

05-276 JACKSON V. PERRY

DECISION BELOW:(Unreported, 6/9/2005)

LOWER COURT CASE NUMBER: 2:03-CV-354

QUESTIONS PRESENTED:

1. Whether the Equal Protection Clause and the First Amendment prohibit States from redrawing lawful districting plans in the middle of the decade, for the sole purpose of maximizing partisan advantage.
2. Whether Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act permits a State to destroy a district effectively controlled by African-American voters, merely because it is impossible to draw a district in which African-Americans constitute an absolute mathematical majority of the population.
3. Whether, under *Bush v. Vera*, 517 U.S. 952 (1996), a bizarre-looking congressional district, which was intentionally drawn as a majority-Latino district by connecting two far-flung pockets of dense urban population with a 300-mile-long rural "land bridge," may escape invalidation as a racial gerrymander because drawing a compact majority- Latino district would have required the mapmakers to compromise their political goal of maximizing Republican seats elsewhere in the State.

JURISDICTION NOTED 12/12/2005

CONSOLIDATED WITH 05-204, 05-254, 05-439 FOR TWO HOURS ORAL ARGUMENT.
EXPEDITED BRIEFING SCHEDULE.