WEEKLY LEGAL

Newsletter

PREPARING YOU FOR A FUTURE IN LAW

COMPILED BY SAMANTHA CHACKO



FEBRUARY 06, 2023

IMPORTANT CASES THIS WEEK



Regents of the University of California v. Bakke



Hawkins v. McGee



Pierson v. Post

University of California v. Bakke SCOTUS on affirmative action programs.



Bakke's application to UC Davis's medical school was rejected twice. There were 16 seats allotted for "qualified minorities" out of 100 students accepted into a class.

Bakke's qualifications exceeded those of the individuals accepted in both years he was rejected, so he argued that he was rejected solely on the basis of race. The Court clarified that while admissions programs can factor in race, they may only constitutionally do so if the policy is narrowly tailored and "does not create an automatic preference based on race," otherwise known as fixed quotas. Read the full decision here.

Hawkins v. McGee

Matching breaches of contract with awarded damages.

After burning his hand, Hawkins visited McGee, a surgeon, who promised him "a 100 percent perfect hand" after completing a surgery that put skin from his chest on his hand. Post-surgery, Hawkins' palm began to sprout hair. Hawkins sued McGee for breach of contract as McGee provided him with a warranty that his hand would be perfect. The New Hampshire Court held that "the measure of recovery on a contract is based upon what a defendant should have given a plaintiff, not what plaintiff has given the defendant or otherwise expended." In other words, Hawkins was only entitled to expectation damages. Read the full decision here.



Pierson v. Post

The pursuit of property.

While out hunting, Pierson and his hounds began to pursue a fox. Despite knowing that the fox was being chased, Post shot and killed the fox. Pierson sued Post and claimed that chasing the fox with his hounds made the fox his property. The New York Court finally ruled that he was not entitled to any damages as mere pursuit did not give Plaintiff any rights over the fox. Read the full decision here.



Photo from National Review



The USC Journal of Law and Society

is pleased to announce a Call for Submissions for its Spring 2023 issue.

All undergraduates from any university, major, or program are invited to submit research papers of at least 10 double-spaced pages in length. Papers may have been completed for coursework, independent study, or written specifically for the Journal. We encourage students from a wide range of disciplines to submit papers. Papers should relate to an aspect of law and society in some manner, but need not have these topics as the central theme.

The *USC Journal for Law and Society* carefully considers all submissions that it receives. Our selection process ensures that every paper is thoroughly reviewed before decisions are made. Every article will receive the same level of review regardless of its time of submission, provided that it falls within the appropriate period.

Submissions are due no later than Wednesday, February 1st, 2023. Please complete the linked <u>Google Form</u> and attach your paper in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx). You may also access the Google Form using the QR code below:



Please note that by submitting a paper, authors commit to working with the Journal and to edit and prepare the paper for publication, should it be selected. Visit our website https://uscjournal.wixsite.com/uscjls for more information or contact the Journal at uscjournal@gmail.com with any questions.