

LANDMARK SUPREME COURT CASES GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

CASE NAME + DATE 	
ISSUE  The legal or Constitutional question in this case (amendments/clauses)	
FACTS  The relevant events of a case that occurred before courts became involved	
COURT DECISION  The outcome of a case that includes the court holding, and reasoning	
IMPACT OF CASE  What precedent did it set and how did this ruling impact the nation?	
CONNECTIONS  What are any related cases?	
REMEMBER  Create a <u>mnemonic</u> , or visualization (symbols, emojis, or images) to help you remember the case.	

 Required Supreme Court Cases

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CASE NAME + DATE 	<u>GIDEON v. WAINWRIGHT</u> (1963)
ISSUE  The legal or Constitutional question in this case (amendments/clauses)	<u>6th Amendment</u> - right to a fair trial + <u>14th Amendment</u> - equal protection clause
FACTS  The relevant events of a case that occurred before courts became involved	Clarence Earl Gideon was charged in Florida state court with felony breaking and entering. When he appeared in court without a lawyer, Gideon requested that the court appoint one for him. According to Florida state law, however, an attorney may only be appointed to an indigent defendant in capital cases, so the trial court did not appoint one. Gideon represented himself in trial. He was found guilty and sentenced to five years in prison. Gideon filed a habeas corpus petition in the Florida Supreme Court, arguing that the trial court's decision violated his constitutional right to be represented by counsel.
COURT DECISION  The outcome of a case that includes the court holding, and reasoning	9-0 The Sixth Amendment's guarantee of a right to assistance of counsel applies to criminal defendants in state court through the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.
IMPACT OF CASE  What precedent did it set and how did this ruling impact the nation?	Since the Gideon ruling, defendants in all state courts have the right to a court appointed and state funded lawyer. Gideon was appointed a lawyer who argued his case. Gideon won his trial and after two years in jail was released.
CONNECTIONS  What are any related cases?	Overturned <u>Betts v. Brady</u> (1942) a case which ruled that states were not required to appoint counsel to all cases.
REMEMBER  Create a mnemonic, or visualization (symbols, emojis, or images) to help you remember the case.	GIDEON = Get Indigent Defendants Equal (legal) Opportunity Now  (or at least, GET LAWYER FREE)

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