

Media Advisory

A MEDIA ADVISORY OF THE APPELLATE PRACTICE GROUP

April 27, 2004

U.S. SUPREME COURT TO HEAR *RUMSFELD V. PADILLA* ORAL ARGUMENT WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28. Jonathan Freiman, local attorney representing Jose Padilla, available for comment.

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Tomorrow, April 28, 2004, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral argument over *Rumsfeld v. Padilla* and *Hamdi v. Rumsfeld*. For background information, you can visit Wiggins and Dana's comprehensive web site on the *Padilla* case, which includes all of the briefs, orders, decisions, and argument transcripts. You can find it at www.padillaWD.com.

Wiggins and Dana provides these materials as a public service, in light of its involvement in the briefing of this case before the 2d Circuit and Supreme Court.

Jonathan M. Freiman, a member of Wiggins and Dana's national appellate practice group, is one of the attorneys representing Jose Padilla at the merits stage in the U.S. Supreme Court. Before representing Padilla, he wrote an amicus brief for the Second Circuit on behalf of a bipartisan coalition of organizations, including the Cato Institute and the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights.

The case of *Rumsfeld v. Padilla* involves the detention without charge in a military prison of Jose Padilla, an American citizen suspected of having plotted with al Qaeda members to detonate a radiological bomb in the United States. It asks the U.S. Supreme Court to decide whether the President has the unilateral power to detain indefinitely, without charge or access to a lawyer, an American citizen seized in a civilian setting in the United States. *Padilla* raises important questions about the balance between national security and individual liberty and is arguably the most important case of its kind in more than fifty years.

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