

AMICUS BRIEF

Law Firms v. Trump Administration

Multiple cases by law firms challenging retaliatory executive orders

The Knight Institute has joined the ACLU and other legal advocacy organizations from across the political spectrum in filing amicus briefs in support of lawsuits brought by law firms challenging the Trump administration's retaliatory executive orders.

Since taking office, President Trump has signed five executive orders targeting major law firms for retribution based on each firm's past representation of clients and causes disfavored by the president. The amicus briefs filed by the Knight Institute, the ACLU, and others argue that these executive orders violate the First Amendment because they amount to retaliation against constitutionally protected legal advocacy. The briefs also argue that the executive orders violate the separation of powers, by suppressing the ability of lawyers to file the legal challenges that courts rely on to perform their constitutional function of adjudicating the legality of governmental action.

Status of *Perkins Coie* suit: On May 2, 2025, an opinion was issued in the D.C. district court denying the government's motion to dismiss.

Status of *WilmerHale* suit: On May 27, 2025, an opinion was issued in the D.C. district court denying the government's motion to dismiss..

Status of *Jenner* suit: On May 23, 2025, an opinion was issued in the D.C. district court denying the government's motion to dismiss.

Status of *Susman Godfrey* suit: On June 27, 2025, an opinion was issued in the D.C. district court denying the government's motion to dismiss and granting the plaintiff's motion for summary judgment.

Case Information: *Perkins Coie LLP v. DOJ*, No. 1:25-cv-00716 (D.D.C.); *Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP v. Executive Office of the President*, No. 1:25-cv-00917 (D.D.C.); *Jenner & Block LLP v. DOJ*, No. 1:25-cv-00916 (D.D.C.); *Susman Godfrey LLP v. Executive Office of the President*, No. 1:25-cv-01107 (D.D.C.).

FILED UNDER **AMICUS BRIEF**



PRESS STATEMENTS

APRIL 3, 2025

Legal Organizations Across Ideologies File Amicus Brief Urging Court to Enjoin Executive Order Targeting Perkins Coie

LEGAL FILINGS

Click to highlight response chains↓

KEY DOCUMENTS

APRIL 2, 2025

ACLU & Knight Institute's amicus brief (in support of Perkins Coie)

APRIL 11, 2025

ACLU & Knight Institute's amicus brief (in support of WilmerHale)

APRIL 11, 2025

ACLU & Knight Institute's amicus brief (in support of Jenner & Block)

APRIL 25, 2025

ACLU & Knight Institute's amicus brief (in support of Susman Godfrey)

PERKINS COIE V. DOJ (NO. 1:25-CV-00716)

MAY 2, 2025

Opinion (denying government's motion to dismiss)

APRIL 16, 2025

Plaintiff's Opposition



APRIL 16, 2025

Government's Opposition



APRIL 2, 2025

Perkins Coie Motion for Summary Judgment



APRIL 2, 2025

ACLU & Knight Institute's amicus brief (in support of Perkins Coie)

APRIL 2, 2025



Government's Motion to Dismiss

MARCH 12, 2025

Order (granting temporary restraining order)

MARCH 11, 2025

Plaintiff's Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order**WILMERHALE V. EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (1:25-CV-00917)**

MAY 27, 2025

Opinion

APRIL 17, 2025

Government's Opposition

APRIL 17, 2025

Plaintiff's Opposition

APRIL 11, 2025

ACLU & Knight Institute's amicus brief (in support of WilmerHale)

APRIL 8, 2025

Government's Motion to Dismiss

APRIL 8, 2025

Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment

MARCH 28, 2025

Order (partially granting motion for temporary restraining order)

MARCH 28, 2025

Plaintiff's Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order and for a Preliminary Injunction**JENNER & BLOCK V. DOJ (1:25-CV-00916)**

MAY 23, 2025

Opinion

APRIL 17, 2025

Plaintiff's Opposition

APRIL 17, 2025

Government's Opposition

APRIL 11, 2025

ACLU & Knight Institute's amicus brief (in support of Jenner & Block)



APRIL 8, 2025

Government's Motion to Dismiss

APRIL 8, 2025

Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment

MARCH 28, 2025

Plaintiff's Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order

MARCH 28, 2025

Order (granting temporary restraining order)

SUSMAN GODFREY V. EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT (1:25-CV-01107)

JUNE 27, 2025

Opinion

APRIL 25, 2025

ACLU & Knight Institute's amicus brief (in support of Susman Godfrey)

APRIL 23, 2025

Government's Motion to Dismiss

APRIL 23, 2025

Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment

APRIL 15, 2025

Order (granting motion for a temporary restraining order)

APRIL 14, 2025

Plaintiff's Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order