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New Jersey v. T.L.O. / How the Case Moved Through the Court System

Supreme Court of the United States

The Supreme Court reversed the New Jersey Supreme Court's ruling. It held that searches by school officials are constitutional without a warrant as long as they are "reasonable."

New Jersey v. T.L.O. (1985)







Supreme Court of New Jersey

T.L.O. appealed the Appellate Division's Fourth Amendment ruling to the Supreme Court of New Jersey. The Court overturned the conviction and held the search to be a violation of T.L.O.'s Fourth Amendment rights.

State in Interest of T.L.O. (1983)







Appellate Division of New Jersey

T.L.O. appealed her conviction, but the Appellate Division found no Fourth Amendment violation.

State in Interest of T.L.O. (1982)







Juvenile Court of New Jersey

T.L.O. was found to be a delinquent on the basis of evidence from the search of her purse and her confession. She was sentenced to one year of probation and suspended from school.

State in Interest of T.L.O. (1982)