

# The Burger Court Opinion Writing Database

*Texas v. Louisiana*

431 U.S. 161 (1977)

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

May 9, 1977

Re: 36 Original - Texas v. Louisiana

Dear Harry:

I join.

Regards,

WSB

Mr. Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE WM.J. BRENNAN, JR.

May 4, 1977

RE: No. 36 Orig., Texas v. Louisiana

Dear Harry:

I agree.

Sincerely,



Mr. Justice Blackmun

cc: The Conference

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE POTTER STEWART

✓

May 4, 1977

No. 36 Orig., Texas v. Louisiana

Dear Harry,

The proposed decree you have circulated seems fine to me as to form. Needless to say, I have not checked the numbers.

Sincerely yours,

P. S.  
P. S.

Mr. Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE BYRON R. WHITE

May 4, 1977

Re: No. 36, Orig. - Texas v. Louisiana

Dear Harry:

I agree. And thanks.

Sincerely,



Mr. Justice Blackmun

Copies to Conference

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE THURGOOD MARSHALL

May 5, 1977

Re: No. 36, Orig. - Texas v. Louisiana

Dear Harry:

I agree with your proposed decree.

Sincerely,

*JM*

T. M.

Mr. Justice Blackmun

cc: The Conference

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE HARRY A. BLACKMUN

May 4, 1977

MEMORANDUM TO THE CONFERENCE

Re: No. 36 Orig. - Texas v. Louisiana

Herewith is the proposed decree which, among other things, will discharge the Special Master. With the exception of paragraphs 6 and 7, its form is that stipulated by the two States and approved by Judge Van Pelt.

If this meets with the approval of the Conference, I believe the routine is to have it appear on the next order list.

*HAB.*

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

From: Mr. Justice Blackmun

Circulated: 5/4/77

Recirculated: \_\_\_\_\_

**2nd DRAFT**

**SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

**STATE OF TEXAS v. STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**ON BILL OF COMPLAINT**

No. 36, Orig. Decided May —, 1977

**DECREE**

For the purpose of giving effect to the opinion of this Court announced on June 14, 1976, 426 U. S. 465:

**IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That the extension of the boundary southerly from the point where the line forming the boundary between Texas and Louisiana southerly from the Arkansas boundary, intersects the geographical middle of the Sabine River (Latitude 31°59' 56.225" North, Longitude 94°02'33.105" West, said point being taken from the United States Geological Survey Quadrangle Center, Tex.-La. 1958 edition) to the mid-point between the gulfward extension of the Sabine Pass jetties Latitude 29°38'37.329" North, Longitude 93°49'30.940" West hereby is established.

Said boundary commences at Latitude 31°59'56.225" North and Longitude 94°02'33.105" West, thence proceeding in a southerly direction along the Sabine River using the federal line as shown for the boundary on the United States Geological Survey Quadrangle Center, Tex.-La., 1958 Edition (photorevised 1969) and signed by Hatley N. Harrison, Jr., for Louisiana on February 20, 1974, and by H. H. Forbes, Jr., for Texas on February 20, 1974, which is in evidence in this case as Texas Exhibit AAA-1.

Thence, on the United States Geological Survey Quadrangle Logansport, La.-Tex. Edition of 1956 (photorevised 1969) and signed by Hatley N. Harrison, Jr., for Louisiana on February 20, 1974, and Herman H. Forbes, Jr. for Texas on February 20, 1974, which is in evidence in this case as Texas

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE LEWIS F. POWELL, JR.

May 4, 1977

No. 36 Orig. Texas v. Louisiana

Dear Harry:

Please join me.

Sincerely,



Mr. Justice Blackmun

lfp/ss

cc: The Conference

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

May 4, 1977

Re: No. 36 Orig. - Texas v. Louisiana

Dear Harry:

Please join me.

Sincerely,

*WRN*

Mr. Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

Supreme Court of the United States  
Washington, D. C. 20542

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE JOHN PAUL STEVENS

May 4, 1977

Re: 36 Orig. - Texas v. Louisiana

Dear Harry:

Please join me.

Respectfully,



Mr. Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference