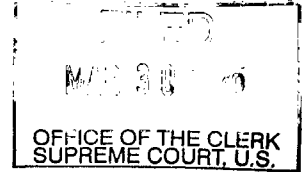


25-7634

No. 25-

ORIGINAL
FILED

IN THE



Supreme Court of the United States

ORLANDO BERNARD EASTER,

Petitioner,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Respondent.

On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari

to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI

Orlando Bernard Easter

Petitioner, Pro Se

12340-511

FCI Thomson

FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

PO BOX 1002

THOMSON, IL 61285

PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI

Petitioner respectfully petitions for a writ of certiorari to review the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Fourth Amendment permits prolonged, targeted video surveillance using a fixed camera to be treated as categorically outside constitutional protection solely because the monitored area is visible from a shared or commercial space, notwithstanding *Carpenter v. United States* and *United States v. Jones*.
 2. Whether the Fourth Amendment's probable cause and nexus requirements are satisfied to search a residence based primarily on the inference that a suspect is an alleged drug trafficker who resides there, without particularized evidence linking the home itself to criminal activity.
 3. Whether courts may deny a hearing under *Franks v. Delaware* by resolving disputed omissions and intent without an evidentiary hearing.
-

PARTIES TO THE PROCEEDING

The parties to the proceeding, both in the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan and in the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit are:

- United States of America, Respondent
 - Orlando Bernard Easter, Petitioner
-

CORPORATE DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Petitioner is an individual. No corporate disclosure statement is required.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS

- United States v. Easter, No.1:24-cr-00059-HYJ, United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan.
 - United States v. Easter, No. 25-1248 (6th Cir. Jan. 2, 2026).
-

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Appendix A

Opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Appendix B

Judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Appendix C

Opinion and Order of the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan
Denying Defendant's Motion to Suppress

Appendix D

Final Judgment in a Criminal Case

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Cases

- Carpenter v. United States, 585 U.S. 296 (2018)
 - United States v. Jones, 565 U.S. 400 (2012)
 - Franks v. Delaware, 438 U.S. 154 (1978)
 - Illinois v. Gates, 462 U.S. 213 (1983)
 - Katz v. United States, 389 U.S. 347 (1967)
 - Kyllo v. United States, 533 U.S. 27 (2001)
-

OPINIONS BELOW

The opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in this case, Easter v. United States, No. 25-1248, was entered on January 2, 2026. Unpublished

The judgment and relevant orders of the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan in Case No. 1:24-cr-59 were entered on October 29, 2024 and are unreported.

JURISDICTION

The judgment of the court of appeals was entered on January 2, 2026.

This Court has jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1254(1).

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION INVOLVED

The Fourth Amendment provides:

“The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures...”

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

This case arises from a technology-driven investigation involving:

- GPS tracking of a vehicle,
- targeted video surveillance of a storage unit, and
- inference-based warrants extending to a private residence.

Law enforcement used a confidential informant and conducted controlled buys. Officers then obtained a warrant to install a GPS tracking device and a warrant to deploy a camera focused on the exterior of a storage unit.

Based on those surveillance methods, officers obtained additional warrants to search both the storage unit and a residence associated with Petitioner.

Petitioner moved to suppress, arguing:

- lack of probable cause,
- lack of nexus to the residence,
- and entitlement to a hearing under *Franks v. Delaware*.

The lower courts denied relief. The court of appeals affirmed, holding that:

- the surveillance camera raised no Fourth Amendment concern,
- the residence search was supported by probable cause,
- and no *Franks* hearing was required.

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE PETITION

I. THE DECISION BELOW CONFLICTS WITH THIS COURT'S SURVEILLANCE PRECEDENTS

The Sixth Circuit treated prolonged surveillance as constitutionally irrelevant because it occurred in a "public" area.

That reasoning conflicts with *United States v. Jones* and *Carpenter v. United States*, which recognize that duration and aggregation matter.

The decision allows law enforcement to:

- install fixed surveillance devices,
- monitor individuals continuously,
- and reconstruct patterns of behavior

without meaningful Fourth Amendment scrutiny.

II. THE DECISION BELOW IMPROPERLY WEAKENS THE NEXUS REQUIREMENT

The court upheld a residential search based largely on the inference that Petitioner was a drug trafficker who lived there.

This approach risks converting probable cause into a status-based rule, contrary to Illinois v. Gates.

The Fourth Amendment requires particularized evidence tied to the place searched, especially where the place is a home.

III. THE DECISION BELOW UNDERMINES FRANKS v. DELAWARE

The court denied a Franks hearing by resolving disputed issues without evidence.

Where probable cause depends on layered inferences, omitted facts may be material. Denying a hearing prevents meaningful testing of the government's assertions.

IV. THIS CASE PRESENTS IMPORTANT AND RECURRING ISSUES

This case presents nationally significant questions regarding:

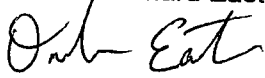
- modern surveillance practices,
- home-search standards,
- and procedural safeguards in warrant challenges.

CONCLUSION

Wherefore, and for all of the foregoing reasons, Petitioner Easter respectfully requests that this honorable Court grant certiorari to review the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Respectfully submitted,

Orlando Bernard Easter

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Orlando Easter".

Petitioner, Pro Se

Date: 06-12-2026