Finding a Supreme Court case:

Google Scholar:

If you are on campus, you can use the Google Scholar search box on the library’s home page. Skip to the next page.

If you are off-campus, go to https://scholar.google.com and use Settings to create library links.

Click on Library links. On the next screen, type southern Connecticut... Options will appear. Choose as many as possible from the example below.

Return to the search screen after saving the settings.
Click the button next to Case law. You can limit by court if you want.

Type your case’s name into the search box. You can also search by keyword.

You will probably get multiple records.

Use the case citation to determine which case is the one you need.

A high number next to Cited by is also an indication that the record is the opinion.
Within the text of the decision you’ll see links to other cases and to statutes.

How cited will show you other cases that have cited Morse and whether the court cited it in a negative or positive way.

To find articles that discuss your case, return to the results screen and click Articles.

Use the links on the right to access full text.

SCSU Journal Finder gives you access to articles through the library.
Look for 📖 under Online. If you only see 📚, the journal is in print in the library but not online.

Click 🖥️.

You should see at least one live link to the article.

Click the Article link, not the Journal link.

If you’re off-campus, you’ll be prompted to login with your network username and password.
Wikipedia:

Wikipedia is acceptable as a starting point.
http://www.wikipedia.org

Type in your case name.

The summary should give you the basics of the case. Even if you determine later it was slanted or inaccurate, it should give you some orientation.

On the right, you get the case citation and a condensed version of the holding.
At the end of the entry, you'll see references and external links. Some of these might link out to newspaper or magazine articles that can help you analyze your case.

One of the external links (almost always) takes you to the full opinion of the case at a public access site.

Morse v. Frederick goes to the Cornell Legal Information Institute where you can find most Supreme Court cases.

If the case contains a majority, dissent, and concurring opinion, each is linked separately.
Lexis Nexis:

To access any of the library’s 150+ databases, start at the Buley Library Home Page: http://library.southernct.edu

Roll over Find and click on All Databases (A-Z).

Click on the letter L and select Lexis Nexis Academic Universe from the list.

If you’re off campus, you’ll be prompted to login with your network username and password.

Click on Look up a Legal Case and type in the citation.

You can search by name but you’ll still need to know the date of the decision and how to read a citation in order to pick your case out of the dozens that will appear.
Here is the case/opinion/decision for Morse v. Frederick.

You can print, save, or email the case to yourself. The book icon will show you how the case is cited in MLA, APA, or Chicago style.

To see how the lawyers and others presented the case, click Briefs and Other Documents.

Case in Brief is a summary and more (see below).

Case Summary and the bits in grey, and all the headnotes that follow, are produced by Lexis Nexis and are not officially part of the opinion.

The opinion begins with Syllabus. (There’s a disclaimer)

From here on down, everything you see is the official text of the opinion and the words will be exactly the same no matter where you find the opinion.

Cases/opinions often have multiple parts. The majority opinion always comes first.

After that will be concurring opinions, and then dissenting opinions. The bit after Judges tells you how many and the order.
This is what the Cases in Brief link at the top of the opinion leads to.

If your case has this, you have hit gold. Gold! There’s a short summary, a long summary, a bullet list of decision points, explanations of the parties’ arguments, and more.

If you’d like more information about the case from mainstream sources, you can go back to the Lexis Nexis search screen and use the Search the News feature. Notice you can choose different kinds of news sources. This example uses All News.

Also notice that you should put phrases in “quotation marks” but don’t have to use AND.