

Appendix A

Variable Definitions and Descriptive Statistics (Standard Deviations in Parentheses)

Variable	Range	Brief initiation model (all cases)		Brief initiation model (random sample)		Brief joining model	
		M	SD	M	SD	M	SD
Dependent variables							
Decision to initiate amicus brief	1 = state initiated brief, 0 = state initiated no brief	0.007	0.082	0.010	0.099		
Decision to join amicus brief	1 = state joined existing brief, 0 = state did not join existing brief			0.455	0.498		
Independent variables							
Party status	1 = state is direct party, 0 = state is not direct party	0.510	0.500	0.602	0.489	0.805	0.397
Conflict between lower state courts on issue (reason for cert grant)	1 = conflict, 0 = no conflict	0.012	0.108	0.018	0.131	0.024	0.153
Conflict between lower federal courts on issue (reason for cert grant)	1 = conflict, 0 = no conflict	0.298	0.457	0.242	0.428	0.169	0.375
Conflict between lower federal and state courts on issue (reason for cert grant)	1 = conflict, 0 = no conflict	0.063	0.243	0.070	0.255	0.096	0.295
Conflict between lower state courts in case history	1 = conflict, 0 = no conflict	0.122	0.327	0.140	0.347	0.204	0.403
Conflict between lower federal courts in case history	1 = conflict, 0 = no conflict	0.289	0.453	0.318	0.466	0.241	0.428
Conflict between lower federal and state courts in case history	1 = conflict, 0 = no conflict	0.035	0.184	0.041	0.198	0.072	0.259
Attorney general party	1 = AG is Republican, 0 = AG is Democrat	0.331	0.470	0.330	0.470	0.331	0.470

(continued)

Appendix A (continued)

Variable	Range	Brief initiation model (all cases)		Brief initiation model (random sample)		Brief joining model	
		M	SD	M	SD	M	SD
Fourth Amendment case	1 = Fourth Amendment case, 0 = not Fourth Amendment case	0.142	0.349	0.141	0.348	0.229	0.420
Fifth Amendment case	1 = Fifth Amendment case, 0 = not Fifth Amendment case	0.079	0.270	0.083	0.275	0.085	0.279
Sixth Amendment case	1 = Sixth Amendment case, 0 = not Sixth Amendment case	0.087	0.282	0.094	0.292	0.120	0.325
Eighth Amendment case	1 = Eighth Amendment case, 0 = not Eighth Amendment case	0.024	0.153	0.024	0.152	0.036	0.187
Fourteenth Amendment case	1 = Fourteenth Amendment case, 0 = not Fourteenth Amendment case	0.024	0.152	0.035	0.184	0.036	0.186
Habeas corpus case	1 = habeas corpus case, 0 = not habeas corpus case	0.157	0.364	0.210	0.408	0.313	0.464
Death penalty case	1 = death penalty case, 0 = not death penalty case	0.066	0.249	0.058	0.234	0.048	0.214
Ex post facto case	1 = ex post facto case, 0 = not ex post facto case	0.025	0.152	0.023	0.151	0.048	0.214
Miscellaneous case	1 = miscellaneous case, 0 = not miscellaneous case	0.123	0.328	0.118	0.323	0.036	0.187
Governor party	1 = governor is republican, 0 = governor is democrat	0.511	0.500	0.509	0.500	0.529	0.499
Percentage of police groups in state interest group community	0-1	0.019	0.009	0.019	0.009	0.019	0.009
Method of AG selection	1 = elected, 0 = appointed	0.859	0.348	0.859	0.348	0.859	0.348
State appellant	1 = state government is appellant, 0 = state government is not appellant	0.387	0.487	0.435	0.496	0.494	0.500
Per capita attorney general budget	0-130.62	9.162	12.701	9.164	12.748	9.209	12.520