



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA
Case No. S22C1289



March 21, 2023

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed:

KYLE RICHARD BISHOP v. THE STATE.

The Supreme Court today denied the petition for certiorari in this case.

All the Justices concur, except Ellington, J., disqualified.

Court of Appeals Case No. A22A1510

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I certify that the above is a true extract from the minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Witness my signature and the seal of said court hereto affixed the day and year last above written.

Theresa A. Barnes, Clerk

REMITTITUR

SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA

March 21, 2023

Case No. S22C1289

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed:

KYLE RICHARD BISHOP v. THE STATE.

Upon consideration of the petition for a writ of certiorari filed to review the judgment of the Court of Appeals in this case, the following judgment has been rendered:

Judgment denied. All the Justices concur, except Ellington, J., disqualified.

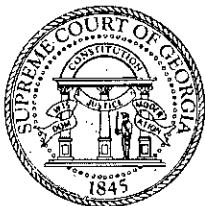
The remittitur shall be transmitted to that court with the attached decision.

Associated Cases
A22A1510

Costs paid: Indigent

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Clerk's Office, April 05, 2023



I hereby certify that the above is a true extract from the minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Witness my signature and the seal of said Court hereto affixed the day and year last above written.

Swi C. Pittman, Chief Deputy Clerk



Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia

ATLANTA, July 11, 2022

The Court of Appeals hereby passes the following order:

A22A1510. KYLE RICHARD BISHOP v. THE STATE.

In 2000, Kyle Richard Bishop was convicted of one count of child molestation, two counts of aggravated child molestation, and one count of aggravated sexual battery. This Court affirmed Bishop's convictions on direct appeal. *Bishop v. State*, 252 Ga. App. 211 (555 SE2d 504) (2001). On October 6, 2021, Bishop filed a "Motion to Dismiss Case for Lack of Jurisdiction Under 28 U. S. C. § 2072 and Civil Rule 60," wherein he asserted various problems with his indictment. The trial court dismissed the motion on October 20, 2021, and Bishop filed this appeal. We lack jurisdiction.

A challenge to the validity of an indictment is a challenge to a criminal conviction. See *Jones v. State*, 290 Ga. App. 490, 494 (2) (659 SE2d 875) (2008). Our Supreme Court has made clear that a motion seeking to challenge an allegedly invalid or void judgment of conviction "is not one of the established procedures for challenging the validity of a judgment in a criminal case" and that an appeal from the denial of such a motion is subject to dismissal. See *Roberts v. State*, 286 Ga. 532, 532 (690 SE2d 150) (2010); *Harper v. State*, 286 Ga. 216, 218 (2) (686 SE2d 786) (2009).

Thus, Bishop is not authorized to collaterally attack his conviction in this manner, and this appeal is hereby DISMISSED.



Court of Appeals of the State of Georgia

Clerk's Office, Atlanta, 07/11/2022

*I certify that the above is a true extract from
the minutes of the Court of Appeals of Georgia.*

*Witness my signature and the seal of said court
hereto affixed the day and year last above written.*

Stephen E. Carlton

, Clerk.



ID# 2021-0114648-CR
FILED IN OFFICE
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT
COBB COUNTY, GEORGIA
98904775

OCT 20, 2021 01:51 PM

Connie Taylor, Clerk of Superior Court
Cobb County, Georgia

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF COBB COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

STATE OF GEORGIA

v.

KYLE RICHARD BISHOP,

Defendant.

*
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*
*
*

Case No. 98-9-4775-53

ORDER ON DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS CASE FOR LACK OF JURISDICTION
UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2072 AND CIVIL RULE 60

The above-styled case comes before the Court on Defendant's Motion to Dismiss Case for Lack of Jurisdiction Under 28 U.S.C. § 2072 and Civil Rule 60.

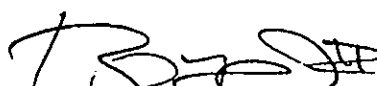
Upon review of Defendant's Motion and all matters of record, this Court DISMISSES Defendant's Motion. Defendant argues that there are no ballot records, grand jury minutes, or any information indicated there was a "true bill" returned in open Court.

Defendant's General Bill of Indictment from the November Term 1998 was filed with the clerk on December 17, 1998.

Defendant seeks information from grand jury proceedings to which he is not entitled under O.C.G.A. § 15-12-60 et. seq.

Accordingly, Defendant's Motion is DISMISSED.

SO ORDERED, this 20 day of Oct. 2021.


JUDGE ROBERT D. LEONARD II
Superior Court of Cobb County
Cobb Judicial Circuit


CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that I have this day served all interested parties in the within and foregoing matter by depositing a copy of the **Order** dated the 20 day of Oct 2021, in the regular United States Mail in the properly addressed envelopes with adequate postage thereon addressed as follows or via email through PeachCourt to counsel of record:

KYLE BISHOP
GDC # 1073991
WALKER STATE PRISON
PO BOX 98
ROCK SPRING, GEORGIA 30739

DICK EDWARDS, ADA
DICK.EDWARDS@COBBCOUNTY.ORG

This 20 day of Oct 2021.



Mimi Anna Scaljon, Esq.
Staff Attorney to
Judge Robert D. Leonard II



IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF COBB COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

STATE OF GEORGIA

v.

KYLE RICHARD BISHOP,
DEFENDANT

CASE NO.: 98-9-0477

CONNIE TAYLOR
SUPERIOR COURT CLERK
COBB JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

2021 OCT -6 AM 11:27

COBB COUNTY, GA
FILED IN OFFICE

**Motion To Dismiss Case For Lack of Jurisdiction Under 28 U.S.C. § 2072 and
Civil Rule 60**

Defendant swears to the following:

Comes now, Defendant Kyle Richard Bishop, Pro Se, and respectfully submits this Motion to Dismiss this case under 28 U.S.C. § 2072 and Rule 60 which gives this court jurisdiction over this subject matter where there was an illegal act and fraud upon the court.

Defendant, Kyle Richard Bishop, respectfully submits and requests this court to construe the pleading both liberally and without prejudice as required by the Supreme Court's Erickson v. Pardus, 551 U.S. 89 (2007), holding a "Pro Se pleading to less standards than a lawyer."

Introduction

Cobb County Georgia charged Kyle Richard Bishop ("Bishop") on (1) child molestation, (2) aggravated child molestation, (3) aggravated child molestation and (4) aggravated sexual battery. A total of four counts.

A trial was held in Cobb County Superior Court from October 9, 2000 until October 13, 2000 with the Honorable George Kreeger officiating. On Friday, October 13, 2000, a trial jury found Bishop guilty on all four charges. In December 2000, Bishop was sentenced to Forty (40) years with thirty (30) to serve in the state correctional system. Bishop is an inmate at Walker State Prison in Rock Spring, Georgia.

Bishop is back before this Honorable court. Missing from the record is the grand jury records, minutes, and grand jury concurrence from that will show proof that the grand jury has voted to indict Bishop. The fact is there is no ballot on the court records. The court record is silent. (See Exhibits labeled 1, 2 and 3 attached.)

The fact is that there is no evidence in the record that a grand jury voted to indict defendant Kyle Richard Bishop in this case. There is no proof that the grand jurors returned a "true bill" in "open court" as laid out in the upcoming case decisions as it is required by law, thereby, grossly violating the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments of the United States and the Georgia Constitutions.

The grand jury, as a body, must vote to indict. The fact is that the court docket (see Exhibit 3) is absent the minutes, the special presentment and concurrence form that will show proof that the grand jury has voted to indict defendant Kyle Richard Bishop. The fact is that there is no ballot on the court record, constituting a defective indictment. Therefore, this judgment must be dismissed.

Now, the Fifth Amendment is clear in stating that no person shall be held to answer any question or stand trial unless there be an indictment by twelve (12) or more grand jurors who voted to indict the defendant, not just the foreperson's signature, and that the grand jury must appear in open court before a judge and state "true bill" whether it is a "true bill" or "no bill." The record is silent.

The district attorney in bad faith, regarding subject matter jurisdiction, has deprived Kyle Richard Bishop out of [his] substantial rights that are guaranteed under the U.S. Constitution and the Constitution of Georgia. The ultimate fact is that this judgment must be dismissed, and defendant Kyle Richard Bishop must be released from state custody.

Argument

The district attorney never had authorization from the court to summons a grand jury to prosecute Kyle Richard Bishop as required by state and federal law

under 28 U.S.C. 2072 which governs state and federal rules and evidence in all criminal cases. 28 U.S.C. 2072(B) clearly states that all rules must be followed and are not to be bridge, bypass or skipover.

Defendant Bishop contends that the grand jury never voted in this case to bring criminal charges against defendant, Kyle Richard Bishop, which makes this indictment void on its face and deprived this court out of its jurisdiction. See Commonwealth v. Cawood, Va. Cas. 541 (1825); Goodson v. State, 20 Fla. 511 10 South, 738, 30 Am. Rep. 135; also See Regina v. Heane, 9 Coxe, C.C. 433. (See Exhibit 6.)

It is well settled regarding the rule in prudence, that the jurisdiction of any court exercising authority over a subject matter may be required into every court, when the proceeding in the former are relied upon in the latter, by a party claiming the benefit of such proceeding. See Williams v. Berry, 8 How. 495, 54d, 12 L. Ed. 1170, 1189; Elliot v. Piersol, 1 Peter 328, 34D, 26 U.S. 328, 34D (1828). If the court is without jurisdiction of the offense, judgment is void on its face. See Bauman v. United States, 1946 CA 5 LA, 156 F.2d 534; also see, and here is the key to defendant Bishop's Motion, which alleges an illegal act upon the court, fraud upon the court, because of the state attorney's illegal act of bad faith under Rule 60, this subject matter can be raised at any time. See Herring v. United States, 424 F. 3d 384, 389 (3rd. Cir. 2005). The allegation contained in the Motion

has not been presented for the court's consideration. Defendant was sentenced to 40 years with 30 to serve. The rules of criminal procedure must be followed which is governed under the statute 28 U.S.C. 2072 specifically "there must be proof that twelve or more grand jurors concurred to vote in order to indict the accusing body and until it is presented by the jury, with the proper endorsement aforesaid, the party charged by it is not indicted nor is the defendant required or bound to answer any charge against him which is not presented by the grand jury." See Commonwealth v. Cawood, 2 Va. Cas. 541, (1825); Price v. Commonwealth, 21 Grat. Va. 859 (1892); and Simmon v. Commonwealth, 89 Va. 157 S.E. 387 (1892); and the Supreme Court in State v. Heatan, 23 W.Va. 778 (1883). The law is specific and requires that the grand jury make their returns as a body, therefore, the court can see them as a body. See State v. Bordeaux, 93 N.C. 563. The fact is that the record is silent.

It is a well-settled rule of law that the statute respecting amendment does not extend to a defective indictment cannot be aided by a verdict, and when an indictment is bad on demurrer, it must be held insufficient upon a Motion of a Judgment. See Frisble v. United States, 157 U.S. 160, 15 S.Ct. 586, 396, Ed. 657, (172 F. 656 Joyce on an indictment 31 ex parte Bain, 121 U.S. 1, 7 S.Ct. 781, 30 L.Ed 849. An indictment found by a grand jury is indisable to the "power of the court" to try the defendant for the crime he was charged with, it is no avail under

such circumstance to say that the court still had jurisdiction over this crime; the jurisdiction is gone. See United States v. Gale, 109 U.S. 65, 71, 3 S.Ct. 204, 28L. When an indictment "a true bill" is made upon the bill, it becomes a part of the indictment and renders a complete accusation against the defendant. Therefore, it must be understood with the qualification that the record must show that the indictment has been made publicly and presented to the court as required and stated by law. See Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rule 6(c) and 6(f). An indictment cannot be cured by production of papers purporting to be the indictment that has been signed by the foreman of the grand jury, and nor can this defect be cured by the defendant pleading upon the merit or by a verdict of guilty. See Regina v. Heane, 9 Coxe, C.C. 433.

The established mode for the grand jury to make their presentment publicly in open court, with all of the grand jurors being present and answering to their names. When the court is not in session or in the absence of the grand jury, there is no indictment. This is not a question of irregularity, but of substantive law based upon the direct terms of the constitutional guaranty that no person shall be "held to answer" for infamous offenses except on an indictment by a grand jury. The indictment, and that means a valid indictment found and presented according to the laws of the U.S. Constitution and the Constitution of Georgia, an established mode of procedure is a prerequisite to the jurisdiction of the court to try the person

accused, an indispensable condition and requirement, the absence of these renders the proceedings not simply voidable, but absolutely void. When the state attorneys failed to follow procedure under federal and state rules of criminal procedure, the judgment became void and must be dismissed. See Exhibits 1 and 2. Defendant Bishop contends that the district attorney never had authorization to bring these charges against the defendant, Kyle Richard Bishop, to be heard by a grand jury. The court docket sheet is without proof. The court docket sheet is absent of a complaint and sworn affidavit as required by law. See Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rule 3. These rules must be followed in all criminal and civil cases. See 28 U.S.C. 2072(b) which prohibits any court or officers of the court to bridge, bypass or skip-over these rules and evidence of govern by 28 U.S.C. 2072 in all courts, both state and federal. See Exhibit 3. The record is silent and that is another fact. Therefore, this judgement must be dismissed.

The state's action in this case violated Kyle Richard Bishop's substantial rights under the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Amendments that of guaranty to defendant under the United States Constitutional Law and the Constitution of Georgia. The law clearly states that no person shall be held to answer or stand trial without a valid indictment. Under Constitutional Law, it states that no person shall be held to answer or stand trial without a valid indictment and it is exactly the same in the Constitution of Georgia. Under Constitutional Law, it clearly states that an

indictment be obtained by a “grand jury,” not just a foreman or foreperson of the grand jury. The Constitution is the law, not the exception to the law. The state prosecutor’s illegal action deprived the court out of its jurisdiction and violated Kyle Richard Bishop’s substantial rights. The state attorney knowingly and intentionally sealed the truth from the court and the defendant. This judgment must be dismissed. See Exhibit 5.

To further add insult to injury, May 22, Exhibit 4 from Wade Wheeler, State Board of Pardons and Paroles, “...not eligible for parole” defendant Kyle Richard Bishop’s Sixth Amendment was violated by receiving ineffective assistance of counsel. The Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and the Constitution of Georgia guarantees the effective assistance of counsel to those charged with a crime. See U.S. Constitution Amendment VI and Strickland v. Washington, 466 U.S. 668, 685 (1984). To prevail on an ineffective assistance of counsel claim, a moving party must show that the defendant’s attorney’s representation fell below an objective standard of reasonableness, Strickland. Prejudice exists when an error results in a longer sentence than what would otherwise have been imposed. See Glover v. United States, 531 U.S. 198 (2001). A criminal defendant is entitled to the substantial rights in and the protection of due process clause of the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Georgia. Improper application of the sentencing guidelines violates this clause. See United States v. Eschman, 227

F.3d 886, 870 (7th Cir. 2007) holding that criminal defendants have due process rights in sentencing, otherwise a significant procedural error develops violating the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Georgia. Since this document is sworn to by the defendant, Kyle Richard Bishop, he swears that counsel never told him that he was ineligible for parole, otherwise, he would have been a fool not to take the plea offer of ten (10) years do nine (9). See United States v. Hall, 704 F.3d 1317 (11th Cir. 2013); also citing Gail v. United States, 522 U.S. 38 (2007). The standard adopted by the supreme court applies to guideline interpretations and arguments which can be brought up at any time either in “anticipation of sentencing or after the fact.” See United States v. Cartharne, No.: 16-6515 (4th Cir. December 26, 2018); also Ramirez v. U.S., 799 F.3d 845 (7th Cir. 2015), “an attorney’s failure to object to an error in the court’s or calculations in the court’s guideline that results in a longer sentence for the defendant can demonstrate constitutionally ineffective performance. Defendant’s December sentencing hearing is silent; counsel nor the court spoke of no parole or clemency. The record is silent. See United States v. Williamson, 183 F.3d 458, 463 N. 7 (5th Cir. 1999) stating “failure to raise a discrete, purely legal issue (regarding parole), where the precondition could not be more pellucid and applicable, denies adequate representation rendering the December 2000 sentencing proceeding to be unfair and/or unreliable. See the facts in the record; it

is silent. See Lockhart v. Fretwell, 506 U.S. 36A (1993) stating “unreliability or unfairness results if the ineffective assistance of counsel deprives the defendant of a substantive or procedural right to effective counsel and extends to sentencing. Also, including counsel’s interpretation and argument regarding the application of the sentencing guidelines. See Cartharne. Counsel must demonstrate a basic level of competence regarding the proper legal analysis governing each stage of a case. (See Hinton, 134 S.Ct. at 1089 holding that counsel rendered ineffective assistance by failing apparently to understand relevant law by failing to understand law relating to parole or clemency. In the case at bar, Bishop was not informed that [he] was not eligible for parole until the state Board of Pardons, Wade Wheeler, advised “...not eligible for parole.” At the December 2000 sentencing hearing, both the judge and trial counsel spoke of parole. See the record and Exhibit 4. And, State v. Morgan, 12-9-612-52.

In this case, Kyle Richard Bishop’s counsel was ineffective because he failed to object to improper application and calculation of Bishop’s parole eligibility. Such failure violated Kyle Richard Bishop’s constitutional right to due process and the effectiveness of counsel, nor was this a tactical or strategic decision. Anyone of basic level of competence would have apprised himself of the law regarding the parole eligibility and parole guidelines and objected to the improper application and proceeding of Kyle Richard Bishop, this would have

ended with a better sentencing result as opposed to a sentencing in error of the appropriate sentencing and parole guidelines. Bishop is even prohibited from working while incarcerated at either a transition center or outside prison detail. Inmates serving murder sentences are receiving clemency. Bishop does not qualify for clemency because of his sentence. Is this the legislative intent to reward those who take lives? The *Wall Street Journal's* article on sex offenders reveals less than 3% recidivism rate for sex offenders. Bishop has served enough time establishing an excellent prison record. Another case in point is Wayne Creamer and Larry Owens, both convicted of murder in Georgia, both enjoying clemency.

Counsel's performance prejudiced Kyle Richard Bishop. The victim in the case at bar has now given five affidavits admitting perjury in Cobb County, Bishop passed a polygraph, the victim attempted to testify in Wilcox County and "the trail jury members want an innocent man released from prison."

Counsel's performance prejudiced Kyle Richard Bishop. Counsel failed to thoroughly and siftingly investigate the charges that the defendant was charged with in the indictment. Kyle Richard Bishop was prosecuted on a defected indictment, see attached Exhibits 1-5. There is no proof on the court docket sheet showing where twelve (12) or more grand jurors concurred to indict Kyle Richard Bishop, and this is a constitutional violation of the laws. The record is silent. The docket sheet is silent. The Constitution and case decisions state that no person

shall be held to answer or stand trial without an indictment, and the indictment must be valid and validated by twelve (12) or more grand jurors. This illegal and fraudulent action by the state's attorneys violated the defendant, Kyle Richard Bishop's, substantial rights guaranteed under the Fifth Amendment which provides that no person shall be held to answer for a felony unless they are indicted by a grand jury. The defendant must be advised by a competent counsel aware of the nature of the charges against him under the Fifth Amendment which provides that no person shall be held to answer for a felony unless they are indicted by a grand jury. The defendant must be advised by a competent counsel aware of the nature of the charges against his client, and the defendant is to be in control of his or her mental faculties. See **Brady v. United States**, 307 U.S. 742, 756, 90 S.Ct. 1469, 25 L.Ed. 2 747 (1970). The fact is that the state attorneys have deprived this court out of its jurisdiction over this subject matter. This issue can be "raised at any time." See **Herring**.

The proper procedure and rules must be followed to ensure that twelve (12) or more grand jurors concurred and the concurrence form must be filed with the Clerk of Court, See Exhibit 3, that the only evidence defendant has to go by is that defendant has been indicted. Therefore, it must show on the court docket sheet as a record of facts keeper, and to make sure that the defendant's substantial rights are not violated and make sure that no one can produce or circumvent a concurrence

form later. The court docket sheet is silent. Review of the Clerk of Court Exhibit 1 reveals non-compliance, as well as Exhibit 3. Defendant Bishop contends that his detention is unconstitutional and unlawful because of the state attorney's illegal acts which violated his substantial rights under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution, and the Constitution of Georgia, which deprived this court out of its jurisdiction over this defendant and the subject matter. Whenever defendant's factual allegations raised issues, the Fifth Amendment and Criminal Rules of Procedure has been violated that required twelve (12) or more members of grand jury approve specific language of indictment. See Vincent v. United States, (1979, Cal Mass), 602 F.2d 1006, in this instant case, the defendant, Kyle Richard Bishop, criminal docket sheet (marked as Exhibit 3) is absent of a complaint. The federal and state law, a complaint, see Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rule (3) and 28 U.S.C. 2072 which govern all rules and evidence, states and federal law. See 28 U.S.C. 2072 (b) which states that "no rule is to be bridge, bypass or skip-over." Kyle Richard Bishop has been in the state prison for over 20 years illegally because the state attorneys prosecuted defendant Bishop on a defective indictment. Therefore, this judgment must be dismissed and Kyle Richard Bishop released from the state prison immediately.

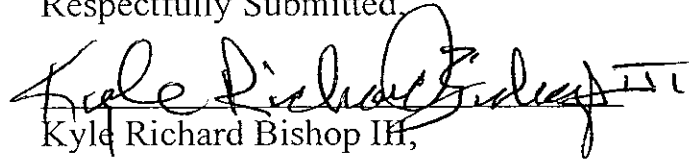
Conclusion

Wherefore, the state attorney's illegal action which violated Kyle Richard Bishop's substantial rights under the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments, which is outlined and demonstrated in this Motion. The state attorneys prosecuted Kyle Richard Bishop on a defective indictment, which deprived this court out of its jurisdiction over the defendant and the subject matter. This Motion can be brought at anytime (See Herring v. United States, 424 F.3d 384, 389 (3rd Cir. 2005). Therefore, this judgment must be dismissed and Kyle Richard Bishop must be released from prison immediately. This court should enter such order as needed to effect what is just and proper in light of the issues raised herein this Motion. O.C.G.A 9-11-60(F) provides "that a challenge may be made at anytime, by any means when there is a lack of subject matter jurisdiction claimed." Also, see Smith v. Hardrick, 266 Ga. 54 regarding relief. And, see Cobb County's own, State v. Morgan, 12-9-612-52.

Defendant Further saith not.

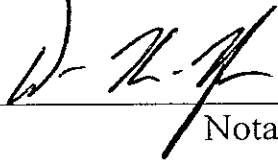
This 28 day of September 2021.

Respectfully Submitted



Kyle Richard Bishop III,
G.D.C. #1073991 – PRO SE
Inmate – Walker State Prison
P.O. Box 98
97 Kevin Lane
Rock Spring, GA 30739-0098

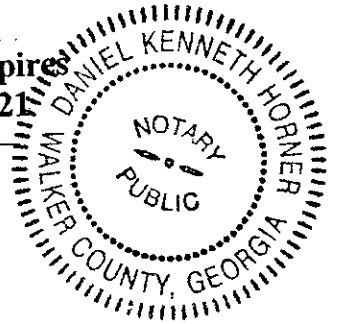
Sworn and subscribed before me on this 28 day of September, 2021.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires

My Commission Expires: November 24, 2021



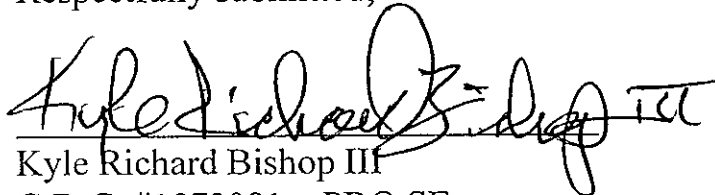
STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

Defendant, Kyle Richard Bishop III, swears that the Exhibits are true and exact copies of the originals. All originals are on file with a law firm in Richmond, Virginia and available for inspection.

Kyle Richard Bishop III further saith not.

On this 28 day of September, 2021

Respectfully submitted,



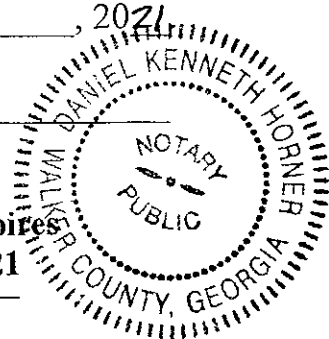
Kyle Richard Bishop III
G.D.C. #1073991 – PRO SE
Inmate – Walker State Prison
P.O. Box 98
97 Kevin Lane
Rock Spring, GA 30739-0098

Sworn and subscribed before me on this 28 day of September, 2021


Notary Public

My Commission Expires

My Commission Expires: November 24, 2021



Rebecca Keaton
Clerk of Superior Court
Cobb Judicial Circuit



Kimberly Carroll
Chief Deputy Clerk

May 19, 2020

Kyle Bishop
#1073991
Washington State Prison
PO Box 206
Davisboro, GA 31018-0206

RE: Criminal Action File Number: 98-9-4775-53

Dear Mr. Bishop:

In response to your Open Records Request for copies of Grand Jury records, you will need to contact the District Attorney's office for this information. The Clerk's office does not maintain this information.

The address is: District Attorney
70 Haynes Street
Marietta, GA 30090-9602.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. Corbitt", written over a circular stamp.

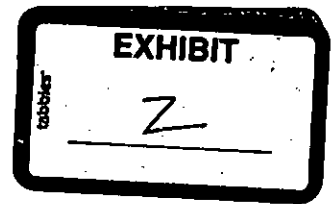
Darlene Corbitt
Deputy Clerk

www.cobbssuperiorcourtclerk.com

Court Division
P.O. Box 3370
Marietta, Georgia 30061
770-528-1300

Real Estate Division
P.O. Box 3430
Marietta, Georgia 30061
770-528-1360

UCC Division
P.O. Box 3490
Marietta, Georgia 30061
770-528-1363



**OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
FLYNN D. BROADY, JR.
DISTRICT ATTORNEY, COBB JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
70 HAYNES STREET, MARIETTA, GA 30090**

Telephone (770) 528-3080
Facsimile (770) 528-8979

August 20, 2021

Kyle Bishop
#1073991
Washington State Prison
P.O. Box 206
Davisboro, GA 31018-0206

Re: Open Records Request

Defendant: Kyle Bishop

Case No.: 98-4775, 98-9-4775-53, 98-9-4775-18

Dear Mr. Bishop:

Our records show that we received your open records request on June 16, 2020. It is possible there might have been a delay due to the judicial emergency status created by COVID. Our records also show that a letter was sent on June 19, 2020 explaining that we do not have **documents concerning the presentment of your case to the Grand Jury**. If I can help you with another request, let me know.

Sincerely,

Marcie Cherry

Marcie Cherry
Administrative Specialist, I
Open Records Unit

Run Date 8/25/2015
Run Time: 12:17PM
User: DAR

Rebecca Keaton
Clerk of Superior Court Cobb County Georgia
Criminal Case printout



Page 1 of 6

Case Number	Filed Date	Case Type	Judge
98-9-04775	12/17/1998	INDICTMENT	KREEGER
DEFENDANT	1	BISHOP KYLE RICHARD BIRTH DATE: 01/27/1959 SSN:	P O BOX 888521 ATLANTA, GA 303560521
	DFN		
OBTN	1	OBTN 73932095	WARRANT: 98W0009540
	DFN	OFF	
OFFENSE DISPOS.	1	1 CHILD MOLESTATION VERDICT GUILTY	FELONY 12/11/2000 12/11/2000 KREEGER PROF BOND
OFFENSE DISPOS.	1	2 AGGRAVATED CHILD MO VERDICT GUILTY	FELONY 12/11/2000 12/11/2000 KREEGER PROF BOND
OFFENSE DISPOS.	1	3 AGGRAVATED CHILD MO VERDICT GUILTY	FELONY 12/11/2000 12/11/2000 KREEGER PROF BOND
OFFENSE DISPOS.	1	4 AGGRAVATED SEXUAL B VERDICT GUILTY	FELONY 12/11/2000 12/11/2000 KREEGER PROF BOND
	DFN		
ATTORNEY	1	7968 CELLA,MARC P O BOX 954 MARIETTA, GA 30061	STATUS: ACTIVE
ATTORNEY	1	19908 MORSE,BILL 248 ROSWELL STREET MARIETTA, GA 30060	STATUS: ACTIVE
ATTORNEY	1	21095 MARKS,RUTH P P O BOX 1963 ROME, GA 30162	STATUS: RELEASE
ATTORNEY	1	22005 BERNSTEIN,BRENDA JOY 800 GRANT BUILDING 44 BROAD STREET ATLANTA, GA 30303	STATUS: ACTIVE
ATTORNEY	1	25838 ISOM,JOHN G 248 ROSWELL ROAD MARIETTA, GA 30060	STATUS: ACTIVE
ATTORNEY	1	31490 BADARUDDIN,SHANDOR S. 1126 PONCE DE LEON AVE ATLANTA, GA 30306	STATUS: RELEASE
	DFN	PLD DATE PLEADING TYPE	FILED BY CRIS ID
PLEADING	1	114 01/23/2006 PROOF OF SERVICE	COURT 2006-0009154
PLEADING	1	111 11/14/2005 PROOF OF SERVICE	COURT 2005-0145755
PLEADING	1	131 06/07/2010 RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT 2010-0073990
PLEADING	1	119 04/08/2008 RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT 2008-0049160
PLEADING	1	118 03/18/2008 RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT 2008-0038262
PLEADING	1	117 10/03/2007 RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT 2007-0148122
PLEADING	1	116 09/07/2007 RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT 2007-0134998
PLEADING	1	113 01/13/2006 RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT 2006-0005548
PLEADING	1	109 10/19/2005 RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT 2005-0133919
PLEADING	1	108 08/02/2005 RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT 2005-0096427
PLEADING	1	107 07/26/2005 RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT 2005-0093792

PLEADING	1	105	5/2005	RECEIVED DOCUMENT	COURT	2005-0068613
PLEADING	1	38	02/23/2001	ORDER WITHDRAW ATTY	COURT	2001-0000000
PLEADING	1	35	02/20/2001	ORDER GRANT CT ATTY	COURT	2001-0000000
PLEADING	1	31	01/10/2001	ORDER GRANT CT ATTY	COURT	2001-0000000
PLEADING	1	106	06/17/2005	AMENDED APPEAL	DEFENDANT	2005-0078471
PLEADING	1	92	06/09/1999	DENIAL OF IMMEDIATE REVIEW	COURT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	67	03/05/1999	NOTICE RULE DISCOVER	DEFENDANT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	101	05/04/2005	AFFIDAVIT	DEFENDANT	2005-0058475
PLEADING	1	41	03/26/2001	AMENDMENT	DEFENDANT	2001-0000000
PLEADING	1	81	04/22/1999	BRIEF	DISTRICT ATT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	80	04/20/1999	BRIEF	DEFENDANT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	128	05/13/2010	NOTICE	DEFENDANT	2010-0063282
PLEADING	1	57	09/12/2003	NOTICE	COURT	2003-0000000
PLEADING	1	138	11/08/2010	TRANSCRIPT	COURT	2010-0150515
PLEADING	1	90	05/19/1999	TRANSCRIPT	COURT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	87	05/12/1999	TRANSCRIPT	COURT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	50	06/26/2001	TRANSCRIPT	COURT	2001-0000000
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PLEADING	1	46	06/26/2001	TRANSCRIPT	COURT	2001-0000000
PLEADING	1	45	06/26/2001	TRANSCRIPT	COURT	2001-0000000
PLEADING	1	144	01/20/2012	LETTER	DEFENDANT	2012-0008312
PLEADING	1	143	10/31/2011	LETTER	DEFENDANT	2011-0134603
PLEADING	1	141	09/09/2011	LETTER	DEFENDANT	2011-0111788
PLEADING	1	136	09/13/2010	LETTER	DEFENDANT	2010-0122717
PLEADING	1	134	08/30/2010	LETTER	DEFENDANT	2010-0116136
PLEADING	1	132	06/15/2010	LETTER	DEFENDANT	2010-0078623
PLEADING	1	121	04/14/2010	LETTER	DEFENDANT	2010-0049006
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PLEADING	1	19	10/13/2000	EVIDENCE LIST	DISTRICT ATT	2000-0000000
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PLEADING	1	16	10/13/2000	EVIDENCE LIST	COURT	2000-0000000
PLEADING	1	88	05/14/1999	CERT IMMEDIATE REVIEW	COURT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	64	01/27/1999	NOTICE OF HEARING	COURT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	91	06/04/1999	CERT DISCLOSURE	DISTRICT ATT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	86	05/12/1999	CERT DISCLOSURE	DISTRICT ATT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	83	05/04/1999	CERT DISCLOSURE	DISTRICT ATT	1999-0000000
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PLEADING	1	75	03/15/1999	CERT DISCLOSURE	DISTRICT ATT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	71	03/10/1999	CERT DISCLOSURE	DISTRICT ATT	1999-0000000
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PLEADING	1	6	09/29/2000	CERT DISCLOSURE	DEFENDANT	2000-0000000
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PLEADING	1	33	3/2001	CERT INDIGENCY	COURT	2001-0000000
PLEADING	1	29	01/10/2001	CERT INDIGENCY	COURT	2001-0000000
PLEADING	1	28	12/29/2000	COPIES STATE BOARD	COURT	2000-0000000
PLEADING	1	74	03/15/1999	DEMAND DISCLOSURE	DISTRICT ATT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	68	03/08/1999	DEMAND DISCLOSURE	DISTRICT ATT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	62	01/27/1999	RESERV FILE ADD MTNS	DEFENDANT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	127	05/13/2010	EXTRA MTN NEW TRIAL	DEFENDANT	2010-0063281
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PLEADING	1	27	12/29/2000	PAPERWORK FROM JAIL	COURT	2000-0000000
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PLEADING	1	17	10/13/2000	REQ NEWS COVERAGE	COURT	2000-0000000
PLEADING	1	139	08/01/2011	MOTION	DEFENDANT	2011-0093062
PLEADING	1	120	01/15/2010	MOTION	DEFENDANT	2010-0006309
PLEADING	1	110	11/04/2005	MOTION	DEFENDANT	2005-0141767
PLEADING	1	103	05/04/2005	MOTION	DEFENDANT	2005-0058477
PLEADING	1	100	05/04/2005	MOTION	DEFENDANT	2005-0058474
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PLEADING	1	79	03/30/1999	MOTION	DEFENDANT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	7	10/04/2000	MOTION	DEFENDANT	2000-0000000
PLEADING	1	124	04/22/2010	MOTION TO DISMISS	DISTRICT ATT	2010-0052739
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PLEADING	1	3	09/05/2000	MOTION LEAVE COURT	DEFENDANT	2000-0000000
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PLEADING	1	102	05/04/2005	MOTION SET ASIDE	DEFENDANT	2005-0058476
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PLEADING	1	55	08/20/2003	MOTION NEW TRIAL	DEFENDANT	2003-0000000
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PLEADING	1	69	03/08/1999	MOTION DISCOVERY	DISTRICT ATT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	63	01/27/1999	MOTION DISCOVERY	DEFENDANT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	78	03/19/1999	MOTION SUPPRESS	DEFENDANT	1999-0000000
PLEADING	1	58	08/14/1998	MOTION BOND	DEFENDANT	1998-0000000
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PLEADING						
PLEADING	1	4	5/2000	ORDER CONTINUE	COURT	2000-0000000
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PLEADING	1	52	03/26/2002	ORDER APPELLATE CT	COURT	2002-0000000
PLEADING	1	2	08/15/2000	ORDER APPELLATE CT	COURT	2000-0000000
PLEADING	1	123	04/20/2010	ORDER DIR SHER TRANS	COURT	2010-0051760
PLEADING	1	59	09/01/1998	ORDER SETTING BOND	COURT	1998-0000000
PLEADING	1	61	12/28/1998	ORDER TRANSFERRING	COURT	1998-0000000
PLEADING	1	140	09/09/2011	ORDER DENYING MOTION	COURT	2011-0111787
PLEADING	1	99	04/27/2005	ORDER DENYING MOTION	COURT	2005-0055254
PLEADING	1	56	08/20/2003	ORDER GRANT MOTION	COURT	2003-0000000
PLEADING	1	129	05/26/2010	ORDER DISMISSAL	COURT	2010-0069536
PLEADING	1	133	08/20/2010	ORDER DENY NEW TRIAL	COURT	2010-0111802
PLEADING	1	43	04/19/2001	ORDER DENY NEW TRIAL	COURT	2001-0000000
PLEADING	1	135	08/31/2010	CASE FILE NOTES	COURT	2010-0116961

DFN

HEARING						
HEARING	1	1	09/06/2000 09:30 AM	MOTIONS	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	2	09/08/2000 09:30 AM	JURY TRIAL CALL	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	3	09/11/2000 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	4	09/22/2000 08:30 AM	REVOCATION	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	5	09/22/2000 08:30 AM	MOTIONS	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	6	09/29/2000 09:30 AM	JURY TRIAL CALL	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	7	10/02/2000 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	8	12/27/2000 09:30 AM	MOTIONS	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	9	02/07/2001 09:30 AM	MOTIONS	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	10	03/28/2001 09:30 AM	MOTIONS	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	11	01/27/1999 08:30 AM	ARRAIGNMENT	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	12	03/05/1999 09:30 AM	JURY TRIAL CALL	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	13	03/08/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	14	03/15/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	15	03/22/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	16	04/09/1999 09:30 AM	JURY TRIAL CALL	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	17	04/12/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	18	04/26/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	19	05/10/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	20	05/10/1999 09:30 AM	JURY TRIAL CALL	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	21	05/17/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	22	06/04/1999 09:30 AM	JURY TRIAL CALL	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	23	06/07/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	24	07/16/1999 09:30 AM	JURY TRIAL CALL	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	25	07/26/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	26	08/02/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	27	08/26/1999 09:30 AM	JURY TRIAL CALL	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	28	08/30/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	29	09/09/1999 09:30 AM	JURY TRIAL CALL	KREEGER	NOTICE PRINTED
HEARING	1	30	09/13/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	31	09/20/1999 09:30 AM	JURY	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	32	04/06/2005 09:30 AM	MOTIONS	KREEGER	
HEARING	1	33	05/26/2010 09:30 AM	MOTIONS	KREEGER	

SENTENCE	DFN	OFN	DATE	SY	SM	SD	PY	PM	PD	FINE	REST
SENTENCE	1	1	12/11/2000	20							
TYPE =		COND =		OFFN CHG =							

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SENTENCE	1	2	12/11/2000	30						
TYPE =			COND =				OFFN CHG =			

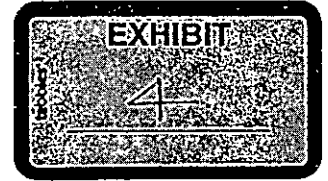
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SENTENCE	1	3	12/11/2000	10			20				
TYPE =		CONCURRENT	COND =				OFFN CHG =				

	DFN	OFN	DATE	SY	SM	SD	PY	PM	PD	FINE	REST
SENTENCE	1	4	12/11/2000	10			10				
TYPE =		CONSECUTIVE	COND =				OFFN CHG =				

	DFN	OFN					
BONDSMAN	1	1	SPRING U BONDING P O BOX 1936 MARIETTA, GA 30061				44,050.00
BONDSMAN	1	2	SPRING U BONDING P O BOX 1936 MARIETTA, GA 30061				44,050.00
BONDSMAN	1	3	SPRING U BONDING P O BOX 1936 MARIETTA, GA 30061				44,050.00
BONDSMAN	1	4	SPRING U BONDING P O BOX 1936 MARIETTA, GA 30061				44,050.00

	DFN	FILED	TRANSCRIPT	TRANSMITTD	PAID	AMOUNT
APPEAL	1	05/04/1999	6/26/2001 12:00:	07/06/2001	07/16/1999 12:00 A	463.50
APPEALED:		COURT =	APPEALS COURT	ACTION =	REVERSED	
APPEAL	1	10/13/2000	6/26/2001 12:00:	07/06/2001	06/28/2001 12:00 A	451.50
APPEALED: VERDICT		COURT =	APPEALS COURT	ACTION =	AFFIRMED	
APPEAL	1	04/19/2001			06/28/2001 12:00 A	451.50
APPEALED: ORDER DENY NEW TRIAL		COURT =	APPEALS COURT	ACTION =	DISMISSED	

Total number of cases



STATE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLES

Terry E. Barnard
Chairman

Brian Owens
Vice-Chairman

2 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DRIVE, S.E.
FLOYD BUILDING, BALCONY LEVEL, EAST TOWER
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-4909
(404) 656-4661
WWW.PAP.GEORGIA.GOV

James W. Mills
Member
Jacqueline Bunn, Esq.
Member
David Herring
Member

May 22, 2020

Kyle Richard Bishop EF-461376 GDC 1073991
Washington State Prison
P.O. Box 206
13262 Highway 24, East
Davisboro, Georgia 31018

Mr. Bishop:

Your Appeal has been received by the Board and has been forwarded to me for a response.

Due to your conviction for Aggravated Child Molestation, Cobb County Superior Court case 98-4775, you are not not eligible for parole consideration.

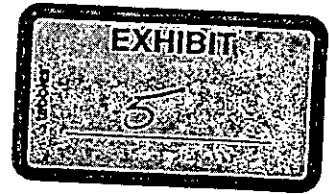
You are encouraged to maintain good behavior and to take advantage of any and all self-help programs made available to you at your facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Wade Wheeler". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Wade Wheeler
Sr. Hearing Examiner
Critical Analysis Unit/Clemency Division

WRITTEN AND SWORN AFFIDAVIT



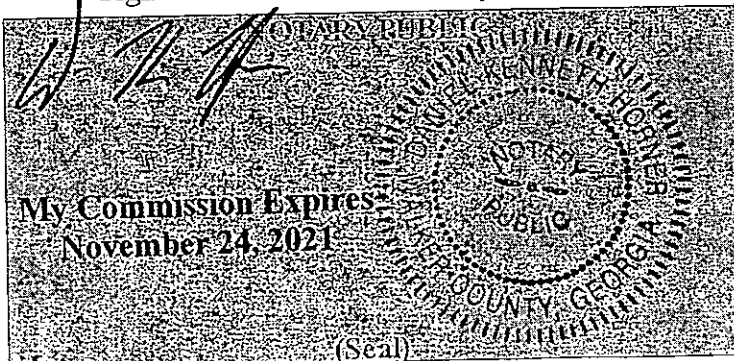
I, KYLE RICHARD BISHOP III, do solemnly testify that all of the statements of facts written below are true and actual events of that I have witnessed myself, and know to be true. I SWEAR TO THE FOLLOWING:

KYLE RICHARD BISHOP III, G.D.C. #1073991 - PURSUANT TO: MOTION TO DISMISS CASE FOR LACK OF JURISDICTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2072 AND CIVIL RULE 6D - PROSECUTOR MISCONDUCT UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2072 AND CIVIL RULE 6D - STATE OF GEORGIA - COUNTY OF COBB -

I, KYLE RICHARD BISHOP, WHO IS NOW INCARCERATED BASED ON AN ILLEGAL INDICTMENT WHICH VIOLATED KYLE RICHARD BISHOP'S FIFTH AMENDMENT RIGHTS THAT GUARANTEE TO DEFENDANT KYLE RICHARD BISHOP, UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE CONSTITUTION OF GEORGIA, ALSO VIOLATED DEFENDANT KYLE RICHARD BISHOP'S, SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS UNDER 28 U.S.C. 2072 AND RULE 6D FOR THE REASONS GIVEN BELOW AND ATTACHED PAGES

1. THE STATE'S ATTORNEYS PROSECUTED KYLE RICHARD BISHOP, ON AN INDICTMENT THAT WAS NEVER FOUND BY 12 OR MORE GRAND JURORS, THE INDICTMENT WAS NOT SIGNED

Signed and scribed this the 28 day of September 2021



Kyle Richard Bishop III
Signature

KYLE RICHARD BISHOP III
Printed Name

G.D.C. # 1073991

WASHINGTON STATE PRISON
P.O. Box 200

DAVISBORO, GA 31018-0200
Address

WALKER STATE PRISON
P.O. Box 98

PAGE 1 of 5 ROCKSPRING, GA 30739

UNTIL OCTOBER 13, 2000 AT 6:36 A.M.
#984775 WELL AFTER HIS CRIMINAL
TRIAL, 22 MONTHS, ACKNOWLEDGING
AT THAT TIME AN UNCONDITION
SURRENDER AFTER THE TRIAL AND
VERDICT, THE STATE ATTORNEYS
BYPASSED THESE RULES, SEE RULE
6 (C) AND 6 (F) WHICH CLEARLY
STATED THAT EVERY INDICTMENT
MUST BE FILED IN OPEN COURT
BY THE FOREPERSON OF THE
GRAND JURORS, NOT BY THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY AFTER THE TRIAL AND
VERDICT, BY GIVING THE CONCURRENCE
FORM TO THE CLERK OF COURT TO
BE FILED.

2. THE COURT DOCKET SHEET IS ABSENT
OF PROOF THAT 12 OR MORE GRAND
JURORS VOTED TO INDICT KYLE
RICHARD BISHOP IN THIS INSTANT CASE.

3. THE STATE'S ATTORNEYS ILLEGAL ACTS
OF BAD FAITH AND FRAUD, DEPRIVED
THE COURT OUT OF ITS JURISDICTION,
SEE EXHIBIT WHICH, IS AN ATTACHED
COURT DECISION, STATED WHEN THERE
IS A DEFECT IN THE INDICTMENT,
THE JUDGMENT IS VOID AND THE
COURT JURISDICTION IS GONE. PERIOD.

4. THE STATE AND FEDERAL RULES OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE MUST BE FOLLOWED AS THE LAW REQUIRES, SEE 28 U.S.C. 2072 (b) STATES THAT NO RULES SHALL BE BRIDGE, BYPASS OR SKIP-OVER. THE STATE ATTORNEYS INTENTIONALLY BY-PASS, THESE RULES WHICH STATED THAT THE FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURORS MUST RECORD EVERY INDICTMENT IN OPEN COURT AND IT "IS BROUGHT INTO COURT BY THE WHOLE GRAND JURY, AND IN OPEN COURT IT IS PUBLICLY DELIVERED TO THE CLERK, WHO RECORDS THE FACT," "JUST THE FACT" THAT THIS BILL IS INDORSED A TRUE BILL AND SIGNED BY DAVID CAMPBELL, FOREMAN, AFFORDS NO RECORD PROOF THAT THE BILL WAS FOUND BY ANY GRAND JURY... SEE "___ v. ___" CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS, FOURTH CIRCUIT, 172 F. 646, 1909 U.S. APP. LEXIS 5021 NO. 834, JUNE 3, 1909. BISHOP'S RECORD IS SILENT. BISHOP'S INDICTMENT WAS PRESENTED AFTER THE CRIMINAL TRIAL AND VERDICT. THERE WAS NO CONFORMITY AND THE FACT IS THE RECORD IS SILENT.

5. THE STATE ATTORNEY'S VIOLATED KYLE RICHARD BISHOP'S FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH AMENDMENT UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND THE
PAGE 3 OF 5

CONSTITUTION OF GEORGIA, WHICH STATES, "NO PERSON" SHALL BE HELD TO STAND TRIAL OR ANSWER TO ANY CHARGE UNLESS ON AN INDICTMENT BY A GRAND JURY OF 12 OR MORE, IF THAT IS NOT DONE THE PERSON HAS NOT BEEN INDICTED. SEE CASE DECISION EXHIBIT.

6. THE STATE ATTORNEY'S ILLEGAL AND FRAUDULENT ACTS OF BAD FAITH VIOLATED KYLE RICHARD BISHOP'S, SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND THE CONSTITUTION OF GEORGIA, WHICH DEPRIVED THIS COURT OUT OF ITS JURISDICTION WHICH MAKE THE JUDGMENT VOID ON ITS FACE. THEREFORE, THIS JUDGMENT MUST BE DISMISSED AND REMOVED FROM KYLE RICHARD BISHOP'S RECORD, AND COMPENSATE DEFENDANT KYLE RICHARD BISHOP, RETURN ANY AND ALL PROPERTIES SEIZED ILLEGALLY BY THE STATE, AND RELEASE KYLE RICHARD BISHOP FROM THE STATE PRISON, IMMEDIATELY.

AFFIANT FURTHER SAITH NOT.

THIS 28 DAY OF September 2021.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

~~Kyle Richard Bishop III~~

KYLE RICHARD BISHOP III

PRO SE INMATE # 1073991

~~Walker State Prison - WASHINGTON STATE PRISON~~

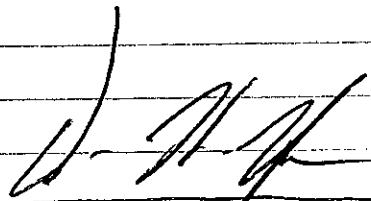
P.O. Box 98

~~P.O. Box 206~~

Rock Spring, GA

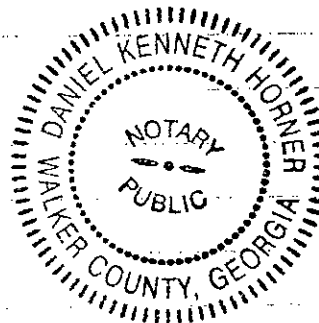
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172 F. 646
Circuit Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit.

RENIGAR
v.
UNITED STATES.

No. 834.
|
June 3, 1909.

Synopsis

In Error to the District Court of the United States for the Western District of Virginia, at Lynchburg.

West Headnotes (4)

- [1] **Indictments and Charging Instruments** ⇨ Infamous crimes
Indictments and Charging Instruments ⇨ Extent of punishment

The fifth constitutional amendment in providing that "no person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury" intends not merely an indictment in form, but a valid indictment found and presented according to the settled usage and established mode of procedure.

5 Cases that cite this headnote

- [2] **Indictments and Charging Instruments** ⇨ Open court

To constitute a valid indictment for an infamous crime in a federal court, it must have been publicly presented in open court, all the grand jurors being present and answering to their names, the indictment then being delivered by the foreman to the clerk of the court, and the fact entered of record.

15 Cases that cite this headnote

- [3] **Indictments and Charging Instruments** ⇨ Defects in charging instrument

A paper purporting to be an indictment, indorsed as a true bill by the foreman of a federal grand jury, and delivered by him alone to the clerk of the court in the courtroom when court was not in session, is not an indictment, and confers no jurisdiction on the court to try the accused.

12 Cases that cite this headnote

- [4] **Indictments and Charging Instruments** ⇨ Effect of defects

1025 (Fed. Rules Civ. Proc. rules 6(d), 52(a), 18 U.S.C.A.), providing that "no indictment found and presented by a grand jury * * * shall be deemed insufficient * * * by reason of any defect or imperfection in matter of form only," has no application to an indictment not duly found and presented; the defect in such case not being one of form, but of substance.

1 Cases that cite this headnote

Attorneys and Law Firms

*646 Waller R. Staples, for plaintiff in error.

Thomas L. Moore, U.S. Atty. (Samuel H. Hoge, Asst. U.S. Atty., on the brief).

Before PRITCHARD, Circuit Judge, and MORRIS and BRAWLEY, District judges.

Opinion

BRAWLEY, District Judge.

The case is before us upon a writ of error to review a judgment of the United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia, whereby plaintiff in error was sentenced to serve two years in the penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga., and to *647 pay a fine of \$5,000, for the violation of section 5440 of the Revised Statutes (U.S. Comp. St. 1901, p. 3676).

There are numerous assignments of error, but we have deemed it unnecessary to consider any except that presented in defendant's bill of exceptions No. 15, wherein the facts relating to the return of the alleged indictment as certified by the court are as follows:

'Defendant's Bill of Exceptions, No. 15.

'Be it known that on the 21st day of March, 1908, after the above W. H. Renigar had been put upon trial, and several of the witnesses for the government had been examined, the clerk of this court entered an order herein, dated March 18, 1908, which said order reads as follows:

"Order as to Finding Indictment by Grand Jury.

"Entered March 18, 1908.

"The grand jury again appeared and reported (among others) the following indictment, to wit:

"Indictment vs. Pinkney Ayers, W. H. Renigar, W. H. Phillips and Jas. N. Bordwine, for vio. sec. 5440, R.S.

"A True Bill.'

'Which order was spread upon the order book, and for the first time known to counsel for the defendant on this the 21st day of March, 1908.

'Whereupon counsel for the defendant moved the court to correct said order, and to have the same to conform to the facts in reference to the alleged return of the alleged indictment, which said facts the court here certifies were as follows:

'On the 17th day of March, 1908, in the trial of the case of The United States v. Pinkney Ayers, the evidence was concluded on the afternoon of said March 17th, and court was adjourned until 10 o'clock a.m. March 18, 1908. On March 18th the judge of this court, in his office beneath the courtroom in the Federal Building in the city of Lynchburg, by appointment, met counsel for government and for the said Pinkney Ayers, at or about 9 o'clock a.m., and the said judge and counsel were engaged in the consideration of the instructions in the case of The United States v. Pinkney Ayers until about 2:30 o'clock p.m., with the exception of about one hour, during which they were separated and were at lunch. While the judge and counsel were so engaged, in the office of the judge beneath the courtroom, the paper herein, purporting to be an indictment, was by the foreman of the grand jury, who came alone into the courtroom, handed to the clerk at his desk in said courtroom,

and by him marked 'Filed,' about 12 o'clock noon, while the judge and counsel for Pinkney Ayers, who were also of the counsel for the defendant in this case, were engaged in the judge's chambers; the judge of this court never having at that time been in the courtroom at any time during that day and did not make his appearance in the courtroom until about 2:30 o'clock p.m., an hour or more after the said filing of the said alleged indictment, since which appearance of the judge in the courtroom no proceedings have been had upon the said indictment, except such as appear of record herein.

'Counsel for defendant moved the court to correct its order above set forth, and to make the same conform to the state of facts herein set out, and at the same time stated to the court the fact that the indictment had been handed to the clerk and marked 'Filed' in the absence of the judge from the courtroom was known to counsel for defendant on the 18th day of March, 1908, at 1:30 o'clock p.m., and before pleading in abatement or in bar of the said alleged indictment; the court stating that the jury, clerk, marshal, and other officers of the court did meet in the courtroom at 10 o'clock a.m. on the 18th day of March, and were simply awaiting the return of the judge until he could finish the consideration of the instructions, which for convenience was being done in the judge's chambers, on the floor below; also that the court has, at a previous term, given instructions to the clerk and to the assistant district attorney that no further announcement should be made of an indictment found by the grand jury, and that the same, after indorsement, should be brought by the *648 foreman and handed to the clerk, who would thereupon mark the same 'Filed,' and proceed to make the regular order of entry; the reason for such instruction being that frequently parties who were indicted learned of the facts through the public announcement thereof in the courtroom before capias for their arrest could be served, thus leading to difficulties in making arrests and to flights.

But the court certifies that the defendant W. H. Renigar was in attendance upon this court on a bond not to depart without leave of court, and that nothing contained in the direction hereinbefore referred to in any manner applied to this particular case.

'It being conceived, therefore, by the judge of the court that the indictment was in legal effect returned into court and entered, and that the order as written by the clerk is in proper form, and as the court does not conceive that the defendant would be prejudiced by its refusal to now change the said order, did overrule the motion of counsel for defendant.'

The fifth amendment to the Constitution provides that no person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury. As the statute authorized, and the court imposed a sentence of two years in the penitentiary, there can be no question that the defendant was charged with an infamous crime (Ex parte ¹Wilson, 114 U.S. 426, 5 Sup.Ct. 935, 29 L.Ed. 89; Mackin v. United States, 117 U.S. 352, 6 Sup.Ct. 777, 29 L.Ed. 909), and a fundamental prerequisite to the defendant's trial was an indictment by the grand jury. Does a paper purporting to be an indictment upon which the foreman has indorsed 'A True Bill,' handed to the clerk, when the court is not in session, and when none of the grand jury except the foreman are present, conform to those settled usages and modes of proceeding which from the earliest days have governed the finding of indictments? 1 Chitty on Crim. Law, 324, describes the mode in which the grand jury returns the results of their inquiries to the court, by indorsing 'A True Bill' if found, and 'Not a True Bill' if rejected; and says:

'When the jury have made these indorsements on the bills, they bring them publicly into court, and the clerk of the peace at sessions, or clerk of assize on the circuit, calls all the jurymen by name, who severally answer to signify that they are present, and then the clerk of the peace or assize asks the jury whether they agreed upon any bills, and bids them present them to the court, and then the foreman of the jury hands the indictments to the clerk of peace or clerk of assize.'

4 Blackstone, 306, also describes the functions of the grand jury and the methods of its proceedings, the necessity of 12 at least assenting to the accusation, and adds:

'And the indictment when so found is publicly delivered into court.'

A later text-writer (1 Bishop on Crim. Procedure, Sec. 869) says:

'When the grand jury has found its indictments, it returns them into open court, going personally in a body.'

The Compilation, 22 Cyc. 210, cites cases from 15 states to support the proposition in the text that the 'finding by a grand jury of a true bill and indorsement thereon to such effect are not alone sufficient to render it valid as an indictment, but it is found necessary that the bill should be presented or returned by the grand jury in open court.' It would unduly extend this opinion to cite all of these cases, and we limit *649 ourselves

to an examination of cases in this, the Fourth circuit, and, first, as to the practice in the state of Virginia, where this case arose.

In ¹Commonwealth v. Cawood, 2 Va.Cas. 541, decided in 1825, Judge Brockenbrough, delivering the opinion of the court, says:

'The accusation in due and solemn form is as indispensable as the conviction. What, then, is the solemnity required by law in making the accusation? The bill of indictment is sent or delivered to the grand jury, who, after hearing all the evidence adduced by the commonwealth, decide whether it be a true bill or not. If they find it so, the foreman of the grand jury indorses on it 'A True Bill,' and signs his name as foreman, and then the bill is brought into court by the whole grand jury, and in open court it is publicly delivered to the clerk, who records the fact. It is necessary that it should be presented publicly by the grand jury, that is the evidence required by law to prove that it is sanctioned by the accusing body, and until it is so presented by the grand jury, with the indorsement aforesaid, the party charged by it is not indicted, nor is he required or bound to answer any charge against him which is not so presented. * * * The circumstance that this bill is indorsed a true bill and signed by David Campbell, foreman, affords no record proof that the bill was found by any grand jury, nor particularly by this grand jury. That gentleman may have been frequently the foreman of other grand juries in the same court, and, though we all know as men that he would not sign any paper as foreman without being really so, yet as judges we must require record proof that he was authorized by the grand jury of which he was foreman to make the indorsement now before us, and that he presented it in their presence in open court as the accusation against this individual.'

The judgment of the court was that:

'As it does not appear from the records that the grand jury had presented any bill of indictment against Benjamin Cawood for murder, in open court, as a true bill, that the subsequent plea of not guilty does not cure the defect.'

In the case of Price v. Commonwealth (decided in 1872) 21 Grat.(Va.) 859, the court, through Moncure, its president, referring to the Cawood Case, says:

'That is a case of the highest authority. It was argued with great ability by very able counsel, both for the commonwealth and the accused, and was decided by very able judges.'

In *Simmons v. Commonwealth*, 89 Va. 157, 15 S.E. 387, decided in 1892, the court says:

'It still does not appear that the indictment was delivered in court by the grand jury, and its finding recorded. This omission is a fatal defect. No man can be tried for a felony in the courts of this commonwealth except upon an indictment of the grand jury, and the indictment to be valid must be presented in open court and the fact recorded. Until this is done the accused is not indicted. This was decided in *Cawood's Case*, nearly three-quarters of a century ago. * *

* It was held to be essential to the validity of an indictment that it be publicly delivered in open court, and that the fact be recorded; that this is the evidence required by law to prove that it is sanctioned by the accusing body; and that until it is so presented the party charged by it is not indicted. * * * That case has always been regarded as settling the rule in this state.'

In the state of West Virginia the Supreme Court in *State v. Heaton*, 23 W.Va. 778, decided in 1883, says:

'The solemnity required by law in making a criminal accusation is thus stated by the court in the *Commonwealth v. Cawood*, 2 Va.Cas. 541.'

*650 There follows a quotation from the opinion in that case which is cited above. 'There is no question but that this correctly describes the regular and proper mode of proceeding in the institution and presentation of criminal charges, both in England and in this state.'

In North Carolina, the Supreme Court in *State v. Cox*, 28 N.C. 445, decided in 1846, refers to the proper practice. There was contention there that the presentment (which was a case of misdemeanor) had not been signed by 12 of the body, and it was held that that was not necessary, and the court says:

'The bill, however, being the act of the jury, they ought in every instance to be in court when one is returned, and so in making a presentment, and to ascertain that they are present they ought always to be called by the clerk.'

And in *State v. Bordeaux*, 93 N.C. 563, the court says:

'We believe a loose practice prevails in many of our courts with respect to the returns of bills of indictment into court by the grand jury. It is often the case that bills are carried into court by the foreman alone, but this is a practice to be condemned, because it is not the legal mode of proceeding. The law requires that the grand jury should make their returns

in a body that the court may see that they as a body assent to the returns made.'

No case has been cited from South Carolina, but the writer of this opinion, who had many years' experience as a prosecuting officer, in that state, can say that the invariable rule in that state, both in the state and in the federal courts, has been that a grand jury, when it has any presentments to make, comes into court, and the clerk calls the names of all of the grand jury. The clerk then asks the foreman if he has any presentments, and the bills are handed to the clerk and the result of the finding as to each bill is announced by the clerk in open court. It has not infrequently happened that a mistake in such announcement has been corrected by some grand juror present. That the practice has been as stated is referred to in *State v. Creighton*, 1 Nott & McC. (S.C.) 256, where objection was made to the finding of the grand jury in writing which had been publicly announced by the clerk in their presence, but not signed by the foreman, and the court says:

'It has long been the custom in this state for the foreman of the grand jury to sign their finding, and perhaps it would still be advisable to adhere to it, but I concur in the opinion that this being in writing, and having been publicly announced by the clerk, as is invariably the case, in the presence of the grand jury, is a sufficient guard against misconstruction or perversion, and, as there is no positive law requiring it, it is not essentially necessary to its validity that it should be signed by the foreman.'

The overwhelming weight of opinion and authority is that it is essential to the validity of an indictment that it be presented in open court and in the presence of the grand jury.

One of the cases cited by the attorney for the government as establishing a different rule is *Danforth v. State*, 75 Ga. 614, 58 Am. Rep. 480, where it was held that the sworn bailiff is competent to make return in court of bills found by the grand jury. This is under a statute of Georgia, where a part of the oath of the bailiff of the grand jury is as follows:

*651 'You do solemnly swear that you will * * * carefully deliver to that body all such bills of indictment or other things as shall be sent to them by the court, without alteration, and as carefully return all such as shall be sent by that body to the court.'

In *Sampson v. State*, 124 Ga. 776, 53 S.E. 332, the Supreme Court of that state February 15, 1906, held as follows:

'An indictment must be returned into open court. Accordingly, when the judge of a superior court at 10 o'clock a.m. of a given day ordered that a recess of the session of the court for that day be taken from that time until 8:30 the next morning, and then left the courtroom, and did not return during the remainder of that day, an indictment returned during the afternoon of the same day by the bailiff of the grand jury to the clerk of the court while he was in the courtroom was not properly returned.'

In its opinion the court refers to the practice which had always prevailed of grand juries returning indictments into open court until the adoption of the Code of 1882, after which it was held, as in *Danforth's Case*, that the bailiff might make such return, and says: 'As under the old practice the grand jury was required to return indictments and presentments into open court, it follows that the bailiff must do likewise,' citing *Gardner v. People*, 20 Ill. 430, where the court, after holding before a party can be tried on an indictment it must appear from the record that it was returned into open court, said:

'This requirement is proper for the protection of the citizen against being forced to defend himself against charges never acted upon or presented by a grand jury. If it were otherwise, by either accident or design, he might be compelled to make such defense.'

And *Goodson v. State*, 29 Fla. 511, 10 South. 738, 30 Am. St. Rep. 135:

'The only recognized manner in which the findings of the grand jury can be authoritatively presented is in open court. Were the rule otherwise, it would render it possible for a designing and revengeful foreman of a grand jury to ruin any citizen by surreptitiously filing with the clerk in his office an indictment manufactured by himself alone upon which his fellow jurors had taken no action.'

Very few cases are found which show the practice in the courts of the United States relating to the presentments of grand juries. In *United States v. Butler*, 1 Hughes, 457, Fed. Cas. No. 14,700, heard before Chief Justice Waite and Circuit Judge Bond, a motion was made by the defendants that they be not compelled to answer the indictment on the ground that it was not a legal instrument, as there had been no formal publication of the finding of the grand jury in court. Bond, Circuit Judge, stated that he remembered the circumstances of the finding of this indictment. It had been brought in by the grand jury. 'The foreman had handed it to the clerk, by whom it was handed to the court for inspection, but afterwards it was handed back

to the clerk for entry. The names of the grand jurors had been called out, and they had been asked if this was their finding and they had answered that it was, but the handing of the indictment to the clerk and the entry of it on the record was all the publication ever intended. It was not meant that the whole world should know who were indicted and for what offenses, because the accused could then escape.' Chief *652 Justice Waite stated that he had never known any other practice.

From this it clearly appears that the indictment had been brought into open court by the grand jury, and that their names had been called; the Chief Justice stating that he had never known any other practice.

In *Crain v. United States*, 162 U.S. 625, 16 Sup. Ct. 952, 40 L. Ed. 1097, the record showed an indictment, the appearance of the accused in person and by his attorneys, an order by the court that a jury come to 'try the issue joined,' the selection of a jury who was sworn to try the issue joined and a true verdict render, the trial and verdict, finding the prisoner guilty; but did not show that the accused was ever formally arraigned. The verdict was set aside on that ground, and section 1025 of the Revised Statutes (U.S. Comp. St. 1901, p. 720) was considered. Justice Harlan, delivering the opinion of the court, says:

'Neither sound reason nor public policy justifies any departure from settled principles applicable in criminal prosecutions for infamous crimes. Even if there were a wide divergence among the authorities upon this subject, safety lies in adhering to established modes of procedure devised for the security of life and liberty, nor ought the courts in their abhorrence of crime, nor because of their anxiety to enforce the law against criminals, to countenance the careless manner in which the records of cases involving the life or liberty of an accused, are often prepared. * * * We may have a belief that the accused in the present case did, in fact, plead not guilty of the charges against him in the indictment, but this belief is not founded upon any clear, distinct, affirmative statement of record, but upon inference merely. That will not suffice. We are of opinion that the rule requiring the record of a trial for an infamous crime to show affirmatively that it was demanded of the accused to plead to the indictment, or that he did so plead, is not a matter of form merely, but of substance in the administration of the criminal law; consequently such a defect in the record of a criminal trial is not cured by section 1025 of the Revised Statutes, but involves the substantial rights of the accused. * * * The suggestion that the trial court would not have stated in its order that the jury was sworn to try and tried the issue joined unless the defendant plead, or was

ordered to plead to the indictment, cannot be made the basis of judicial action without endangering the just and orderly administration of the criminal law. The present defendant may be guilty and may deserve the full punishment imposed upon him by the sentence of the trial court, but it were better that he should escape altogether than that a court should sustain a judgment of conviction of an infamous crime where the record does not clearly show that there was a valid trial.'

Bishop, in his work on Criminal Procedure, Sec. 131, defines an indictment as a 'written accusation against a specified person or persons of some crime, the elements whereof it consists, made on oath, by not less than 12 of the grand jury, to be carried into court, and there become of record.' Blackstone, 4 Comm., 309, says:

'The founders of the English law have with excellent forecast contrived that no man shall be called to answer the King for any capital crime unless upon the peremptory accusation of 12 or more of his fellow subjects, a grand jury, and that the truth of any accusation * * * should afterwards be confirmed by the unanimous suffrage of 12 of his equals and neighbours, indifferently chosen and superior to all suspicion, so that the liberties of England cannot but subsist so long as this palladium remains sacred and inviolate, not only from all open attacks (which none will be so hardy as to make), but also from all secret machinations which may sap and undermine it by introducing new and arbitrary methods of trial. * * * And, however convenient these may appear at first (as doubtless all arbitrary powers and execution are the most convenient), yet will it be again remembered that delays *653 and little inconveniences in the forms of justice are the price that all free nations must pay for their liberty in more substantial matters.

For these inroads upon the sacred bulwark of the government are fundamentally opposite to the spirit of our Constitution, and that, though begun in trifles, the precedent will gradually increase and spread, to the utter disuse of jurors in questions of the most momentous concern.' Pages 349, 350.

Mr. Justice Wilson (3 vol. 363) says:

'Among all the plans and establishments which have been devised for securing a wise and uniform execution of the criminal laws, the institution of grand juries holds the most distinguished place. This institution is at least in the present times the peculiar boast of the common law. The era of its commencement and the particulars attending its gradual progress and improvement are concealed behind a thick veil of a very remote antiquity, but one thing concerning it is

certain. In the annals of the world there is not found any institution so well adapted for avoiding all the inconveniences and abuses which would otherwise arise from malice and rigor from negligence or from partiality in the prosecution of crimes.'

Judge King in *Commonwealth v. Crans*, 2 Clark (Pa.) 172, says:

'Let any reflecting man, be he layman or lawyer, consider the consequences which would follow if every individual could at his pleasure throw his malice or his prejudice into the grand jury room. * * * Into every quarter of the globe in which the Anglo-Saxon race have formed settlements they have carried with them this time-honoured institution, ever regarding it with the deepest veneration, and connecting its perpetuity with that of civil liberty. In their independent action the persecuted have found the most fearless protectors, and in the records of their doings are to be discovered the noblest stands against the oppressions of power, the virulence of malice, and the intemperance of prejudice.'

Mr. Justice Field, in his ~~charge~~ charge to the grand jury (2 Sawy. 667, Fed. Cas. No. 18,255), says:

'In this country, from the popular character of our institutions there has seldom been any contest between the government and the citizen which required the existence of the grand jury as a protection against the oppressive action of the government. Yet the institution was adopted in this country, and has continued from considerations similar to those which give to it its chief value in England, and is designed as means not only of bringing to trial persons accused of public offenses upon just grounds, but also as a means of protecting the citizen against unfounded accusation, whether it come from cause or be prompted by partisan passion or private enmity. No person should be required, according to the fundamental law of the country, except in the cases mentioned, to answer for any of the highest crimes, unless this body consisting of not less than 16, or more than 23, good and lawful men, selected from the body of the district, shall declare, upon careful deliberation, under the solemnity of an oath, that there is good reason for his accusation and trial. From these observations it will be seen, gentlemen, that there is a double duty resting upon you as grand jurors of this district—one, a duty to the government, or, more properly speaking, to society, to see that parties against whom there is just ground to charge the commission of crime should be held to answer the charge; and, on the other hand, a duty to the citizen to see that he is not subjected

to prosecution upon accusations having no better foundation than public clamour or private malice.'

He refers to the impression which widely prevails that the institution of the grand jury has outlived its usefulness, an impression which had been created from a disregard of those qualities and the facility with which it has unfortunately often been used as an instrument for the gratification of private malice, saying:

*654 'There has hardly been a session of the grand jury of this court for years at which instances have not occurred of personal solicitation to some of its members to obtain or prevent the presentment or indictment of parties.'

And, quoting from the charge of Judge King, above referred to:

'Let any reflecting man, be he layman or lawyer, consider the consequences which would follow if every individual could at his pleasure throw his malice or his prejudice into the grand jury room, and he will of necessity conclude that the rule of law which forbids all communication with grand juries engaged in criminal investigation, except through the public instructions of courts and the testimony of sworn witnesses, is a rule of safety to the community.'

When the Constitution enumerated those guaranties intended for the security of personal rights, and among them that no person shall be held to answer for a capital or infamous crime unless on the presentment or indictment of the grand jury, it manifestly intended a valid indictment, found and presented according to those ancient rules and safeguards which the law and immemorial custom have provided for the conduct of grand juries. It did not mean a mere form of indictment, but it meant a formal accusation of the offense charged, of which at least 12 of the grand jury were satisfied of the truth, and publicly returned into court, indorsed as a true bill. Until and unless it is so presented, it is no indictment. The fundamental prerequisite to the trial of the defendant for the offense charged against him was an indictment by the grand jury. Every text-writer, from Chitty and Blackstone down to Bishop and Joyce, is in agreement as to the manner in which indictments should be found. They all agree that, when the grand jury has acted upon the bills submitted to them, they come publicly into court, their names are called, and the foreman hands the indictment to the clerk. It is not without reason that this formality is required and that the grand jury should be present when the indictment is presented to the court; for, before a man can be held to answer for a capital or infamous offense, at least 12 of the grand jurors must

agree to the finding of a true bill. If the grand jury is present when the presentment is made, their assent is conclusively presumed, unless something to the contrary appears. If they are not present, there can be no such presumption.

As was said in Cawood's Case:

'It is necessary that it should be presented publicly by the grand jury; that is the evidence required by law to prove that it is sanctioned by the accusing body; and, until it is so presented by the grand jury, with the indorsement aforesaid, the party charged by it is not indicted, nor is he required or bound to answer any charge against him which is not so presented.'

The foreman is not the representative of the grand jury. He is authorized to speak for it in its presence, when called on by the court to say whether the grand jury has any presentments to make. Any other rule would put it in the power of an individual who happened to be foreman of the grand jury to gratify personal or other malice by presenting in the form of an indictment for an infamous offense a person innocent of all crime, and subject him to the annoyance, expense, and infamy attendant upon such accusation. It is not enough to say that such a thing is improbable; that it is possible is sufficient

*655 reason for adhering to those rules which have the sanction of time and immemorial usage.

That the court was not in session when this paper was handed to the clerk is admitted. The opening of a court is a solemn judicial act, and must be performed by the judge in person. The clerk is a mere ministerial officer, and without statutory authority can exercise no judicial function. As the court was not in session, it would be the same as if this paper had been handed to him on the street. As is well said by Mr. Justice Bradley:

'Illegitimate and unconstitutional practices get their first footing in that way, namely, by silent approaches and slight deviations from legal modes of procedure. This can only be obviated by adhering to the rule that constitutional provisions for the security of person and property should be liberally construed. A close and literal construction deprives them of half their efficacy, and leads to gradual depreciation of the right as if it consisted more in sound than in substance. It is the duty of all the courts to be watchful for the constitutional rights of the citizen, and against any stealthy encroachments. Their motto should be 'Obsta principiis.''

It is contended by the learned counsel for the government that this is a mere irregularity, and relates to a defect or imperfection in matter of form only, not tending to the

prejudice of the defendant, and is cured by section 1025 of the Revised Statutes. *Bram v. United States*, 168 ³ U.S. 533, 18 Sup.Ct. 183, 42 L.Ed. 568; *Price v. United States*, 165 U.S. 311, 17 Sup.Ct. 366, 41 L.Ed. 727; ⁴ *Rosen v. United States*, 161 U.S. 29, 16 Sup.Ct. 434, 480, ⁵ 40 L.Ed. 606; ⁶ *Caha v. United States*, 152 U.S. 211, 14 Sup.Ct. 513, 38 L.Ed. 415, are cited in support of this contention. Examination of those cases shows that they fall far short of supporting the view that the case under consideration falls within the curative provisions of section 1025. That section provides that 'no indictment found and presented by a grand jury * * * shall be deemed insufficient * * * by reason of any defect or imperfection in the matter of form only, which shall not tend to prejudice the defendant.' The defect here is not a matter of form, but of substance—not that the indictment was imperfect in matter of form, but that, in fact, no indictment was found or presented by a grand jury, which is a jurisdictional prerequisite. If a valid indictment can be dispensed with, so may that providing for a trial by a petit jury, and, to use a phrase of Mr. Justice Harlan, a person charged with a crime involving life might be tried before a judge 'upon a rule to show cause why he should not be hanged.' In *Frisbie v. United States*, 157 U.S. 160, 15 Sup.Ct. 586, 39 L.Ed. 657, a case much relied on by the government, the objection to the indictment was that it lacked the indorsement 'A True Bill,' and the signature of the foreman. The court held that as there was no mandatory provision in the federal statutes requiring such indorsement, and that the indorsement was no part of the charge against the defendant, and as the common practice in this country was that the grand jury 'return into court only those accusations which they have approved, and the fact that they thus return them into court is evidence of such approval, the formal indorsement loses its essential character,' and the defect was held to be upon matter of form only and was waived if the party went to trial without objections.

*656 Joyce on Indictments, Sec. 31, in considering the fifth amendment, says:

'It was manifestly designed and intended for the security of personal rights. It is an essential to the jurisdiction of the court, and, being a constitutional right of a party, cannot be waived by him so as to preclude him from subsequently setting up want of jurisdiction in the court to try him. A party cannot waive a constitutional right when its effect is to give the court jurisdiction.'

And in section 32:

'So, where there has been no presentment of the grand jury, or bill of indictment, the fact that a person confessed in court to being guilty of a crime, which requires an indictment or presentment, confers no power upon the court to sentence him to imprisonment, and he can only be lawfully sentenced after he has been proceeded against in the manner provided in the Constitution.'

The case before us falls within the reasoning of the opinion in *Ex parte Bain*, 121 U.S. 1, 7 Sup.Ct. 781, 30 L.Ed. 849. In that case the grand jury found a true bill against Bain November 13, 1886, and the court, after argument upon a demurrer, ordered the indictment to be amended by striking out the words, 'the Comptroller of the Currency and'; the court holding those words to be surplusage. More than a year afterwards Bain was arraigned, pleaded not guilty, was tried, and convicted. The case came before the Supreme Court upon a petition for a writ of habeas corpus, and the prisoner was discharged on the ground that the indictment upon which he was tried had not been found by the grand jury. Mr. Justice Miller in his luminous opinion reviews the fifth amendment to the Constitution, and considers the nature and value of the institution of the grand jury, citing with approval the remarks of Chief Justice Shaw of Massachusetts in *Commonwealth v. Child*, 13 Pick. 198:

'It is a well-settled rule of law that the statute respecting amendments does not extend to indictments; that a defective indictment cannot be aided by a verdict; and that an indictment bad on demurrer must be held insufficient upon a motion in arrest of judgment.'

And saying, among other things:

'It has been said that, since there is no danger to the citizen from the oppressions of monarchs or of any form of executive power, there is no longer need of the grand jury.'

But, whatever force may be given to this argument, it remains true that the grand jury is as valuable as ever, in securing, in the language of Chief Justice Shaw in the case of ⁷ *Jones v. Robbins*, 8 Gray (Mass.) 329, 'individual citizens from open and public accusations of crime, and from the trouble, expense, and anxiety of a public trial before a probable cause is established by the presentment and indictment of the grand jury, and in cases of high offenses it is justly regarded as one of the securities to the innocent against hasty, malicious, and oppressive public prosecutions'; and, concluding:

'We are of the opinion that an indictment found by a grand jury is indispensable to the power of the court to try the petitioner for the crime with which he was charged. It is of no avail under such circumstances to say that the court still has jurisdiction of the person and of the crime; for, though it has possession of the person, and would have jurisdiction of the *657 crime if it were properly presented by indictment, the jurisdiction of the offense is gone, and the court has no right to proceed any further in the progress of the case for want of indictment.

If there is nothing before the court which the prisoner, in the language of the Constitution, can be 'held to answer,' he was then entitled to discharge, so far as facts originally presented to the court by the indictment is concerned. The power of the court to proceed to try the prisoner is as much arrested as if the indictment had been dismissed, or a nolle prosequi had been entered. There was nothing before the court on which it could hear evidence or pronounce sentence.'

In *United States v. Gale*, 109 U.S. 65, 71, 3 Sup.Ct. 1, 5, 27 L.Ed. 857, the court held that, where a defendant pleads not guilty to an indictment and goes to trial without making objection to the mode of selecting the grand jury, the objection is waived. Mr. Justice Bradley, who delivered the opinion of the court, says:

'There are cases undoubtedly which admit of a different consideration, and in which the objection to the grand jury may be taken at any time. These are where the whole proceeding of forming the panel is void, as where the jury is not a jury of the court or term in which the indictment is found, or has been selected by persons having no authority whatever to select them, or where they have not been sworn, or where some other fundamental requisite has not been complied with.'

And on page 72 of 109 U.S., page 6 of 3 Sup.Ct., 27 L.Ed. 857:

'We think that the doctrine of waiver applies as well to cases where the objection appears of record as where it appears by averment, and that it applies to all cases of impaneling the jury, but it does not apply to cases where the proceeding is wholly void by reason of some fundamental defect or vice therein.'

In *Hopt v. Utah*, 110 U.S. 579, 4 Sup.Ct. 204, 28 L.Ed. 262, the court, after holding that it was not within the power of the accused to dispense with certain statutory requirements, says:

'The public has an interest in his life and liberty. Neither can be lawfully taken except in the mode prescribed by law. That which the law makes essential in proceedings involving deprivation of life or liberty cannot be dispensed with or affected by the consent of the accused, much less by his failure, when on trial and in custody, to object to unauthorized methods.'

Thompson and Meriam on Juries, Sec. 657, says:

'It is the general, and probably the universal practice to deliver all indictments to the court in the presence of the grand jury.'

And in section 696:

'In his Treatise on Criminal Law, Mr. Chitty states that, when the indorsement 'A True Bill' is made upon the bill, it becomes a part of the indictment, and renders it a complete accusation against the prisoner. This must be understood with the qualification that the record further shows the indictment to have been publicly returned into court, as required by law. This recital is positively essential to establish the identity of the indictment found by the grand jury with that which appears in the record, and upon which the defendant is arraigned. The omission to make the proper entry of the return of the indictment cannot be cured by the production of a paper purporting to be the indictment duly indorsed and signed by the foreman of the grand jury, nor will this defect be cured by the defendant pleading upon the merits or by a verdict of guilty.'

In *Regina v. Heane*, 9 Cox, C.C., 433, Chief Justice Cockburn, says:

*658 'As regards the objection that the motion to quash cannot be made after plea pleaded, I think, if it is made to appear clearly that there was no jurisdiction, we have power to quash the indictment at any stage, and even for matter not apparent on the face of the indictment, brought to our notice by extraneous evidence upon affidavits.'

We have been extremely reluctant to set aside the judgment in this case upon grounds which may appear technical, and for that reason have given unusual time to its consideration, and to an investigation of the practice in every state, where the institution of the grand jury is preserved. Nothing is more clear than that the 'established mode of procedure' is for the grand jury to make its presentments publicly in open court all of the grand jurors being present and answering to their names. It follows that a paper purporting to be an indictment

handed by the foreman to the clerk when the court is not in session, and, in the absence of the grand jury, is no indictment. This is not a question of irregularity, but of substantive law, based upon the direct terms of the constitutional guaranty that no man shall be 'held to answer' for an infamous offense except on an indictment by a grand jury. The indictment—and that means of course a valid indictment found and presented according to the settled usage and established mode of procedure—is a prerequisite to the jurisdiction of the court to try the person accused, an indispensable condition and

requirement, the absence of which renders the proceedings not simply voidable, but absolutely void.

The judgment of the court below must therefore be reversed.

Reversed.

All Citations

172 F. 646, 26 L.R.A.N.S. 683, 97 C.C.A. 172, 19 Am. Ann. Cas. 1117

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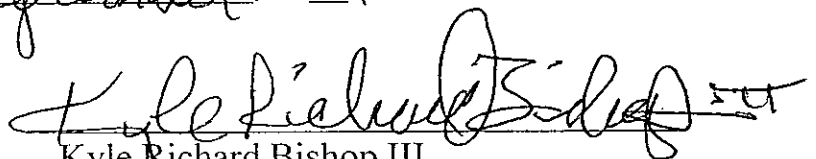
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kyle Richard Bishop III, swear that I have served a copy of Motion To Dismiss Case For Lack of Jurisdiction Under 28 U.S.C. § 2072 and Civil Rule 60 upon the below parties by sending true and exact copies by United States Mail with adequate postage affixed and properly address to:

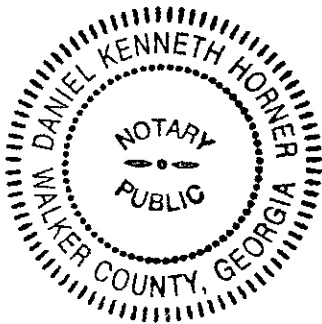
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This the 28 day of September, 2021



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My Commission Expires
November 24, 2021

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