

Ripple Effects from the High Court's Fishing Case

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The U.S. Supreme Court recently issued a decision with fairly narrow facts but potentially broad implications for the reach of federal obstruction charges. Last month, in *Yates v. United States*, the court reversed the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, holding that a statute, which was been widely used in criminal prosecutions over the past decade, must be read more narrowly with regard to so-called "tangible objects" used to obstruct justice.

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