



[Supreme Court of California](#)

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Summary of Cases Accepted and Related Actions During Week of September 21, 2015

[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 statement of the issue or issues in each case set out below does not necessarily reflect the view of the court, or define the specific issues that will be addressed by the court.]

#15-168 *People v. Adams*, S228348. (B252187; nonpublished opinion; Los Angeles County Superior Court; TA103351.) Petition for review after the Court of Appeal affirmed a judgment of conviction of criminal offenses. The court ordered briefing deferred pending decision in *In re Martinez*, S226596 (#15-158), which presents the following issue: Is petitioner entitled to relief under *People v. Chiu* (2014) 59 Cal.4th 155?

#15-169 *People v. Garcia*, S227938. (E057279; 237 Cal.App.4th 666; Riverside County Superior Court; SWF021408.) Petition for review after the Court of Appeal modified and affirmed judgments of conviction of criminal offenses. The court ordered briefing deferred pending decision in *People v. Franklin*, S217699 (#14-56), which includes the following issues: (1) Is a total term of imprisonment of 50 years to life for murder committed by a 16-year-old offender the functional equivalent of life without possibility of parole by denying the offender a meaningful opportunity for release on parole? (2) If so, does the sentence violate the Eighth Amendment absent consideration of the mitigating factors for juvenile offenders set forth in *Miller v. Alabama* (2012) 567 U.S. ___ [132 S.Ct. 2455]? (3) Did Senate Bill 260 (Reg. Sess. 2013-2014), which includes provisions for a parole suitability hearing after a maximum of 25 years for most juvenile offenders serving life sentences, render moot any claim that such a sentence violates the Eighth Amendment?

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The Supreme Court of California is the state's highest court and its decisions are binding on all other California state courts. The court's primary role is to decide matters of statewide importance and to maintain uniformity in the law throughout California by reviewing matters from the six districts of the California Courts of Appeal and the fifty-eight county superior courts (the trial courts). Among its other duties, the court also decides all capital appeals and related matters and reviews both attorney and judicial disciplinary matters.