



Supreme Court of New Zealand | Te Kōti Mana Nui o Aotearoa

August 2026

Monday 3rd August – Tuesday 4th August 2026 Winkelmann CJ Williams J Kós J Cooke J Campbell J	SC 157/2025 Lori-Lea Wairoa Te-Wini <i>C W J Stevenson KC and O H Fredrickson</i> & SC 158/2025 Courtney Pauline Churchward <i>H G de Groot, T J Conder and R H Hohaia</i> V The King <i>Z R Johnston and M R Davie</i> Criminal Leave and Appeal Hearing
Court of Appeal decision	<u>Churchward v R [2011] NZCA 531 – 19 October 2011</u>
High Court decision	<u>Churchward v R – Sentencing Notes of Venning J – 18 December 2009</u>

Thursday 6th August 2026 Winkelmann CJ Ellen France J Williams J Kós J Campbell J	SC 166/2025 Jinxing Liu <i>A T Grant and D E Archibald</i> V Hua Wu <i>S W B Foote KC and A E Simkiss</i> Civil Appeal Hearing
Grounds on which leave was granted	The approved questions are: (a) whether the Court of Appeal erred in determining that a July 2018 deed found to be entered into by the parties as a result of unlawful threats made by the applicant against the respondent was illegal and void, rather than voidable on the basis that it was entered into under duress; and (b) whether the Court of Appeal erred in failing to determine that, had the deed's validity properly been assessed on the basis that it was voidable for duress and not void for illegality, the deed was affirmed by the respondent, as the High Court had found.
Supreme Court leave application decision	<u>LIU v WU [2026] NZCA 560 [14 April 2026]</u>
Court of Appeal decision	<u>WU v LIU [2025] NZCA 560 [22 October 2025]</u>
High Court decision	<u>WU v LIU [2024] NZHC 2903 [7 October 2024]</u>

Monday 17th August – Wednesday 19th August 2026 Winkelmann CJ Ellen France J Williams J Kós J Cooke J Venue: Auckland High Court Courtroom 11	SC 10/2025 Michael John Smith <i>D M Salmon KC, M Heard and N R Coates</i> V Attorney-General <i>A Martin and J M Prebble</i> Te Hunga Rōia Māori o Aotearoa The Māori Law Society as Intervener <i>H K Irwin-Easthope, B C K Murfitt and M K Mahuika</i> Te Kahui Tika Tangata Human Rights Commission as Intervener <i>A S Butler KC and R A Kirkness</i> Civil Appeal Hearing
Grounds on which leave was granted	The approved question is whether the Court of Appeal was correct to dismiss the appeal.
Supreme Court leave application decision	<u>Smith v A-G [2025] NZSC 198 (19 December 2025)</u>
Court of Appeal decision	<u>Smith v A-G [2024] NZCA 692 (19 December 2024)</u>
High Court decision	<u>Smith v A-G [2022] NZHC 1693 (15 July 2022)</u>

Judges as seen from public seating

3 – 4 August 2026

The Hon Justice Cooke	The Hon Justice Williams	The Rt Hon the Chief Justice	The Hon Justice Kós	The Hon Justice Campbell
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6 August 2026

The Hon Justice Kós	The Hon Justice Ellen France	The Rt Hon the Chief Justice	The Hon Justice Williams	The Hon Justice Campbell
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17 - 19 August 2026

The Hon Justice Kós	The Hon Justice Ellen France	The Rt Hon the Chief Justice	The Hon Justice Williams	The Hon Justice Cooke
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Normal sitting hours: 10.00am – 11.30am, 11.45am – 1.00pm, 2.15pm – 4.00pm