

The Annotated Bobblehead

Justice John Paul Stevens

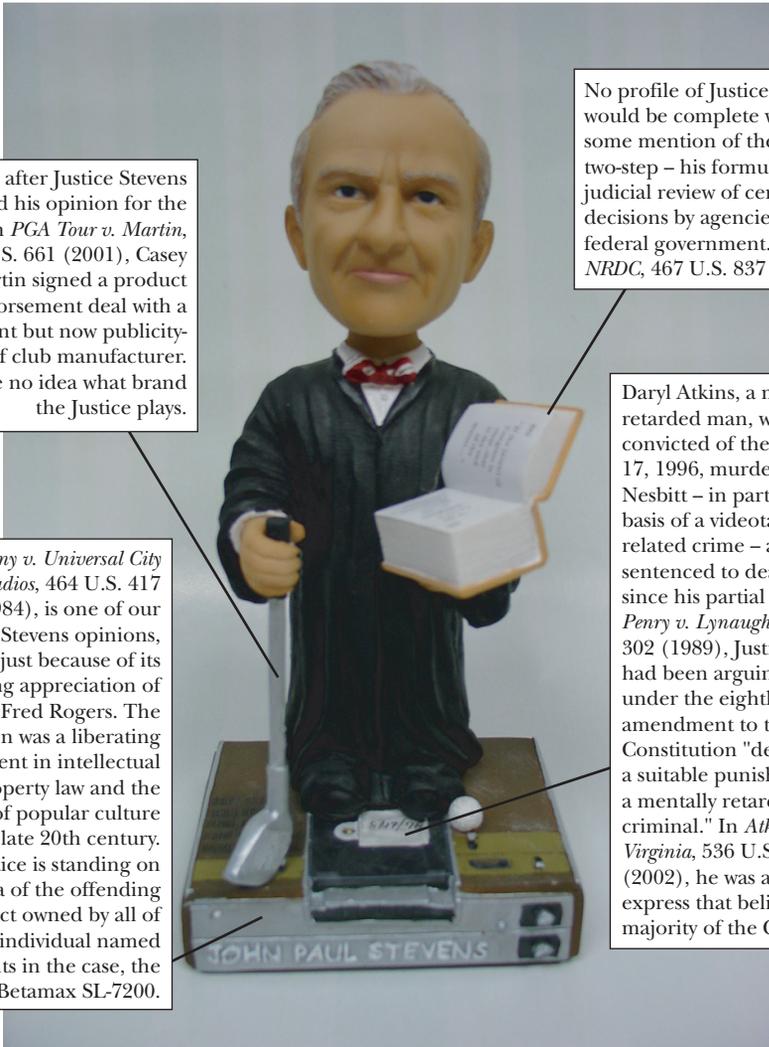
Justice John Paul Stevens is the second member of the Supreme Court to be honored (that's how we think of it) with a *Green Bag* bobblehead. During his nearly 30 years of service on the Court, Justice Stevens has consistently been an active and eloquent opinion-writer, providing us with a curse of riches from which to choose too few exemplars when creating this miniature ceramic portrait. We've identified the basic features of our version of Justice Stevens below.

The day after Justice Stevens delivered his opinion for the Court in *PGA Tour v. Martin*, 532 U.S. 661 (2001), Casey Martin signed a product endorsement deal with a prominent but now publicity-shy golf club manufacturer. We have no idea what brand the Justice plays.

Sony v. Universal City Studios, 464 U.S. 417 (1984), is one of our favorite Stevens opinions, and not just because of its moving appreciation of the late Fred Rogers. The decision was a liberating moment in intellectual property law and the spread of popular culture in the late 20th century. The Justice is standing on a replica of the offending product owned by all of the individual named defendants in the case, the Betamax SL-7200.

No profile of Justice Stevens would be complete without some mention of the *Chevron* two-step – his formula for judicial review of certain decisions by agencies of the federal government. *Chevron v. NRDC*, 467 U.S. 837 (1984).

Daryl Atkins, a mentally retarded man, was convicted of the August 17, 1996, murder of Eric Nesbitt – in part on the basis of a videotape of a related crime – and sentenced to death. Ever since his partial dissent in *Penry v. Lynaugh*, 492 U.S. 302 (1989), Justice Stevens had been arguing that under the eighth amendment to the Constitution "death is not a suitable punishment for a mentally retarded criminal." In *Atkins v. Virginia*, 536 U.S. 304 (2002), he was able to express that belief for a majority of the Court.



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