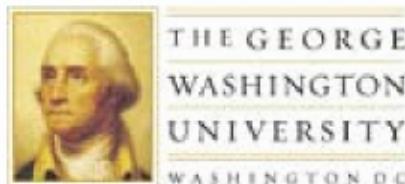


The Burger Court Opinion Writing Database

Chapman v. Meier

420 U.S. 1 (1975)

Paul J. Wahlbeck, George Washington University
James F. Spriggs, II, Washington University in St. Louis
Forrest Maltzman, George Washington University



Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

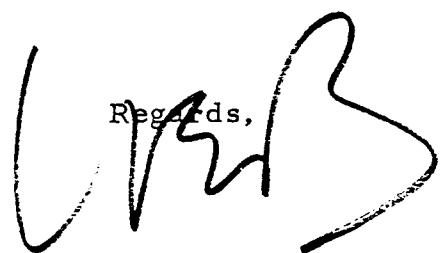
CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

January 23, 1975

1406
Re: 73-~~162~~6 - Chapman v. Meier

Dear Harry:

Please join me in your circulation of
January 16.


Regards,

Mr. Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS

January 24, 1975

Dear Harry:

In 73-1406, Chapman v. Meier, please note I join
your opinion in this case.

William O. Douglas

cc: The Conference

✓
Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE W. J. BRENNAN, JR.

January 13, 1975

RE: No. 73-1406 Chapman v. Meier, etc.

Dear Harry:

I am happy to join your fine opinion in this case.

Sincerely,



Mr. Justice Blackmun

cc: The Conference

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE WM. J. BRENNAN, JR. January 24, 1975

Memorandum to: Secretaries

I sent this note to Justice Brennan
in conference and he sent me word to cir-
culate it as each Justice wants it as a
memento.

Mary

MR. JUSTICE:

Don, Justice Douglas' clerk, has sent me word that Justice Douglas will join in the Chapman opinion, No.73-1406 and that a formal join will come around later today. He says that they may have word later this afternoon on several other cases, but he's not sure.

Mary

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE POTTER STEWART

January 16, 1975

Re: No. 73-1406, Chapman v. Meier

Dear Harry,

I am glad to join your opinion for the Court in
this case.

Sincerely yours,



Mr. Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE BYRON R. WHITE

January 23, 1975

Re: No. 73-1406 - Chapman v. Meier

Dear Harry:

Please join me in your circulation of
January 16, 1975.

Sincerely,



Mr. Justice Blackmun

Copies to Conference

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE THURGOOD MARSHALL

January 14, 1975

Re: No. 73-1406 -- Daniel Chapman and Jacque Stockman v.
Ben Meier, etc.

Dear Harry:

Please join me in your opinion.

Sincerely,

T. M.

T. M.

Mr. Justice Blackmun

cc: The Conference

To: The Chief Justice
Mr. Justice Douglas
Mr. Justice Brennan
Mr. Justice Stewart
Mr. Justice White
 Mr. Justice Marshall
Mr. Justice Powell
Mr. Justice Rehnquist

1st Draft

From: Blackmun, J.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 73-1406

Recirculated: _____

Daniel Chapman and
Jacque Stockman,
Appellants,
v.
Ben Meier, etc. } On Appeal from the United States
District Court for the District
of North Dakota.

[January —, 1975]

MR. JUSTICE BLACKMUN delivered the opinion of the Court.

This case presents the issue of the constitutionality of a federal-court-ordered apportionment of the North Dakota Legislature. That State, like many others, has struggled to satisfy constitutional requirements for legislative apportionment delineated in *Baker v. Carr*, 369 U. S. 186 (1962); *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U. S. 533 (1964); *WMCA, Inc. v. Lomenzo*, 377 U. S. 633 (1964); *Maryland Committee v. Tawes*, 377 U. S. 656 (1964); *Davis v. Mann*, 377 U. S. 678 (1964); *Roman v. Sincock*, 377 U. S. 695 (1964); *Lucas v. Colorado General Assembly*, 377 U. S. 713 (1964); and other cases. This litigation is the culmination of that struggle, totally ineffectual on the legislative side, during the past decade.

I

The State's Constitution and its Statutes

North Dakota's original Constitution, adopted at the State's admission into the Union in 1889, is still in effect. It has been amended, of course, from time to time. Since 1918, § 25 thereof has read: "The legislative power of this state shall be vested in a legislature consisting of a

To: The Chief Justice
Mr. Justice Douglas
Mr. Justice Brennan
Mr. Justice Stewart
Mr. Justice White
Mr. Justice Marshall ✓
Mr. Justice Powell
Mr. Justice Rehnquist

AP 20, 24, 25, 26

2nd DRAFT

From: Blackmun, J.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES:

No. 73-1406

Recirculated: 1/15/75

Daniel Chapman and
Jacque Stockman,
Appellants,
v.
Ben Meier, etc. } On Appeal from the United States
District Court for the District
of North Dakota.

[January —, 1975]

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APR 24 25
To: The Chief Justice
Mr. Justice Douglas
Mr. Justice Breit
Mr. Justice Stev
Mr. Justice Whi
✓Mr. Justice Mai
Mr. Justice Pow
Mr. Justice Rel

3rd DRAFT

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

From: Blackmun, J.

No. 73-1406

Circulated: _____

Daniel Chapman and
Jacque Stockman,
Appellants,
v.
Ben Meier, etc.

On Appeal from the United States
District Court for the District
of North Dakota.

Recirculated: 1/16/75

[January —, 1975]

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Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE LEWIS F. POWELL, JR.

January 13, 1975

No. 73-1406 Chapman v. Meier

Dear Harry:

Please join me.

Sincerely,

L. Lewis

Mr. Justice Blackmun

lfp/ss

cc: The Conference

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

January 14, 1975

Re: No. 73-1406 - Chapman v. Meier

Dear Harry:

Please join me.

Sincerely,

WR

Mr. Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference