

23SC924 (1 HOUR)

Petitioner:

Jamale D. Townsell,

v.

Respondent:

The People of the State of Colorado.

For Petitioner:

Hollis A. Whitson
SAMPLER AND WHITSON P.C.

For Respondent:

John T. Lee
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

For Amicus Curiae Korey Wise Innocence Project:

Clarissa M. Collier
Nicole L. Jones
WHEELER TRIGG O'DONNELL LLP

For Amicus Curiae Office of Alternate Defense Counsel:

Antony Noble
Tara Jorfald
THE NOBLE LAW FIRM LLC
and
Lynn Noesner
OFFICE OF ALTERNATE DEFENSE COUNSEL

For Amicus Curiae Ramsey Lama:

Ramsey Lama
LAMA LUCHETTA & LEDOUX LLP

Certiorari to the Court of Appeals, 2021CA2068
Docketed: December 13, 2023
At Issue: April 22, 2025

ISSUE(S):

Whether the standard for appointment of counsel under Criminal Rule of Procedure 35(c) differs from the standard for granting a hearing.

Whether an indigent pro se petitioner alleging ineffective assistance of counsel for failure to investigate DNA evidence must specify how exculpatory DNA evidence would undermine confidence in the conviction to sustain a Rule 35(c) motion.

Whether petitioner is entitled to postconviction counsel and a hearing to develop his claim that trial counsel rendered ineffective assistance of counsel by failing to investigate DNA evidence.

2024SC513 (40 MINUTES)

Petitioner:

Michael Thomas Hupke,

v.

Respondent:

The People of the State of Colorado.

For the Petitioner:

Rachel Z. Geiman
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

For the Respondent:

William G. Kozeliski
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Certiorari to the Court of Appeals, 2023CA106
Docketed: August 8, 2024
At Issue: July 7, 2025

ISSUE(S):

Whether the court of appeals incorrectly held that a violation of section 18-8-306, C.R.S. (2024), can be accomplished through a third party's deceit.

2024SC183 (1 HOUR)

Petitioner:

Hertz Corporation,

v.

Respondents:

Stanislav Babayev and Oleg Chikov.

For Petitioner:

Theresa Wardon Benz
DAVIS GRAHAM & STUBBS LLP
and
Franklin D. Patterson
PATTERSON RIPPLINGER P.C.
and
Allan B. Moore
Lauren Willard Zehmer
COVINGTON & BURLING LLP

For the Respondents:

Nelson A. Waneka
WESTERN SLOPE LAW
and
Jacob Galperin
Jordan Willison
GALPERIN & ASSOCIATES

For Amicus Curiae The American Car Rental Association:

Evan Stephenson
Hannah S. McCalla
SPENCER FANE LLP

For Amicus Curiae Colorado Division of Insurance:

Heather Flannery
Evan Spencer
Gabriel Young
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

For Amici Curiae the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association and the American Association for Justice:

Robyn Levin
James W. Hart
LEVIN SITCOFF PC

For Amicus Curiae Truck Renting and Leasing Association:

Kendra N. Beckwith
WOMBLE BOND DICKINSON (US) LLP

Certiorari to the Court of Appeals, 2023CA117
Docketed: March 20, 2024
At Issue: July 10, 2025

ISSUE(S):

Whether, after the legislative abrogation of *Passamano v. Travelers Indemnity Co.*, 882 P.2d 1312 (Colo. 1994), a “motor vehicle rental company” may be considered a statutory or de facto “insurer,” where its rental agreement incidentally offers customers the option of purchasing insurance coverage provided by a licensed, third-party insurer under the rental company’s own pre-existing policy with that insurer.

2025SA134 (1 HOUR)

Plaintiff:

Mary Ann Moreno,

v.

Defendant:

Circle K Stores, Inc.

For Plaintiff:

Virgina Hill Butler

Iris Halpern

Matt Cron

RATHOD MOHAMEDBHAI LLC

For the Defendant:

Thomas W. Carroll

Nicholas Hankins

LITTLER MENDELSON P.C.

Original Proceeding - Certification of Question of Law, U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

2022CV02327-NYW-STV

Docketed: May 09, 2025

At Issue: August 29, 2025

ISSUE(S):

Does Colorado law recognize a public-policy exception to the at-will employment doctrine that allows an employee to bring a wrongful termination claim in the event the employee is terminated for actions taken in self-defense?

SUPREME COURT, STATE OF COLORADO

Public Hearing - October 21, 2025 at 3:30 p.m.

[Proposed Changes to the Rules Governing
Admission to the Practice of Law in Colorado](#)

2024SC154 (1 HOUR)

Petitioner:

Timothy Paul Beagle,

v.

Respondent:

The People of the State of Colorado.

For the Petitioner:

Kevin M. Whitfield
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

For the Respondent:

Jaycey Dehoyos
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

For Amicus Curiae ACLU of Colorado:

Timothy R. Macdonald
Sara Neel
Emma Mclean-Riggs
ACLU FOUNDATION OF COLORADO

Certiorari to the Court of Appeals, 2022CA594
Docketed: March 18, 2024
At Issue: July 14, 2025

ISSUE(S):

Whether the sexually violent predator designation, under section 18-3-414.5(1)(a), C.R.S. (2024), is a criminal punishment under the Eighth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Whether the sexually violent predator designation is cruel and unusual punishment as applied to petitioner.

2024SC244 (40 MINUTES)

Petitioner:

Gustavo Lopez,

v.

Respondent:

The People of the State of Colorado.

For Petitioner:

Meghan M. Morris
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

For the Respondent:

Frank R. Lawson
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Certiorari to the Court of Appeals, 2019CA2313
Docketed: April 9, 2024
At Issue: July 25, 2025

ISSUE(S):

Whether a criminal defendant can open the door to expert witness testimony that another witness told the truth on a particular occasion.

Courts in the Community - East High School

2025SA146 (1 HOUR)

Plaintiff-Appellant:

The People of the State of Colorado,

v.

Defendant-Appellee:

Dakotah J. Lulei.

For Plaintiff-Appellant:

Anya Havriliak
DENVER DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

For the Defendant-Appellee:

Robert Swestka
Robert Halpern
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

Interlocutory Appeal from the District Court, City and County of Denver, 2024CR5907
Docketed: May 20, 2025
At Issue: July 11, 2025

ISSUE(S):

Whether the district court erred in suppressing the defendant's statements.

2024SC122 (1 HOUR)

Petitioner:

Demarea Deshawn Mitchell,

v.

Respondent:

The People of the State of Colorado

For Petitioner:

Patrick R. Henson
HENSON LAW LLC

For the Respondent:

Brenna A. Brackett
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Certiorari to the Court of Appeals, 2021CA1676
Docketed: February 29, 2024
At Issue: March 29, 2025

ISSUE(S):

Whether the court of appeals erred in affirming the trial court's denial of petitioner's motion to dismiss for selective prosecution in a case in which the petitioner, who is Black, and his three codefendants were all charged with felony murder but only the two non-Black defendants received a plea bargain offer that allowed them to be tried in juvenile court in exchange for their cooperation with law enforcement.
