



Ohio Coalition for Open Government

ANALYSIS OF OHIO SUPREME COURT OPEN GOVERNMENT RULINGS

Scorecard by Justice

(excluding 5 routine prison-inmate cases; excluding 8 mixed opinion cases)

Some cases were included in the database that are important Sunshine Law decisions but are not possible or fair to score as "pro" or "con" in favor of access. Cases with mixed results were not included in the scoring. Votes "in favor" or "not in favor" of open government could stem from numerous factors in often-complex cases. For example, a vote "not in favor" of open government could be perfectly consistent with the law as written. However, OCOG believes that differences among judges in how they read and interpret the statutes and the law may be illuminating over time. Readers are encouraged to examine the specifics of individual cases.

Only Supreme Court justices were included in these tallies. Visiting judges who ruled on Supreme Court open government cases were not included in the tallies below but are listed in the spreadsheet listing all cases.

Justices	Votes in favor of open government	Votes not in favor of open government	Total cases voted	Percent of pro open government votes
O'Connor	12	20	32	38%
Pfeifer	12	20	32	38%
Lanzinger	10	22	32	31%
French	6	9	15	40%
O'Neill	6	11	17	35%
O'Donnell	7	23	30	23%
Kennedy	5	9	14	36%
Lundberg Stratton	4	11	15	27%
Cupp	5	10	15	33%
McGee Brown	4	7	11	36%
Brown	2	2	4	50%

Total cases considered: 32 (routine prison-inmate cases and mixed opinion cases excluded)

Scorecard by Justice

(including routine prison-related cases; excluding 8 mixed opinion cases)

Justice	Votes in favor of open government	Votes not in favor of open government	Total cases voted	Percent of pro open government votes
O'Connor	12	24	36	33%
Pfeifer	12	24	36	33%
Lanzinger	10	26	36	28%
French	6	9	15	40%
O'Neill	6	11	17	35%
O'Donnell	7	27	34	21%
Kennedy	5	9	14	36%
Lundberg Stratton	4	15	19	21%
Cupp	5	14	19	26%
McGee Brown	4	10	14	29%
Brown	3	2	5	60%

Total cases considered: 36 (mixed opinion cases excluded)

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Terms of Supreme Court Justices

Justice	Years
Eric Brown	2010 – 2010
Yvette McGee Brown	2011 – 2012
Robert R. Cupp	2007 – 2013
Judith L. French	2013 – present
Sharon L. Kennedy	2012 – present
Judith Ann Lanzinger	2005 – present
Terrence O'Donnell	2003 – present
Maureen O'Connor	2003 – present
William M. O'Neill	2013 – present
Paul E. Pfeifer	1993 – present
Evelyn Lundberg Stratton	1996 – 2012

Decisions by year

Year	Vote in favor of open government	Vote not in favor of open government	Mixed vote
2015 (through July, 2015)	6	0	0
2014	1	4	1
2013	1	6	0
2012	4	3	4
2011	0	7	2



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