S188128 (Liu, J., not participating; Marchiano, P.J., assigned justice pro tempore***

#10-143 Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority v. Alameda Produce Market LLC et al., S188128. (B212643; nonpublished opinion; Superior Court of Los Angeles County; BC313010.)

Petition for review after the Court of Appeal reversed the judgment in a civil action. This case presents the following issue: Does a lender's withdrawal of a portion of the deposit of probable compensation in an eminent domain proceeding effect a waiver under Code of Civil Procedure section 1255.260 of the property owner's right to challenge the taking?

*Expanded case summary:* <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/s188128-casesummary.pdf>.

***Serrano et al. v. Stefan Merli Plastering Co., Inc. et al., S183372***

#10-100 Serrano et al. v. Stefan Merli Plastering Co., Inc. et al., S183372. (B215837; 184 Cal.App.4th 178; Superior Court of Los Angeles County; BC324031.)

Petition for review after the Court of Appeal affirmed an order denying attorney fees in a civil action. This case presents the following issue: Is plaintiff eligible for an award of attorney fees under the private attorney general doctrine based on a successful challenge to a court reporter's service charges that established legal precedent?

*Expanded case summary:* <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/S183372-casesummary.pdf>.

***(7) People v. Mendoza (Ronald Bruce), S065467 [Automatic Appeal]***

This matter is an automatic appeal from a judgment of death.

*Expanded case summary:* <http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/S065467-casesummary.pdf>.

-#-