

04-1528 RANDALL V. SORRELL

DECISION BELOW: 382 F3d 91

LOWER COURT CASE NUMBER: 00-9159, 00-9180, 00-9231, 00-9239, 00-9240

QUESTION PRESENTED:

1. Whether Vermont's mandatory limits on candidate expenditures violate the First Amendment and this Court's decision in *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1 (1976).
2. Whether Vermont's treatment of independent expenditures by political parties and committees as presumptively coordinated if they benefit fewer than six candidates, and thereby subject to strict contribution and expenditure limits, is consistent with the First Amendment and this Court's decision in *Colorado Republican Federal Campaign Comm. v. Federal Election Comm'n*, 518 U.S. 604 (1996).
3. Whether Vermont's contribution limits, which are the lowest in the country, which allow only a single maximum contribution in an entire two-year general election cycle, and which prohibit even state political parties from contributing more than \$400 to their gubernatorial candidate, fall below an acceptable constitutional threshold and should be struck down.

CONSOLIDATED WITH 04-1530 AND 04-1697 FOR ONE HOUR ORAL ARGUMENT.

CERT. GRANTED 9/27/2005