Supreme Court Preserves Key Tool For Fighting Housing Discrimination

A sharply divided Supreme Court on Thursday preserved a key tool used for more than four decades to fight housing discrimination, handing a surprising victory to the Obama administration and civil rights activists.

The justices ruled 5-4 that federal housing law allows challenges to race-neutral policies that have negative effects on minority groups, even if there is no proof that companies or government agencies intended to discriminate.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, in a rare vote on the side of civil rights groups on matters of race, joined the court's four liberal members in upholding the use of so-called “disparate impact” cases.

The ruling is a victory for housing advocates who argued that 1968 Fair Housing Act allows challenges to race-neutral policies that have negative effects on minorities. The Justice Department has used disparate impact lawsuits to prove: more than $500 million in legal settlements from companies accused of bias against black and Hispanic customers.

Nick Gordon under fire as Bobbi Kristina Brown moved to hospice care

The 22-year-old was found face down in her bathroom, Pat Houston, aunt and legal guardian for the only child of late singer Whitney Houston and Bobby Brown, has confirmed that Bobbi Kristina Brown has been moved to hospice care.

“Despite the great medical care at numerous facilities, her condition has deteriorated.” Pat Houston said in a statement.

“As of today, she has been moved into hospice care. We thank everyone for all you have done for Jacksonville. She stayed active in her later life by Sewing dresses, making quilts and playing slot machines at casinos and fishing.

Miami University Ohio, Hires PhD Project Professor and Jacksonville Native, Dr. Darryl Rice

The PhD Project, an award-winning program to create a more diverse corporate America, announced that Project participant and Jacksonville native, Dr. Darryl Rice, successfully defended his dissertation titled, “Judged by the results expected to lead ethically: A leader’s catch-22.”

He receives his PhD in Management from the University of Central Florida and has accepted a faculty position at Miami University Ohio.

Dr. Rice is one of only 137 male, African-American Management business school professors in all of the U.S., most of whom have become professors since The PhD Project was created in 1994. The Project's vision is to diversify corporate America by increasing the number of minority business professors (African-American, Hispanic-American and Native American), who attract more minority students to study business in college.

“Dr. Rice has succeeded in the very difficult endeavor of becoming a business school professor,” said Bernard J. Michel, President of The PhD Project and president of the KPMG Foundation, founder and Lead Sponsor of the program.

“The Supreme Court sent a ruling is a victory for housing advocates who argued that 1968 Fair Housing Act allows challenges to race-neutral policies that have negative effects on minorities. The Justice Department has used disparate impact lawsuits to prove: more than $500 million in legal settlements from companies accused of bias against black and Hispanic customers.

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