

Bond Case Briefs

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City of Laramie v. University of Wyoming

Supreme Court of Wyoming - January 31, 2024 - P.3d - 2024 WL 356461 - 2024 WY 13

City brought declaratory judgment action against state university pertaining to university's drilling and operation of two wells for watering university's landscaping including golf course, and university filed counterclaims challenging city's attempted regulation of university.

The District Court dismissed in part and granted summary judgment for university on remaining claims and counterclaims. City appealed.

The Supreme Court held that:

- University had common-law sovereign immunity from city's attempt to enforce restrictive deed covenant against water wells;
- University was not similarly situated to other entities for purposes of equal protection challenge to statute governing university's water system;
- Statute governing university's water system was not an unconstitutional special law;
- Statute governing university's water system did not unconstitutionally delegate municipal power; and
- City was statutorily barred from enforcing ordinance requiring city approval of nonmunicipal water drilling or systems within city.