### In the Supreme Court of the United States

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, et al., Petitioners, v.
REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, et al., Respondents.

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

DONALD J. TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, et al., Petitioners,

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, et al., Respondents.

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI BEFORE JUDGMENT TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

KEVIN K. MCALEENAN, ACTING SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY, et al., Petitioners,

v.

MARTÍN JONATHAN BATALLA VIDAL, et al., Respondents.

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI BEFORE JUDGMENT TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

## BRIEF OF RESPONDENTS THE STATES OF CALIFORNIA, MAINE, MARYLAND, AND MINNESOTA

XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California MICHAEL J. MONGAN\* Solicitor General MICHAEL L. NEWMAN Senior Assistant Attorney General SAMUEL P. SIEGEL JOSHUA PATASHNIK Deputy Solicitors General SHUBHRA SHIVPURI JAMES F. ZAHRADKA II Deputy Attorneys General 455 Golden Gate Ave. San Francisco, CA 94102 (415) 510-3920 Michael.Mongan@doj.ca.gov

September 27, 2019

(Additional counsel listed on inside cover)

\*Counsel of Record



AARON M. FREY
Attorney General of Maine
SUSAN P. HERMAN
Deputy Attorney General
6 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

BRIAN E. FROSH
Attorney General
of Maryland
STEVEN M. SULLIVAN
Solicitor General
LEAH J. TULIN
Assistant Attorney General
200 Saint Paul Place
20th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202

KEITH ELLISON
Attorney General
of Minnesota
LIZ KRAMER
Solicitor General
JACOB CAMPION
Assistant Attorney General
445 Minnesota Street
Suite 1100
St. Paul, MN 55101



#### **QUESTIONS PRESENTED**

Whether the district courts in these consolidated cases properly held (i) that petitioners' September 2017 decision to terminate the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy is subject to judicial review under the Administrative Procedure Act, (ii) that the decision violated or likely violated the Act, and (iii) that petitioners' motions to dismiss certain other claims that remain pending in the California and New York proceedings should be denied.



#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

			Page			
Int	rodu	ıction	1			
Sta	ıtem	ent	2			
	A.	Legal and factual background	2			
	В.	Procedural background	7			
Su	mma	ary of argument	11			
Arg	Argument13					
I.	The decision to terminate DACA is subject to judicial review					
	A.	The termination decision is not "committed to agency discretion by law"	13			
	В.	New rationales advanced by petitioners after the termination decision do not make it unreviewable	21			
	C.	Section 1252 does not bar review	23			
II.		e termination decision is invalid under APA	23			
	A.	The agency's stated premise that DACA is unlawful is incorrect	25			
		1. Deferred action is lawful	25			
		2. Class-based deferred action policies are a permissible policy tool	27			
		3. DACA is a permissible class-based deferred action policy	31			
		4. The agency's assertion that DACA is illegal rests on a mistaken legal premise	34			



## TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

				Page
В	<b>3.</b>	sio	e agency's explanation for its decin does not satisfy the APA's requirents for reasoned decisionmaking	41
C	·.	titi	ernative rationales advanced by peoners during this litigation cannot to the termination decision	45
		1.	"Litigation risk"	45
		1.	Former Secretary Nielsen's policy rationales	47
			dgments of the courts below should med	52
Concl	1116	sion		55



# DOCKET

## Explore Litigation Insights



Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

## **Real-Time Litigation Alerts**



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time** alerts and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

### **Advanced Docket Research**



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

## **Analytics At Your Fingertips**



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

#### API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

#### **LAW FIRMS**

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

#### **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

#### **E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS**

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.

