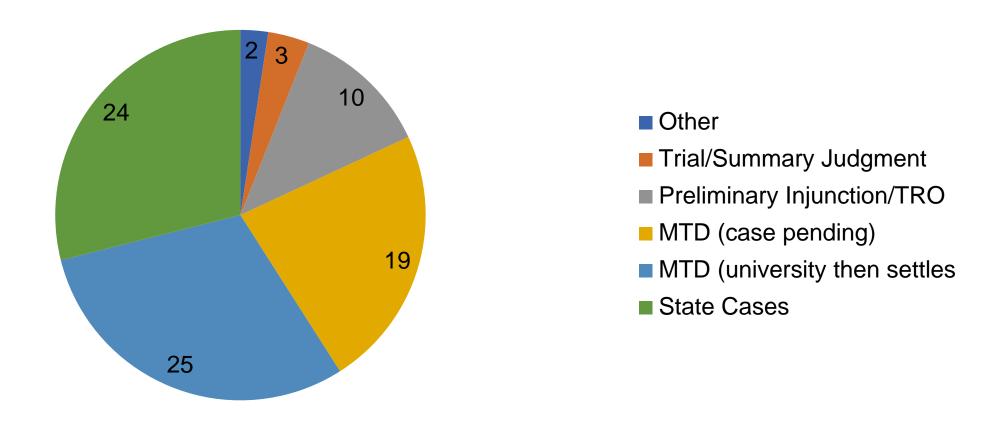
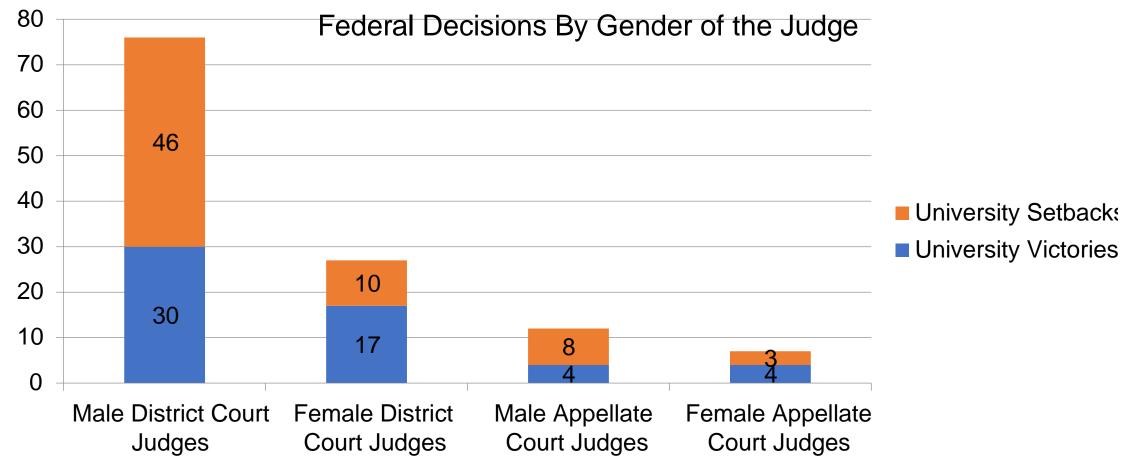


TITLE IX LITIGATION OVERVIEW1



-KC Johnson, 4^h Annual Symposium on Representing Students Accused of Sexual Assault (March 23, 2018)





-KC Johnson, 4^h Annual Symposium on Representing Students Accused of Sexual Assault (March 23, 2018)



Doe v. Brandeis

In recent years, universities . . . have adopted procedural and substantive policies intended to make it easier for victims of sexual assault to make and prove their claims and for the schools to adopt punitive measures in response. That process has been substantially spurred by the Office for Civil Rights of the 'HSDUWPHQWRI (GXFDWLRQ « universities do so or face a loss of federal IXQGLQhe goal of reducing sexual assault, and providing appropriate discipline for offenders, is certainly laudable. Whether the elimination of basic procedural protections 3 and the substantially increased risk that innocent students will be punished is a fair price to achieve that goal is another question altogether.

Doe v. Brandeis

Like Harvard, <u>Brandeis</u> appears to have substantially impaired, if not eliminated, an DFFXVHG VWXGHQW·V ULJKW WR D process. And it is not enough simply to say that such changes are appropriate because victims of sexual assault have not always achieved justice in GMKHQSDVW WKHWKHU VRPHRQH LV conclusion to be reached at the end of a fair process, not an assumption to be made at the beginning.92 un4>-2.00d Td [(be)2.999 ()4.002 (pHa)-3.99

- 177 F. Supp 3d 561, 572 (D. Mass. 2016)

Doe v. Columbia

831 F.3d 46, 48 (2d Cir. 2015)

(:H FRQFOXGH WKDW WKH &RPSODLQDQW PHHWV WKH ORZ VWDQGDUG «RI DOOHJLQJ IDFWV giving rise to a plausible minimal inference of bias



PLEADING STANDARDS

Doe v. Miami University

882 F.3d 579, 592 (6th Cir. 2017)

7R SOHDG DQ-oldtdolfdeRclQilff Rullder Title IX], a plaintiff must allege (1) facts sufficient to cast some articulable doubt on the accuracy of the outcome of the disciplinary proceeding and (2) a particularized causal FRQQHFWLRQ EHWZHHQ WKH IODZHG RXWFR



RECENT UNIVERSITY SETBACKS

- Фое v Marymount Univ., 2018 WL 1352158 (Mar 14, 2018)
- Фое v Miami Univeristy, 2018 WL 797451 (Feb 9, 2018).
- ‡Gischel v University of Cincinnati, No. 17-cv-475 (Jan 23, 2018).
- Фое v. Univ. of Cincinnati, No. 16-4693 (Sept 25, 2017).
- Doe v The Trustees of the Univ. of Pennsylvania, No. 16-cv-5088 (Sept 13, 2017).
- Doe v University of Notre Dame, No. 3:17-cv-298 (May 8, 2017).



UNIVERSITY SETBACKS

Doe v. Marymount University 2018 WL 1352158 (E.D. Va. 2018)

Specifically, [a University official is quoted] as saying:

I think the statistics also show that most people who complain about sexual assault are telling the truth. And so if most people who complain about sexual assault on campus are telling the truth and if these cases aren't being handled or aren't being handled appropriately through the criminal system or aren't being taken to conviction through the criminal system then what is happening to these people who are complaining about sexual assault on campus.

Doe also alleges that Marymount's sexual assault policy was influenced by the Dear Colleague Letter and other political forces and that the University's procedures were designed to convict male students of sexual assault, whether they were guilty or not. Specifically, Doe alleges that Marymount's Deputy Title IX Coordinator admitted to Doe's parents during atoace u š] v P š Z š Z š Z islipšreasingly. ©E)



UNIVERSITY SETBACKS

Doe v. Miami University 882 F.3d 579, 600 (6th Cir. 2017)

The private interest at stake in this case is substantial. A finding of responsibility for a sexual offense can have lasting impact on a student's personal life, in addition to his educational and employment opportunities, especially when the disciplinary action involves a long-term suspension. Thus, the effect of a finding of responsibility for sexual misconduct on a person's good name, reputation, honor, or integrity is profound.

When a student faces the possibility of suspension, we have held that the minimum process a university must provide is notice of the charges, an explanation of the evidence against the student, and an opportunity to present his side of the story before an unbiased decision maker. In some circumstances [such as] where factures are disputed [and the student is not permitted to attend the adjudication proceeding], notice might also be required to include the names of witnesses and a list of other evidence the school intends to present. Furthermore, if the credibility of an alleged victim is at issue, the university must provide a way for the adjudicative body to evaluate the victim's credibility and to assess the demeanor of both the accused and his accuser. But the protections afforded to an accused, even in the face of a sexual-assault accusation, need no CE ZšZ • u ο À ο šZš Á}μο ΄ ‰ CE • vš]ν CE]u]ν ο ‰ CE}•΄ μš]}^ν



UNIVERSITY SETBACKS

Gischel v. University of Cincinnati 2018 WL 705886 (S.D. Ohio 2018)

´+RZHYHU *LVFKHO KDV PDGH WZR DOOHJDWLRQV WKD gender bias in the circumstances of this case. First, Gischel has pleaded that UC faced SUHVVXUH QRW RQO\IURP WKH 2&5·V 'HDU &ROOHDJXH RSHQHG D 7LWOH,; LQYHVWLJDWLRQ LQWR ZKHWKHU 8 RQ VH[-« 6HFRQG *LVFKHO KDV DOOHJHG IDFWV VXJJH least [the Investigator] who actively participated in the investigation and had the ability to influence the case presented against Gischel at the disciplinary proceeding.

The existence of the pending OCR investigation of UC for Title IX violations, and the potential gender-based animus [the Investigator] had against Gischel, another male, arising from his alleged romantic interest in [the Victim], a female, are sufficient at the dismissal stage to suppor a Title IX claim. The Court will not dismiss the Title IX erroneous outcome claim against UC.