

No. 20-6459

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

DAVID LEE GARRETT, PETITIONER

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI
TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES

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1. Petitioner contends (Pet. 9-15) that his prior conviction for robbery, in violation of Tex. Penal Code Ann. (West 2003) § 29.02, does not qualify as a violent felony under the Armed Career Criminal Act of 1984 (ACCA), 18 U.S.C. 924(e)(2)(B)(i), based in part on the theory that an offense that can be committed with a mens rea of recklessness does not include as an element the “use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person of another.” This Court granted review in Borden v. United States, No. 19-5410 (argued Nov. 3, 2020), to decide whether a state offense with a mens rea of recklessness may qualify as an ACCA predicate. The Court’s resolution of that question could

potentially affect the court of appeals' disposition of this case. The petition for a writ of certiorari should therefore be held pending the decision in Borden and then disposed of as appropriate in light of that decision.

2. Petitioner separately contends (Pet. 15-20) that the court of appeals erred in determining that his two prior Texas convictions for burglary of a habitation or building, in violation of Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 30.02(a) (West 2011), are "burglar[ies]" under the ACCA, 18 U.S.C. 924(e)(2)(B)(ii). For the reasons explained on pages 11 to 16 of the government's brief in opposition to the petition for a writ of certiorari in Herrold v. United States, No. 19-7731 (Apr. 24, 2020), those contentions lack merit and do not warrant this Court's review.¹ This Court recently denied petitions for writs of certiorari in Herrold, 141 S. Ct. 273 (2020), and other cases raising the same issue, see Williams v. United States, No. 20-5643 (Jan. 19, 2021); Wallace v. United States, No. 20-5588 (Dec. 7, 2020). The same result is warranted here as to that issue.²

¹ A copy of the government's brief in Herrold is being served on petitioner.

² The government waives any further response to the petition for a writ of certiorari unless this Court requests otherwise.

Respectfully submitted.

ELIZABETH B. PRELOGAR
Acting Solicitor General

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