

Supreme Court on Guantanamo

The Bush administration has tried keep foreign prisoners from traditional legal protections. How the court has ruled against it:

June
2004



**Rasul v. Bush
and Hamdi
v. Rumsfeld**

The Ruling: Guantanamo detainees may challenge their detentions in federal court

The Response: Pentagon set up secret military panels to review cases, decide if they were enemy combatants; Congress passed law to formalize process, strip federal district courts of authority to hear new detainee cases

June
2006



**Hamden v.
Rumsfeld**

The Ruling: Bush administration military commissions violated Geneva Conventions; detainees could pursue cases in civilian courts

The Response: White House asked Congress for new law; the Military Commissions Act said federal courts could not hear any detainee challenges, detainees would be tried before commissions that could consider hearsay evidence and evidence obtained through coercion

June
2008



**Boumediene
v. Bush**

The Ruling: Foreign detainees have the right to challenge their detention in civilian courts

The Response: Resurrected nearly 200 detainee cases that had been on hold in the Washington federal courthouse

Source: AP

Graphic: Lee Hulteng, Judy Treible © 2008 MCT