

08-1301 CARR V. UNITED STATES

DECISION BELOW: 551 F.3d 578

LOWER COURT CASE NUMBER: 08-2008

QUESTION PRESENTED:

The President signed the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act ("SORNA") into law on July 27, 2006. Pub. L. 109-248 §§101-55, 120 Stat. 587. SORNA requires persons who are convicted of certain offenses to register with state and federal databases. See 42 U.S.C. § 16913(a). The law imposes criminal penalties of up to ten years of imprisonment on anyone who "is required to register * * * travels in interstate or foreign commerce * * * and knowingly fails to register or update a registration." 18 U.S.C. § 2250(a). On February 28, 2007, the Attorney General retroactively applied SORNA's registration requirements to persons who were convicted before July 27, 2006. 72 Fed. Reg. 8896, codified at 28 C.F.R. § 72.3. The two questions presented are:

1. Whether a person may be criminally prosecuted under § 2250(a) for failure to register when the defendant's underlying offense and travel in interstate commerce both predated SORNA's enactment.
2. Whether the Ex Post Facto Clause precludes prosecution under § 2250(a) of a person whose underlying offense and travel in interstate commerce both predated SORNA's enactment.

CERT. GRANTED 9/30/2009