

Supreme Court Rejects NCAA Athlete Compensation Restraints

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Last month, the United States Supreme Court unanimously held that the National Collegiate Athletic Association's restrictions on education-related compensation for student-athletes violated Section 1 of the Sherman Antitrust Act (the "Sherman Act"). National Collegiate Athletic Association v. Alston, 2021 WL 2519036 (U.S. June 21, 2021). The Justices concluded that the district court properly utilized and applied the more in-depth rule of reason approach to condemn limits on undergraduate athletic scholarships and other athletic performance-related compensation. This unanimous opinion stands in contrast to many antitrust decisions that have been closely split in recent years.