

# The Burger Court Opinion Writing Database

*Williams v. Brown*

446 U.S. 236 (1980)

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

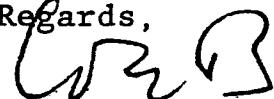
February 1, 1980

Re: 78-357 - Williams v. Brown

Dear Potter:

I join the proposed remand order circulated  
January 4.

Regards,



Mr. Justice Stewart

Copies to the Conference

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE W. J. BRENNAN, JR.

March 20, 1980

RE: No. 78-357 Williams v. Brown

Dear Byron:

Please join me.

Sincerely,



Mr. Justice White

cc: The Conference

1. The Chief Justice  
2. Justice Brennan  
3. Justice White  
4. Mr. Justice Marshall  
5. Justice Blackmun  
6. Justice Powell  
7. Justice Rehnquist  
8. Justice O'Connor

From: Mr. Justice Stewart

Initiated 4 JAN 1980

1st DRAFT

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 78-357

Robert R. Williams et al.,  
Appellants,  
v.  
Leila G. Brown et al.

On Appeal from the United  
States Court of Appeals for the  
Fifth Circuit.

[January —, 1980]

PER CURIAM.

The judgment of the Court of Appeals is vacated and the  
case is remanded to that court for further proceedings in light  
of the opinion of the Court announced today in *City of  
Mobile v. Bolden*, *ante*, at —.

*It is so ordered.*

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

From: Mr. Justice Stewart

Circulated: \_\_\_\_\_

Recirculated: 10 APR 1980

## 2nd DRAFT

**SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

No. 78-357

Robert R. Williams et al.,  
Appellants,  
v.  
Leila G. Brown et al. } On Appeal from the United  
States Court of Appeals for the  
Fifth Circuit.

[January —, 1980]

PER CURIAM,

The judgment of the Court of Appeals is vacated and the case is remanded to that court for further proceedings in light of the decision of the Court announced today in *City of Mobile v. Bolden*, ante, at \_\_\_\_.

*It is so ordered.*

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

From: Mr. Justice White  
17 MAR 1980  
Circulated: \_\_\_\_\_

1st DRAFT

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

## SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 78-357

Robert R. Williams et al.,  
Appellants, } On Appeal from the United  
v. } States Court of Appeals for the  
Leila G. Brown et al. } Fifth Circuit.

[March —, 1980]

MR. JUSTICE WHITE, dissenting.

Because the decision below in this case is based on findings of fact and conclusions of law virtually identical to those in *City of Mobile v. Bolden*, *ante*, p. —, I dissent for the reasons stated in my opinion in that case, *id.*, at —.

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

From: Mr. Justice White

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2nd DRAFT

Recirculated: 3-24-80

## SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 78-357

Robert R. Williams et al.,  
Appellants, } On Appeal from the United  
v. } States Court of Appeals for the  
Leila G. Brown et al. } Fifth Circuit.

[March —, 1980]

MR. JUSTICE WHITE, with whom MR. JUSTICE BRENNAN |  
joins, dissenting.

Because the decision below in this case is based on findings  
of fact and conclusions of law virtually identical to those  
in *City of Mobile v. Bolden*, *ante*, p. —, I dissent for the  
reasons stated in my opinion in that case, *id.*, at —.

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE HARRY A. BLACKMUN

February 6, 1980

Re: No. 78-357 - Williams v. Brown

Dear Potter:

My vote was the other way in this case. For now, I shall await the dissent.

Sincerely,



Mr. Justice Stewart

cc: The Conference

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: APR 2 1980

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No. 78-357 - Williams v. Brown

MR. JUSTICE BLACKMUN, concurring.

I, of course, must accept the Court's vacation of the judgment and its remand. If, however, we were to reach the merits, then, in contrast to the result in City of Mobile v. Bolden, ante, I would affirm the judgment of Court of Appeals in this case.

*Printed*  
From: Mr. Justice BLACKMUN  
Circulated: \_\_\_\_\_  
1st DRAFT Recd. by: APR 3 1980

## SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 78-357

Robert R. Williams et al.,  
Appellants,  
v.  
Leila G. Brown et al. } On Appeal from the United  
States Court of Appeals for the  
Fifth Circuit.

[April —, 1980]

MR. JUSTICE BLACKMUN, concurring.

I, of course, must accept the Courts' vacation of the judgment and its remand. If, however, we were to reach the merits, then, in contrast to the result in *City of Mobile v. Bolden*, *ante*, I would affirm the judgment of Court of Appeals in this case.

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE LEWIS F. POWELL, JR.

April 9, 1980

78-357 Williams v. Brown

Dear Potter:

Please join me.

Sincerely,



Mr. Justice Stewart

lfp/ss

cc: The Conference

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

April 9, 1980

Re: No. 357 - Williams v. Brown

Dear Potter:

Please join me.

Sincerely,



Mr. Justice Stewart

Copies to the Conference

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

CHAMBERS OF  
JUSTICE JOHN PAUL STEVENS

April 8, 1980

Re: 78-357 - Williams v. Brown

Dear Potter:

Please join me.

Respectfully,



Mr. Justice Stewart

Copies to the Conference