

# Appeals Court Ruling Sets Up Election Year Immigration Battle

## Timeline of Legal Challenges to Immigration Actions

November 2014



### President Obama Announces Executive Actions on Immigration

- Citing the failure of immigration reform bills in Congress, the White House announced a series of executive actions that would allow nearly half of undocumented immigrants to legally stay and work in the United States

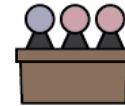
February 2015



### District Court Halts Executive Actions on Procedural Grounds

- After several states joined a lawsuit to prevent the actions' implementation, a federal district court issued a temporary injunction
- The district court ruled that the actions failed to adhere to the formal rule-making process, e.g. allowing a period for public comment

November 2015



### Appeals Court Rules Against Actions on Substantive Grounds

- The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals voted 2-1 to uphold the lower court's injunction
- Notably, the appeals court ruling stated that the lawsuit is likely to ultimately succeed, implying that the executive actions are unconstitutional

Spring 2016



### Supreme Court Could Decide Case in Spring 2016 Session

- The timing of the appeals court ruling means that the Supreme Court could hear the case in its upcoming session
- If the Court accepts the case, oral arguments would probably be held in late April 2016, and the decision would be announced in June 2016