
Supreme Court Grants Permission for Rehearing in Guantanamo Case

2007-06-29

This morning the Supreme Court of the United States issued a remarkable order in *Boumediene v. Bush*, No. 06-1195, a *pro bono* case in which WilmerHale represents six Bosnian-Algerian men who have been imprisoned without charge at Guantanamo Bay since January 2002. The Supreme Court previously had denied *certiorari* on April 2, and we petitioned for rehearing. On the last day of its Term, the Court granted our petition for rehearing, vacated its prior order, and granted *certiorari*. The case will be briefed this summer and argued this fall.

The case challenges as unconstitutional a 2006 law that purported to strip federal court jurisdiction over *habeas corpus* petitions from Guantanamo Bay prisoners. The case also asks the Court to determine that WilmerHale's clients' *habeas* petitions demonstrate that their detention is unlawful and that they are entitled to release or, at the very least, a hearing on the merits.

The Supreme Court's decision to rehear a denial of *certiorari* is extremely rare—it has happened only a few times in the last one hundred years. This is a major positive development in a case that presents the Court with the opportunity to address some of the most important constitutional issues of our time.

The firm's Guantanamo representation began in 2004 and is a firm-wide effort that includes numerous lawyers in several of our US and European offices. The US litigation team includes Stephen Oleskey, [Rob Kirsch](#), [Seth Waxman](#), [Paul Wolfson](#), Doug Curtis, [Mark Fleming](#), [Joseph Mueller](#), Pratik Shah, Lauren Brunswick, Paul Winke, Lynne Campbell Soutter, Julian Davis Mortenson and Jeffrey Gleason.

To view the WilmerHale website with detailed information about the *Boumediene v. Bush* case, click [here](#).