Stat Pack for October Term 2013

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Summary of the Term

Total Merits Opinions Released	**73**
+ Signed opinions after oral argument	67
+ Summary reversals	6

Total Merits Opinions Expected	**73**
+ Petitions granted and set for argument	75
+ Summary reversals	6
- Cases dismissed before oral argument	-5
- Cases dismissed after oral argument	-2
- Cases consolidated for decision	-1

Cases Set for Argument During OT14	**37**

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* You can find past Stat Packs here: <http://www.scotusblog.com/reference/stat-pack/>. A few matters regarding our methodology are worth mentioning at the outset. First, SCOTUSblog treats consolidated cases as a single case, as determined by the case with the lowest docket number (prior to the release of an opinion) or the case that is captioned with an opinion. To the extent that two cases are argued separately but later decided with only one opinion, we will remove one of the cases from this Stat Pack, except to include it in the Pace of Grants chart to maintain cross-conference comparisons. The most unusual way we manage these later-consolidated cases is to merge the oral argument data for the two cases. We combine the questions asked by each Justice in the separate oral argument proceedings into one "consolidated" session. Second, this Stat Pack frequently uses the term "merits opinions," "merits docket," or "merits cases." Those three terms are used interchangeably, and signify the set of cases decided "on the merits." Those cases include signed opinions after oral argument (the bulk of all merits cases), most per curiam opinions released after oral arguments, summary reversals (cases decided with per curiam opinions after the certiorari stage), and cases decided by an equally divided (4-4) Court. Cases that are dismissed as improvidently granted are not included in our tally of merits cases.

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