Competition Problem Archive

Spring 2026:

- Does a student have Article III standing to challenge a Setonia State University Bias Response and Education Team policy on the grounds that it chills protected speech?
- Is the right to record and livestream law enforcement in public a clearly established right for purposes of overcoming a qualified immunity claim?

Spring 2025:

- Does law enforcement's use of utility pole camera surveillance constitute a search under the Fourth Amendment?
- Did the defendant conspire to commit a controlled substance offense, and must a court defer to the Sentencing Commission's commentary on the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which lists conspiracy to sell drugs as a controlled substance offense, when determining whether to sentence the defendant as a career offender?

Spring 2024:

- Does an incarcerated person's placement in solitary confinement give rise to a protected liberty interest under the Due Process Clause of the 14th Amendment?
- Did a prison violate the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) by refusing to accommodate an incarcerated person's religious practices while in solitary confinement?

Spring 2023:

- Are police officers entitled to qualified immunity for an alleged violation of a person's right to record law enforcement?
- Does a lifetime ban on gun ownership violate the Second Amendment rights of an individual with a previous involuntary mental health commitment?

Spring 2022:

- Under U.S. Sentencing Guidelines § 2B3.1, does a different room within a single building qualify as a "different location" for purposes of the abduction sentencing enhancement?
- Does "simple assault," as used in 18 U.S.C. § 111, refer to the common-law crime of simple assault, or is it a term of art encompassing any of the six prohibited acts?

Spring 2021:

- Under 18 U.S.C. § 4241, does the government or the defendant bear the burden of proof at a competency hearing?
- Under 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(2), does "fugitive from justice" status require intent to avoid prosecution or knowledge of one's fugitive status, or does it require only knowledge that charges are pending?