Overview of October Term 2010

Unless otherwise noted, the following charts cover October Term 2010, which began on October 4, 2010 and will continue until late-June, 2011. As the term continues, we will update the Stat Pack with more robust information on the current term and a greater number of cross-term charts.

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Summary of the Term

Total Merit Opinions Released	33
Signed opinions after oral argument	29
Summary reversals	3
Affirmed 4-4	1
Total Merit Opinions Expected	80
Total Merit Opinions Expected Scheduled for oral argument	80 79
· ·	

Total Cases Granted for OT 11	13
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^{*} You can find out more about our statistics features here: <<u>http://www.scotusblog.com/2010/11/scotusblog-4-0-and-statistics/</u>>. You can find past Stat Packs here: <<u>http://www.scotusblog.com/reference/stat-pack/></u>.

Opinions by Sitting

Roberts	1		1		-		1		-	-		-	JGR	3
Scalia	1		1		1		-		-	-		-	AS	
Kennedy	2		1		-		-		-	-		-	AMK	۲ (
Thomas	1		1		-		-		-	-		-	СТ	2
Ginsburg	2		1		1		1		-	-		-	RBG	
Breyer	2		1		-		-		-	-		-	SGB	
Alito	1		-		2		-		-	-		-	SAA	
Sotomayor	1		-		2		1		-	-		-	SMS	4
Kagan	1		1		1		-		-	-		-	EK	3
Justice	October		Novembe		Decem	ber	Januar	y	February	March		April	Total	_
	Total: 12 Remain	n: o	Total: 13 Rema	ain: 5	Total: 12 Re	main: 5	Total: 11 Rem	ain: 8	Total: 10 Remain: 10	Total: 12 Rem	ain: 11	Total: 8 Remain: 8	Exp.	76
	Abbott H	RBG	Tohono		Wall	SAA	Matrixx	SMS	Freeman	Davis		Microsoft		
	Ransom	EK	Ortiz	RBG	Walker	RBG	Montana		Tinklenberg	<i>Tolentino</i>	PC	Tapia		
	LA County S	SGB	Staub	AS	Plata		Goodyear		Bond	Duryea		Am. Electrical		
	Michigan S	SMS	Ent. Merch. Ass'n		CIGNA		McIntyre		Global Tech	Fox		Apache Nation		
	NASA	SAA	Sossamon		VOPA		King		DePierre	J.D.B.		John Fund		
	Snyder J	JGR	AZ Christian	AMK	Milner	EK	Sykes		Stanford	Turner		McNeill		
	Connick	CT	Williamson	SGB	Henderson	SAA	Gen. Dynamics		Schindler	McBride		Sorrell		
	Harrington A	AMK	CostCo	PC	Pepper	SMS	Bayer		Camreta	AZ Free Ent.		Nevada		
	Bruesewitz	AS	Mayo	JGR	Janus		Stern		Bullcoming	Fowler				
	Premo A	AMK	Vincent		Thompson	AS	Astra	RBG	Al-Kidd	Wal-Mart				
	Kasten S	SGB	Cullen	CT	Chase	SMS	AT&T	JGR		PLIVA				
	Skinner H	RBG	Flores-Villar		Whiting					Talk America				
-			CSX Trans.	EK		-								

**CostCo v. Omega* was aff'd 4-4. *Tolentino v. New York* was dismissed as improvidently granted. *Madison v. Oneida* was dismissed prior to oral arguments and is therefore not represented on this chart. The Court scheduled 79 cases for oral argument and after two dismissals and one *per curiam* opinions (*CostCo*), the Court is expected to release 76 signed opinions for the current term.

Cases by Vote Split

The following chart shows the merit opinions that have been released by the Court divided by the strength of the majority opinion, sorted by release date. Cases in which fewer than nine members voted are marked with the actual vote total and *per curiam* decisions are indicated as such.

20 (63%)	4 (13%)	= (+(0))		((0))
	4 (10/0)	5 (16%)	1 (3%)	2 (6%)
Abbott v. U.S. (8-0) Sr LA County v. Humphries (8-0) Pe	ansom v. MBNA nyder v. Phelps epper v. U.S. (7-1) filner v. Navy	Bruesewitz v. Wyeth (6-2) CSX Transport. v. Alabama Michigan v. Bryant (6-2) Kasten v. Saint-Gobain (6-2) Cullen v. Pinholster	1 (3%) Skinner v. Switzer	2 (6%) Connick v. Thompson AZ Christian v. Winn
Henderson v. Shinseki (8-0) Wall v. Kholi				
Felkner v. Jackson (PC) Matrixx v. Siracusano Astra v. Santa Clara (8-0)				

Cases Not Included Above						
Madison v. Oneida Vacated and remanded prior to oral arguments						
CostCo v. Omega	Affirmed by an equally divided court (4-4)					
Tolentino v. New York	Dismissed as improvidently granted					

Past Terms									
	9-0	8-1	7-2	6-3	5-4				
ОТо9	46%	10%	15%	11%	18%				
ОТо8	33%	5%	16%	16%	29%				
ОТо7	30%	9%	29%	14%	17%				
ОТо6	39%	13%	11%	4%	33%				
ОТо5	56%	5%	11%	16%	12%				
Avg.	41%	8%	17%	12%	22%				

Circuit Scorecard

October Term 2010

	Number	Percent	Aff'd	Rev'd	Aff'd %	Rev'd %	Aff'd (4-4)
CA1	2	3%	1	0	100%	о%	
CA2	4	5%					
CA3	5	6%	2	1	67%	33%	
CA4	4	5%	1	0	100%	о%	
CA5	5	6%	0	2	0%	100%	
CA6	5	6%	0	2	0%	100%	
CA7	5	6%	0	3	0%	100%	
CA8	4	5%	1	1	50%	50%	
CA9	25	31%	2	12	14%	86%	1
CA10	-	-					
CA11	3	4%	0	1	0%	100%	
CA DC	-	-					
CA Fed	7	9%	0	1	0%	100%	
State	9	11%	0	2	0%	100%	
Dist. Court.	1	1%					
Original	1	1%					
	80		7	25	22%	78%	1

October Term 2011

	Number	Percent
CA1		
CA2		
CA3	2	15%
CA4	1	8%
CA5		
CA6	3	23%
CA7		
CA8		
CA9	2	15%
CA10	1	8%
CA11	3	23%
CA DC		
CA Fed		
State	1	8%
Dist. Court.		
Original		
	13	

Opinion Authorship

	Total # Opinions	Majority Opinions	Concurring Opinions	Dissenting Opinions
Roberts	3	3	-	-
Scalia	10	3	4	3
Kennedy	3	3	-	-
Thomas	9	2	4	3
Ginsburg	11	5	4	2
Breyer	6	3	2	1
Alito	8	3	3	2
Sotomayor	7	4	1	2
Kagan	4	3	-	1

The following chart shows the number of opinions authored by each Justice.

Majority Opinion Authorship and Vote Split

The following charts show the strength of the majority opinions authored by each Justice.

Tota	Total number of opinions authored									
	Total	9-0	8-1	7-2	6-3	5-4				
Roberts	3	2	1	-	-	-				
Scalia	3	2	-	1	-	-				
Kennedy	3	2	-	-	-	1				
Thomas	2	-	-	1	-	1				
Ginsburg	5	4	-	-	1	-				
Breyer	3	2	-	1	-	-				
Alito	3	3	-	-	-	-				
Sotomayor	4	2	1	1	-	-				
Kagan	3	-	2	1	-	-				
	29	17	4	5	1	2				

Authorsh	Authorship as a percentage of similar opinions									
	9-0	8-1	7-2	6-3	5-4					
Roberts	12%	25%	-	-	-					
Scalia	12%	-	20%	-	-					
Kennedy	12%	-	-	-	50%					
Thomas	-	-	20%	-	50%					
Ginsburg	24%	-	-	100%	-					
Breyer	12%	-	20%	-	-					
Alito	18%	-	-	-	-					
Sotomayor	12%	25%	20%	-	-					
Kagan	-	50%	20%	_	-					
	100% (17)	100% (4)	100% (5)	100% (1)	100% (2)					

Frequency in the Majority

The following charts measure how frequently each Justice has voted with the majority during OT 2010. The charts include summary reversals but do not included cases that were dismissed.

Justice	Votes	Frequency in Majority	ОТо9	ОТо8	ОТо7
Roberts	32	100%	91%	81%	90%
Kennedy	32	97%	91%	92%	86%
Scalia	32	91%	87%	84%	81%
Breyer	32	91%	78%	75%	79%
Alito	32	91%	87%	81%	82%
Thomas	32	88%	83%	81%	75%
Sotomayor	32	88%	84%	-	-
Kagan	16	88%	-	-	-
Ginsburg	32	84%	80%	70%	75%

All Cases

Divided Cases

Justice	Votes	Frequency in Majority	ОТо9	ОТо8	ОТо7
Roberts	12	100%	83%	72%	73%
Kennedy	12	92%	83%	89%	79%
Scalia	12	75%	76%	76%	65%
Breyer	12	75%	58%	62%	68%
Alito	12	75%	76%	72%	75%
Kagan	8	75%	-	-	-
Thomas	12	67%	67%	72%	85%
Sotomayor	12	67%	69%	-	-
Ginsburg	12	58%	63%	55%	65%

OT09

OT10

168d

153d

Days Between Grant And Oral Argument

The following charts address the number of days between when the Court grants certiorari (or otherwise decides that a case should be argued), and when it hears oral argument in a given case. The typical briefing schedule outlined in the Court's rules allows for 112 days between argument and opinion. The Court typically seeks to avoid compressing the briefing schedule and, as the charts below show, it was fairly successful during OT 2010.

Argued	Avg.	Days		Rank		Days	Month Argued	Granted	Argued				
October	207d			1	Abbott	252d	October	Jan 25	Oct 4				
November	179d		179d		179d			2	Flores-Villar	233d	November	Mar 22	Nov 10
December	165d			3	Harrington	232d	October	Feb 22	Oct 12				
January	117d			4	LA County	225d	October	Feb 22	Oct 5				
February	140d		Longost	5*	Michigan	218d	October	Mar 1	Oct 5				
March	130d		Longest	5*	Bruesewitz	218d	October	Mar 8	Oct 12				
April	118d			7	Snyder	212d	October	Mar 8	Oct 6				
Overall	153d			8	NASA	211d	October	Mar 8	Oct 5				
				9	Matrixx	210d	January	Jun 14	Jan 10				
Average	153d			10	Kasten	205d	October	Mar 22	Oct 13				
Median	149d												
St. Dev	38d												
				1	Montana	90d	January	Oct 12	Jan 10				
Longest	Abbott	252d		2*	McIntyre	105d	January	Sep 28	Jan 11				
Shortest	Montana	90d		2*	Goodyear	105d	January	Sep 28	Jan 11				
				4*	Sykes	106d	January	Sep 28	Jan 12				
			Shortest	4*	King	106d	January	Sep 28	Jan 12				
ОТоз	172d		Snortest	6	McNeill	108d	April	Jan 7	Apr 25				
ОТо4	167d			7*	Talk America	110d	March	Dec 10	Mar 30				
ОТо5	165d			7*	PLIVA	110d	March	Dec 10	Mar 30				
ОТоб	131d			9*	Stern	112d	January	Sep 28	Jan 18				
ОТо7	134d			9*	Bayer	112d	January	Sep 28	Jan 18				
ОТо8	167d	-			1								

* You can read about a less successful past Term here <<u>http://www.scotusblog.com/2008/01/on-the-docket-and-briefing-schedules/></u>.

* In a handful of cases, the Court will not be presented with a petition for writ of certiorari, but will instead receive a Statement of Jurisdiction. These charts treat those cases identically to cert. petitions and the "Grant Date" indicates when the Court noted probable jurisdiction or postponed the determination of jurisdiction.

Days Between Oral Argument and Opinion

The following charts address the time it takes for the Court to release opinions following oral argument. The Court has released 29 signed opinions after argument during the current term.

Argued	Avg.	Total	Remain		Rank			Author	Vote	Argued	Opinion
October	117d	12	-		1	Connick	174d	Thomas	5-4	Oct 6	Mar 29
November	112d	13	5		2	Kasten	160d	Breyer	6-2	Oct 13	Mar 22
December	78d	12	5		3	AZ Christian	152d	Kennedy	5-4	Nov 3	Apr 4
January	60d	11	8		4	Snyder	147d	Roberts	8-1	Oct 6	Mar 2
February	-	10	10	Tanant	5^*	Michigan	146d	Sotomayor	6-2	Oct 5	Feb 28
March	-	12	11	Longest	5^*	Cullen	146d	Thomas	7-2	Nov 9	Apr 4
April	-	8	8		7	Skinner	145d	Ginsburg	6-3	Oct 13	Mar 7
Overall	100d	78	47		8	Bruesewitz	133d	Scalia	6-2	Oct 12	Feb 22
					9	Staub	119d	Scalia	8-0	Nov 2	Mar 1
Average	99d				10	Williamson	112d	Breyer	8-0	Nov 3	Feb 23
Median	100d										
St. Dev.	38d										
					1	AT&T	41d	Roberts	8-0	Jan 19	Mar 1
Longest	Conni	ck	174d		2	Abbott	42d	Ginsburg	8-0	Oct 4	Nov 15
Shortest	AT&T		41d		3	Chase	47d	Sotomayor	9-0	Dec 8	Jan 24
					4	Thompson	48d	Scalia	8-0	Dec 7	Jan 24
				Chertert	5	LA County	56d	Breyer	8-0	Oct 5	Nov 30
ОТоз	82d			Shortest	6	Mayo	64d	Roberts	8-0	Nov 8	Jan 11
ОТ04	91d				7	Astra	69d	Ginsburg	8-0	Jan 19	Mar 29
ОТо5	79d				8	Matrixx	71d	Sotomayor	9-0	Jan 10	Mar 22
OT06	96d			9	Ortiz	84d	Ginsburg	9-0	Nov 1	Jan 24	
ОТо7	94d				10	Henderson	85d	Alito	8-0	Dec 6	Mar 1
ОТо8	94d						1	1			
ОТо9	109d										
OT10	100d										

	9-0 (20)	8-1 (4)	7-2 (5)	6-3 (1)	5-4 (2)
Average # Days	78d	107d	138d	145d	163d

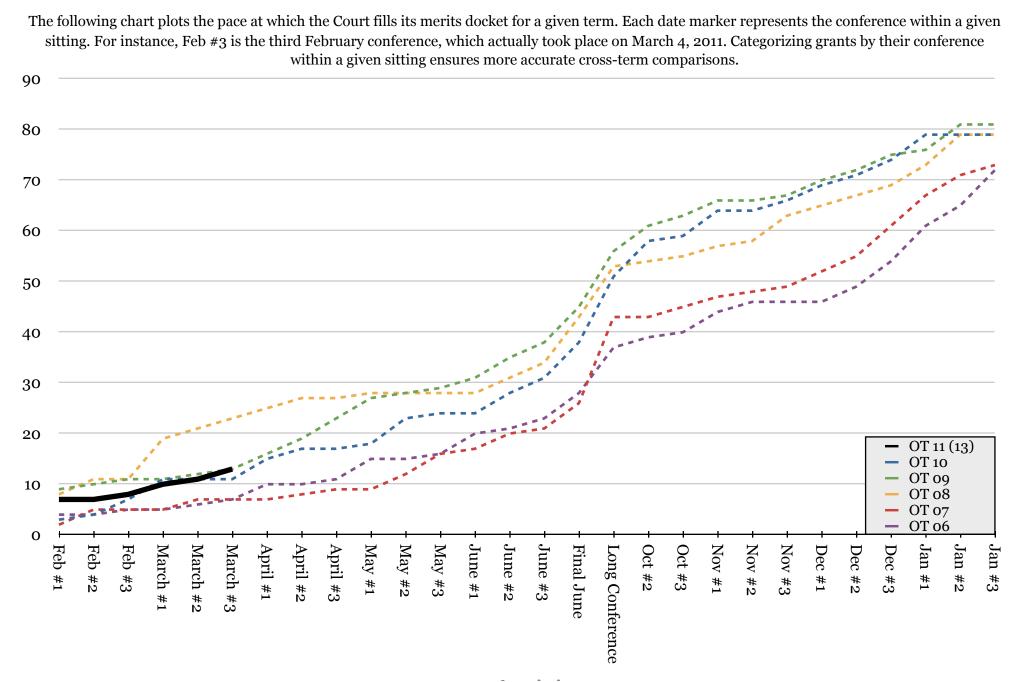
* These charts consider only signed opinions released following oral arguments.

Term Index

This chart includes a summary of the cases for the term including (1) majority opinion author, (2) vote, (3) days between argument and opinion, (4) judgment, and (5) court below.

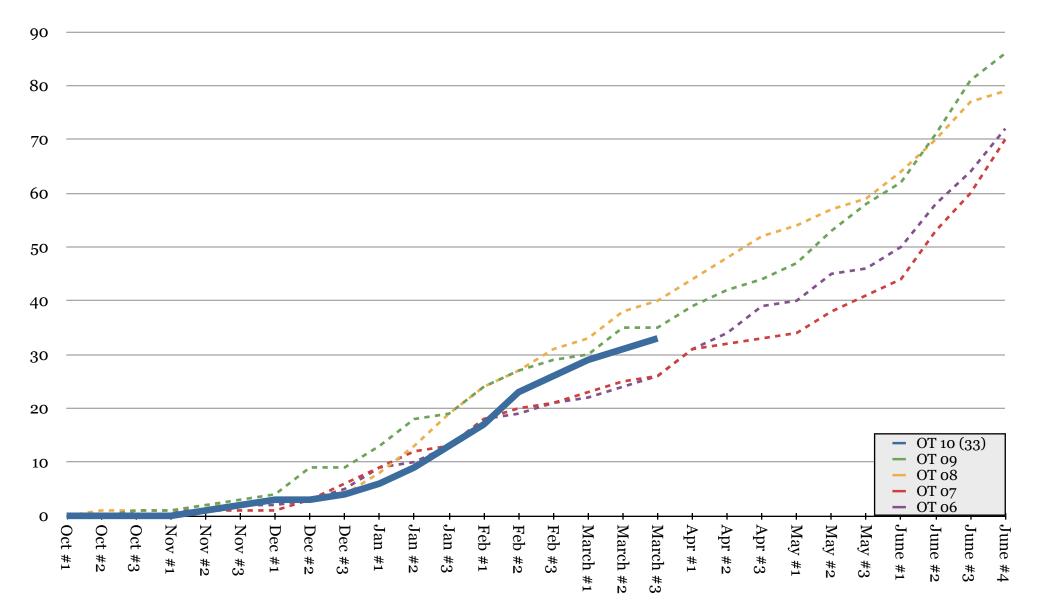
October								Avg.	November								Avg.	December							Avg.
Abbott	RBG	8-0	42d	Α	CA3	JGR	1	147d						CAFC	JGR	1	64d	Wall	SAA	9-0	98d 4	A CA1	JGR	0	
Ransom		8-1			CA9	AS		133d		RBG	9-0	84d	R	CA6	AS		119d	Walker	RBG	-	86d 1		AS	1	48d
LA County	SGB	8-0	56d	R	CA9	AMK	2	99d	Staub	AS	8-0	119d	R	CA7	AMK	1	152d	Plata		-		USD	CAMK	0	
Michigan	SMS	6-2	146d	R	ST	СТ	1		Ent. Merch. Ass'n			-		CA9	СТ		146d	CIGNA				CA2	СТ	0	
NASA	SAA	8-0	106d	R	CA9	RBG	2	94d						CA5	RBG		84d	VOPA				CA4	RBG	1	86d
Snyder	JGR	8-1	147d	Α	CA4	SGB	2	108d	AZ Christian	AMK	5-4	152d	R	CA9	SGB	1	112d	Milner	EK	8-1	96d 1	R CA9	SGB	0	
Connick	СТ	5-4	174d	R	CA5	SAA	1	106d	Williamson	SGB		112d		ST	SAA	0		Henderson	SAA	8-0	85d 1	R CAF	SAA	2	92d
Harrington	AMK	8-0	99d	R	CA9	SMS	1	146d	CostCo	PC	4-4		А	CA9	SMS	0		Pepper	SMS	7-1	86d 1	R CA8	SMS	2	67d
Bruesewitz	AS	6-2	133d		-	EK	1	99d	Mayo	JGR		64d	Α	CA8	EK	1	104d	Janus				CA4	EK	1	96d
Premo	AMK				CA9	Total	12	11	Vincent					CA9	Total	8		Thompson	AS	8-0	48d 1		Total	7	-
Kasten	SGB		160d		-	Expect.			Cullen	СТ	7-2	146d	R	CA9	Expect.			Chase	SMS		47d		Expect		
Skinner			145d			Avg.		117d	Flores-Villar		,			CA9	Avg.	Ŭ	112d	Whiting			17 *	CA9	Avg.		78d
		. 0	10		0			/ -	CSX Trans.	EK	7-2	104d	R	CA11											
January								Avg.	February		,						Avg.	March							Avg.
Matrixx	SMS	9-0	71d	Α	CA9	JGR	1	41d	Freeman					CA6	JGR	0	0	Davis				CA11	JGR	0	
Montana			, -		Orig	AS	0		Tinklenberg					CA6	AS	0		Tolentino	DIG	-		ST	AS	0	
Goodyear					ST	AMK	0		Bond						AMK	0		Duryea				CA3	AMK	0	
McIntyre					ST	СТ	0		Global Tech					-	СТ	0		Fox				CA5	СТ	0	
King					ST	RBG	1	69d	DePierre						RBG	0		J.D.B.				ST	RBG	0	
Sykes					CA7	SGB	0		Stanford					CAFC	SGB	0		Turner				ST	SGB	0	
Gen. Dynamics					CAFC	SAA	0		Schindler					CA2	SAA	0		McBride				CA7	SAA	0	
Bayer					CA8	SMS	1	71d	Camreta					CA9	SMS	0		AZ Free Ent.				CA9	SMS	0	
Stern					CA9	EK	0		Bullcoming					ST	EK	0		Fowler				CA11	EK	0	
Astra	RBG	8-0	69d	R	CA9	Total	3		Al-Kidd					CA9	Total	0		Wal-Mart				CA9	Total	0	
AT&T	JGR	8-0	41d	R	CA3	Expect.	-		-						Expect.	10		PLIVA				CA8	Expect	. 11	
					0	Avg.		60d							Avg.		-	Talk America				CA6	Avg.		-
April								Avg.	Summary Rev	zersa	al				0			Total		Avg.			0		
Microsoft					CAFC	JGR	0		Wilson	PC	9-0	-	R	CA7				Roberts	3	84d					
Tapia					CA9	AS	0		Swarthout	PC	9-0		R	CA9				Scalia	3						
Am. Electrical						AMK	0		Felkner	PC	9-0		R	CA9				Kennedy	3	117d					
Apache Nation					CAFC		0							- /				Thomas	2	,					
John Fund					CA5	RBG	0											Ginsburg	5	85d					
McNeill					CA4	SGB	0		-									Bryer	3	-					
Sorrell					CA2	SAA	0											Alito	3	96d					
Nevada					ST	SMS	0		-									Sotomayor	4	88d					
						EK	0		-									Kagan	3	-					
						Total	0											Summary Rev							
						Expect.	8											Total Decided	33						
						Avg.		-										Expected	33 80						
																		Percent Decided							
						-												Avg.		100d					
									1									8'		1000					

Pace of Grants



Pace of Opinions

The following chart plots the pace at which the Court releases merit opinions throughout the term, beginning in October and ending in June. This chart includes both opinions released after full briefing and summary reversals. Here, like in the Pace of Grants chart, cases are categorized by their release within a given sitting. For example, opinions for Feb. #3 were actually released on March 7, 2011.



Petitions to Watch

The following charts cover SCOTUSblog's Petitions to Watch feature. This feature monitors petitions raising issues that Tom has determined to have a reasonable chance of being granted, although we post them without consideration of whether they present appropriate vehicles in which to decide those issues.

Overall										
OT09 OT10 Total Percentag										
Granted	62	44	106	24.3%						
Denied	195	135	330	75.7%						
Pending	2	27	29							
Total Listed	259	206	465							

cases which appeared as a	OT10	92% (60/65)
Petition to Watch prior to being granted	OT11	90% (9/10)

	Recent C	onfere	nces	
	Conference	Listed	Granted	Pending
	September 27	59	16	3
	October 8	6	2	1
	October 15	7	1	1
	October 29	10	2	2
	November 5	1	0	-
	November 12	5	0	-
	November 23	17	6	-
	December 3	7	4	2
07.	December 10	8	3	2
OT 10	January 7	18	3	1
	January 14	10	1	1
	January 21	5	0	-
	February 18	18	3	4
	February 25	8	2	1
	March 4	13	0	3
	March 18	7	1	1
	March 25	4	0	3
	April 1	3	0	2

^{*} Cases are listed only for the first conference for which they are listed as a petition to watch. Cases listed due to representation from Akin Gump or Goldstein, Howe & Russell are not included. Cases listed as OT09 petitions are those that were first listed as a petition to watch during the OT09 and the same applies to OT10 petitions. You can read more about the Petitions to Watch feature here: <<u>http://www.scotusblog.com/2010/11/tracking-petitions-on-scotusblog-4-0/</u>>.