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OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT PROCEEDINGS BEFORE

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THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

DKT/CASE NO. 81-1859 ILLINOIS, Petitioner v. RALPH LAFAYETTE PLACE Washington, D. C. DATE April 20, 1983 PAGES 1 - 50



(202) 628-9300 440 FIRST STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

1 IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES 2 - - - -X 3 ILLINOIS, : 4 Petitioner : 5 No. 81-1859 : v. 6 RALPH LAFAYETTE 1 7 - Y 8 Washington, D.C. 9 Wednesday, April 20, 1983 10 The above-entitled matter came on for oral 11 argument before the Supreme Court of the United States 12 at 2:15 p.m. **APPEARANCES:** 13 MICHAEL A. FICARO, ESQ., Assistant Attorney General 14 15 of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois; on behalf of the Petitioner. 16 PETER A. CARUSONA, ESQ., Assistant Defender, Third 17 Judicial District, Ottawa, Illinois; 18 19 on behalf of the Respondent. 20 21 22 23 24 25

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1 PROCEEDINGS 2 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. Ficaro, you may 3 proceed whenever you are ready. 4 ORAL ARGUMENT OF MICHAEL A. FICARO, ESO. ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONER 5 6 MR. FICARO: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it 7 please the Court. 8 The Fourth Amendment, through the requirement 9 of warrants based upon probable cause, seeks to protect 10 citizens and their effects from governmental intrusions 11 by unreasonable searches and seizures. But not all 12 searches and seizures without warrant offend the limits imposed by the Fourth Amendment. 13 14 We submit that Illinois v. Lafayette is one 15 such case that does not offend the limits of the Fourth 16 Amendment. We urge this Court to find that the delayed search at the station house of the purse of the 17 Respondent, Ralph Lafayette, after a valid custodial 18 arrest was reasonable under the Fourth Amendment. 19 We submit to this Court that this post-arrest 20 21 warrantless search was permissible both as incidental to 22 arrest and as a valid inventory search. QUESTION: Now, Mr. Ficaro, you did not make 23 that search incident to an arrest argument below, did 24 you? 25

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1 MR. FICARO: Yes, Your Honor, that argument 2 was made in the trial court. Although in one line of 3 the Appellate Court opinion, the Appellate Court found 4 that it was waived, the Court went on to discuss the 5 issue citing Ross, Belton, Sanders, Chadwick, Edwards, 6 and then in its conclusion in the holding of the case the Court said that we find that this search is not 7 8 incidental to arrest and thus violates the Fourth 9 Amendment. So under Jenkins v. Georgia, the Appellate 10 Court of Illinois reached and decided the constitutional 11 issue. 12 The fact --QUESTION: Before it got to the end of its 13 14 opinion on page 3A of the cert petition it said we find 15 the state has waived this argument for the purposes of appeal by failing to raise it at the suppression 16 hearing. Don't we have to take that at face value? 17 MR. FICARO: There are three ways that this 18 case is before this Court. One is on the theory of 19 valid -- the inventory search which was not --20 21 QUESTION: I understand. This only goes, as Justice O'Connor's question, only to the question of 22 search incident to arrest. On that they say in so many 23 words you waived that. 24

MR. FICARO: Although they said that under

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1 Jenkins v. Georgia, they reached the issue. The 2 question of waiver, whether or not this is an 3 independent and adequate ground -- this is not an 4 independent ground, the issue of waiver. The Illinois 5 courts follow procedural and substantive laws to find 6 under the Fourth Amendment. In People v. Clark, in 7 appellate courts, People v. Renke, the courts of 8 Illinois have said that their interpretation of the 9 Fourth Amendment is coextensive with the scope of the 10 federal interpretation by this Court of the Constitution. 11 QUESTION: But that has nothing to do with 12 whether an argument might be waived, does it, the fact that the two constitutions might be coterminous? 13

14 MR. FICARO: The Illinois courts follow the 15 procedural rules, so this Court under the holdings of 16 Steagald which establishes the standard for waiver in 17 Illinois -- the Illinois courts in People v. Keller which explicitly says we follow the federal guideline of 18 Steagald for the waiver principles, thereby allows this 19 Court to reach the question of whether or not it was 20 waived. By a clear examination of the record in this 21 case, the issue was not waived although the Appellate 22 Court in one simple sentence said it was waived. 23 QUESTION: But assuming we ought to take the 24

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word of the Illinois Appellate Court in this particular

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1 case on these particular facts as to whether something 2 was waived under Illinois law, shouldn't we? 3 MR. FICARO: I believe, Your Honor, it is not 4 an independent ground because they use the federal 5 standard of waiver in Steagald, and, therefore, in applying the federal standard in Steagald this issue was 6 7 not waived because it was raised in a timely fashion. 8 QUESTION: Without getting into all this 9 Steagald underbrush, didn't your Illinois Appellate 10 Court go on and say and reach the issue anyway --11 MR. FICARO: Yes, that is correct. 12 QUESTION: -- by saying that we assume 13 arguendo that it was not waived and then went ahead and decided it. Is that enough for you? 14 15 MR. FICARO: That is enough under Jenkins v. 16 Georgia if they reach the constitutional issue and more significantly --17 QUESTION: But you have not mentioned it in so 18 19 many words. MR. FICARO: I apologize to the Court. I 20 thought that was my first reference. But what they have 21 said is, in applying the principles of the Supreme Court 22 cases, we find that this was not a search incidental to 23 arrest. 24 The facts of this case are that on September 1 25

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a sergeant of the Kankakee City Police was called to a
disturbance at a movie theater in Kankakee. Upon his
arrival he saw the Respondent at the theater having
words with the theater manager. As he approached the
theater manager, the manager requested that the sergeant
file a complaint against the Respondent, Ralph
Lafayette, for disorderly conduct.

Sergeant Mitzner tried to straighten out the 8 9 matter there, in his own words, but the Respondent continued yelling and screaming and Sergeant Mitzner 10 11 then placed him under arrest, did not search him at that 12 time, handcuffed him, took him to his car, and brought him to the police station. At the police station the 13 Respondent was unhandcuffed and taken into the booking 14 room where the standard police booking procedure began. 15

16 The Respondent was told to remove his 17 clothing, to put on jail garb, to take the things out of 18 his pockets, and he began filling out forms. Then, 19 according to Sergeant Mitzner, the Petitioner or the 20 Respondent placed his purse on the counter before him, 21 took out a pack of cigarettes. The sergeant touched 22 that purse, felt something inside and reached in.

According to the Petitioner, the purse was
taken from his shoulder and searched. But it was
uncontested that inside that purse at the time -- after

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1 a valid custodial arrest, were ten amphetamine pills.

2 A motion to supress was heard, was taken under 3 advisement by the trial court. Twenty days after being 4 taken under advisement, the state filed a brief in 5 opposition to the motion to suppress. The Appellate 6 Court then affirmed the holding of the trial court 7 suppressing the evidence. Leave to appeal to the 8 Supreme Court of Illinois was denied, and this matter is 9 before the Court on a writ of certiorari.

10 The reasonableness of a post-arrest 11 warrantless search of the Respondent's purse is 12 predicated upon the right of the state to search the 13 Respondent after his valid custodial arrest for disorderly conduct. The validity of Sergeant Mitzner's 14 15 authority to search this individual after the arrest has 16 remained virtually unchallenged in this Court. As this 17 Court noted in Robinson, the right to search is not to 18 be doubted.

19 The arrest is a reasonable intrusion as this 20 Court has said in the initial stage of prosecution which 21 may lead to the ultimate relinquishment of liberty of 22 this individual. When Sergeant Mitzner observed the 23 Respondent's disorderly conduct and arrested him for 24 that, Ralph Lafayette's expectation of privacy in the 25 contents of his purse became subordinated to the

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legitimate and overriding interests of the state to
 search that purse.

3 Those interests, as stated in this Court, that 4 are monitored by police officers each day are the 5 interests to disarm the person arrested, to protect the 6 police officers and those around them, to remove the 7 means of escape from the arrested person, and to prevent destruction of evidence that can be used against the 8 9 person arrested. Now these interests that were 10 monitored by Sergeant Mitzner were not tailored 11 specifically for Ralph Lafayette. These are the 12 interests served in every arrest and search incidental 13 thereto.

14 The interests served are not the justification 15 for the search of Ralph Lafayette. The valid custodial 16 arrest as this Court has indicated is the justification 17 for that search, and the search needs no further 18 justification.

19 The breadth of authority to search is not
20 limited, as this Court has held, by the crime arrested
21 for. Despite the trivial nature of a crime that a
22 police officer arrests an individual for, an officer
23 never knows if he is facing the infamous, as this Court
24 put it, trojan horse.

25 It is of no moment to a post-arrest

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1 warrantless search that there may be an absence of the 2 fruits of the crime arrested for or no evidence of the 3 crime that can be seized in relation to the crime, 4 although in this case the bizarre behavior of the 5 Respondent could have been found in the evidence of 6 amphetamines found in his purse. The justification to search is not based upon the probability of finding 7 8 weapons and evidence and means of escape in each and 9 every case, but is based upon the valid custodial arrest. The state's interests to be protected after a 10 11 valid custodial arrest are constant whether or not in a 12 hindsight glance we can say that the interests were 13 unlikely to have been served in that particular search incidental to arrest. 14 QUESTION: What was this man custodial 15 arrested for? 16 17 MR. FICARO: He was arrested for, Your Honor, 18 disorderly conduct which was a city ordinance which was subject to incarceration. 19 QUESTION: And what evidence could you find of 20 21 disorderly conduct by searching him? MR. FICARO: I do not believe that is an 22 issue, Your Honor. However in this case --23 24 QUESTION: But it is a guestion --MR. FICARO: Yes, it is. 25

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QUESTION: -- which I am asking.

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MR. FICARO: And the answer to that question is that the evidence of his bizarre behavior may have resulted from the use of narcotics, in this case amphetamines. So in this particular case there could be established evidence of his bizarre behavior, that his yelling and screaming in a public place and acting as what is described as disorderly in this specific case.

9 It was conceded by the Respondent if Sergeant 10 Mitzner arrested him at the movie station, he could have conducted a search contemporaneous with that arrest, but 11 12 because the search was at the station, the Respondent 13 says it violated the Fourth Amendment. The Court has ruled in United States v. Abel that a valid custodial 14 15 arrest can justify a search in a place other than the 16 place of arrest, and the Court has allowed a delay of 17 ten hours in a search after a valid custodial arrest, in Edwards. 18

19 The delayed station house search in this case 20 does not change the fact that the arrest justifies the 21 search. It does not impose on Ralph Lafayette in any 22 manner greater than it would have imposed upon him at 23 the time of his arrest at the movie house. It does not 24 enlarge the scope of permissible search of Ralph 25 Lafayette.

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QUESTION: May I ask you one question about 1 2 the scope of the permissible search? Supposing that the 3 purse that this man was carrying contained a lot of 4 letters in envelopes, some of which were sealed and some 5 were not. Could the police open and read the mail? MR. FICARO: I believe the answer to that 6 7 question is if it is pursuant to a valid custodial arrest, the police have a right to examine the contents, 8 9 not to read the contents of the letters, as this Court 10 has indicated in other decisions, that there is a 11 certain amount of scrutiny available to the police. 12 What is reasonable and what may shock the conscience by 13 a broaching --QUESTION: Suppose the envelopes were sealed, 14 could they rip open the seals and look inside? 15 16 MR. FICARO: I believe they could, Your Honor, and it is the arrest that justifies this intrusion 17 because the expectation of privacy of an arrested 18 individual is diminished and the contents of his 19 20 personal belongings are also diminished. 21 QUESTION: Do we have to go that far in this 22 case? MR. FICARO: No, Your Honor, we do not have to 23 go that far in this case. 24 QUESTION: What if in feeling the envelopes 25

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1 they felt some kind of a granulated powder inside. It 2 might be sugar, and it might be salt, and it might be narcotics. Would they be able to open that one? 3 4 MR. FICARO: I believe they would, Your Honor, in this case under these facts because the valid 5 6 custodial arrest, just like searching into the pocket of Robinson to find a cigarette pack and then opening a 7 8 cigarette pack to find narcotics inside would be the 9 same as the Court's example or hypothetical to me. 10 Allowing searches incidental to arrest at a 11 place other than and a time other than the arrest has been recognized by this Court based upon the practical 12 13 considerations that a police officer has to face every 14 day. 15 QUESTION: Is incident to arrest your 16 principle submission? 17 MR. FICARO: No, Your Honor, that is the first submission. 18 The reasonableness of what a police officer 19 does in light of the facts and circumstances of each 20 case is the basis of this practical consideration the 21 22 Court has in allowing a search at a place other than and at a time other than arrest. The Court has found 23 24 warrantless searches reasonable that took place seconds after the arrest as in Lavinson and Gustafson, minutes 25

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later as in Belton, or hours later in Edwards. What
these searches incidental to arrest share in common with
the search of Ralph Lafayette is the reasonableness
under all the circumstances of the time and place of the
search.

6 Looking through this -- looking at this search 7 rather through the eyes of Sergeant Mitzner, it would 8 have been unreasonable and impractical for him to 9 conduct a search in a movie theater lobby where he had 10 been called to guell the disturbance, where a 11 disturbance was taking place, where the defendant may 12 have other friends or associates among the patrons of 13 the theater. It was unreasonable, and the Court has 14 recognized this unreasonableness in demanding that the 15 search incidental to arrest be at the time and place of 16 the search incident.

Now the Respondent also concedes that the arrest in this case was valid. Now the Court has reasoned in Robinson that a search into a pocket to get a pack of cigarettes and then searching the cigarette pack to get a container crushed around narcotics is reasonable.

23 Then in this case the search into a purse
24 after a valid custodial arrest to take out a cellophane
25 with narcotics in it is also reasonable. Both the

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1 pocket and the purse are repositories of personal 2 effects. There can be no distinction, as this Court has 3 indicated in Ross, between worthy and unworthy containers in relation to the unreasonableness of a 4 search and seizure in the protections of the Fourth 5 6 Amendment. 7 When Sergeant Mitzner placed the Respondent 8 under arrest in that lobby, the Respondent had a 9 diminished expectation of privacy in the contents of his 10 purse because --11 QUESTION: Is it limited to the purse or --MR. FICARO: No, Your Honor. 12 13 QUESTION: -- diminished expectation of 14 privacy of everything on his person? MR. FICARO: Everything on his person and 15 16 within the scope of allowable search, under Chimel. 17 QUESTION: How about a separate locked trunk as in Chadwick: 18 MR. FICARO: It depends upon the association 19 of that locked trunk with the person at the time of his 20 arrest. But we do not have to reach that issue in this 21 22 case --QUESTION: You mean if it were nearby it could 23 24 be opened and searched? MR. FICARO: If it were in the permissible 25

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1 scope of Chimel if Chimel is -- if the language of Chimel means a foot locker. 2 3 OUESTION: Even if it is locked? 4 MR. FICARO: If that is what the 5 interpretation of Chimel means, even if it is locked. 6 Under the valid custodial arrest theory, there is really 7 no distinction between going into someone's pocket and a 8 foot locker that they are carrying down the street. 9 But in Chadwick that issue was not addressed 10 because it was not a search incidental to arrest. 11 QUESTION: Are you suggesting that -- in 12 Chadwick didn't the encounter begin when they were 13 standing in the depot or the station? MR. FICARO: The encounter began in an 14 observation in another city, I believe, but the arrest 15 16 took place -- there was probable cause to search --QUESTION: From where? Where was there 17 18 probable cause? 19 MR. FICARO: Based upon observations by agents in, I believe, San Diego following it through to Boston 20 where the foot locker was observed. A dog was used to 21 22 verify the presence of narcotics --23 QUESTION: As soon as the dog sniffed the foot locker, where were the people when the dog sniffed the 24 25 foot locker?

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MR. FICARO: That was unclear, Your Honor, but
 that issue --

3 QUESTION: They were close by, weren't they? 4 MR. FICARO: That issue was not addressed. 5 QUESTION: Do you think they could have --6 suppose the dog had sniffed the foot locker when they were sitting on the foot locker and they arrested them 7 right then. Could you have searched the foot locker? 8 9 MR. FICARO: I believe within the holding of 10 Chimel that foot locker could have been searched as 11 valid, incident to a custodial arrest. 12 The question is whether or not this Court in 13 their language of Chadwick meant closely associated with 14 the person to be a foot locker, but certainly under this situation a purse is an item both closely associated 15 16 with the person as well as within the scope of Chimel. QUESTION: In Chadwick the police did not know 17 of any -- of the connection between Chadwick and the 18 foot locker until he exercised dominion over it --19 MR. FICARO: That is correct. 20 21 QUESTION: -- by taking possession, and the police deferred their arrest until he claimed the 22 container that the dog had indicated had drugs in it. 23 MR. FICARO: But I believe this Court has 24 distinguised Chadwick in that it was not a search 25

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1 incidental to arrest.

2 OUESTION: And it was not an automobile search. 3 MR. FICARO: That is correct. So then based 4 upon the necessity for probable cause under the facts 5 and circumstances of Chadwick, the Court's holding in 6 relation to the search of that item was correct. 7 QUESTION: Did the Ross case possibly have 8 some impact on Chadwick? 9 MR. FICARO: I believe Ross merely indicated 10 the worthiness and unworthiness of containers for the 11 purposes of describing, as I have, a purse or a double 12 locked foot locker. It is the nature of the container 13 -- it is not the nature of the container that retains 14 the expectation of privacy in the container. It is what 15 is done with that container, it is our position, that 16 reduces the expectation of privacy. QUESTION: Are you going to come to your 17 theory on the inventory search --18 MR. FICARO: Yes, Your Honor. 19 OUESTION: -- or have you said all you were 20 going to say about that? 21 MR. FICARO: No, Your Honor, I will. 22 23 The search of the Respondent's purse at the station house after his valid arrest was a post-arrest 24 warrantless search of property under his control and 25

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immediately associated with his person. The authority
to seize was not questioned by the Respondent.

The justification to search is based upon the valid custodial arrest. The search of the purse was also justified as a valid inventory search because the Respondent was carrying it when the police took him into custody. When Sergeant Mitzner reached into that purse, his stated intent was to conduct an inventory search according to standard police booking procedures.

10 This Court has said in Opperman -11 QUESTION: Do we know from the record in this
12 case what the details of the standard procedure were
13 that were used by the Kankakee Police Department?

14 MR. FICARO: We do not know from the record, 15 Your Honor, other than the facts of removing the 16 contents from the pockets of the individual, placing 17 this individual in jail garb or jail attire, and taking 18 all the personal belongings of that individual in 19 inventory.

20 QUESTION: And we do not know to what property 21 it extends or whether a form is filled out or anything 22 of the kind?

MR. FICARO: In the amicus brief filed before
the Court, there is a copy of the inventory form used by
the Kankakee Police Department which line by line

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designates questions to be answered and items to be
inventoried and property to be received and that the
Respondent in each and every case or the person arrested
must sign that inventory to verify the contents.

5 QUESTION: What is in the course of the6 inventory process?

MR. FICARO: The inventory process, Your
Honor, Mr. Justice, is a caretaking administrative
practice. It is not based upon the probable cause, but
it is based upon serving the legitimate interests of the
state as well as an arrestee.

12 The interests served are those listed in 13 Opperman, to protect the valuables of the arrestee from 14 theft, loss or damage, to protect also the police 15 officer from any harm due to the contents of that 16 property seized. We are not talking about the subjective fear of a particular police officer. What we 17 18 are talking about is the objective harm that may occur 19 if that item and the contents are not inventoried.

The interests served by inventory include protecting against false claims that the property of the arrestee was either stolen, damaged, or lost by the police, and this cannot be underestimated, the problem this causes both in morale and in the drain of resources in responding to frivolous claims by persons arrested.

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1 We cannot also deny the fact that an interest 2 served by the inventory search of an arrestee is to 3 secure the security of the jail cell or the jail house. 4 QUESTION: May I ask you a question? Is this 5 the inventory card that was used in this case? Is that 6 the --7 MR. FICARO: I believe that is the inventory 8 card. 9 QUESTION: It describes the property as b-1-k, 10 black shoes, \$79 U.S.C., brown pouch, three keys, pants, 11 I guess, vest, and something else. Does this -- the 12 three keys, is that within the pouch or are they three 13 keys outside the pouch? MR. FICARO: It is not clear from the record, 14 Your Honor, where those keys --15 QUESTION: Can you tell what was in the pouch 16 17 from the inventory card? MR. FICARO: I do not believe so, Your Honor --18 QUESTION: Did they just inventory the pouch 19 and I assume they leave the contents inside it? 20 MR. FICARO: If that would not --21 QUESTION: I mean, this is their regular 22 procedure, I guess. 23 MR. FICARO: That is their regular procedure. 24 QUESTION: But you cannot tell from the card 25

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1 what is in the pouch and what is not in the pouch? 2 MR. FICARO: I do not think it is of 3 significance whether it is in the pouch or not. The 4 significance is whether it remains the property of this 5 arrestee. 6 QUESTION: The other side argues that all you 7 really have to do is describe the pouch and keep that 8 separate, and you are arguing you have got to know what 9 is in the pouch --10 MR. FICARO: Yes, Your Honor. 11 QUESTION: -- and if the ordinary record does 12 not even show what is in the pouch, I wonder how valid 13 your argument is. 14 MR. FICARO: I believe in the record it 15 indicates that every item of property of an arrestee must be inventoried. That would include by its very 16 nature the contents of the pouch. 17 QUESTION: So if he had a pouch with nothing 18 19 in it but three keys? They did not even inventory the 20 drugs. MR. FICARO: I do not believe that I 21 understand the question, Your Honor, in that they 22 inventoried all items of personal property in his 23 possession. It did not have to indicate from where 24 those items came because it serves no purpose. 25

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1 QUESTION: And I am saying they apparently do 2 not inventory the contents of the pouch. They just 3 iventory the pouch as one item.

MR. FICARO: You mean they do not specifically
5 indicate that the contents are the following?

6 QUESTION: If this is your regular form, they7 do not.

8 MR. FICARO: But they do, which is the basic
9 consideration, inventory each and every item taken from
10 the arrestee at the time of his arrest.

11 QUESTION: Including the pouch but not the 12 contents of the pouch, which would seem to suggest you 13 do not have to look inside the pouch to comply with your 14 inventory regulations.

MR. FICARO: I believe you would have to look 15 into the pouch or you cannot list each and every item 16 17 taken from the arrestee at the time of his arrest. In weighing the state's interests in the Respondent's 18 expectation of privacy in the contents of his purse, 19 there is no doubt that the Respondent who is a pre-trial 20 detainee has a lesser expectation of privacy that 21 justifies the overriding state interests to search and 22 23 inventory the contents of that purse.

I would seek leave of this Court to retain theremaining portion of my argument for rebuttal.

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CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. Carusona. 1 2 ORAL ARGUMENT OF PETER A. CARUSONA, ESO. 3 ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT 4 MR. CARUSONA: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it 5 please the Court. 6 The Petitioner, the State of Illinois, asks 7 this honorable Court to reverse the decision on two 8 grounds. It alleges two grounds, that it is a valid 9 inventory in this case, or there is a valid delayed 10 search incident to the arrest. 11 It is our position as developed in part two of our brief that the question of whether the search can be 12 13 justified as one incident to the arrest is not properly before this Court since the Appellate Court held that 14 that issue was waived. The fact that after the Court 15 16 held that it was waived, as the state concedes in both its petition for certiorari and its brief, and then went 17 on to note and discuss the issue, that is purely a 18 hypothetical discussion prefaced with the phrase, 19 assuming arguendo, that the state had not waived the 20 21 issue. QUESTION: Why did they indulge in that waste 22 of time? 23 MR. CARUSONA: I do not know, Your Honor. It 24 is just common for them to do that. 25

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(Laughter)

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2 MR. CARUSONA: Not to waste their time, but to
3 go on to discuss that.

4 QUESTION: We won't push you.

5 MR. CARUSONA: Thank you.

Hypothetical discussions do occur perhaps even 6 in this Court's decisions, but in Herb v. Pitcairn that 7 8 is one case where this Court recognized that there was a hypothetical discussion in the case, as there was in 9 this case, and the Court said that we are not in the 10 11 business of issuing advisory opinions. Any opinion by 12 this Court would be purely advisory since it was waived 13 under state law.

14 QUESTION: How about Jenkins v. Georgia which15 the other side relies on?

16 MR. CARUSONA: In that case the Court in that 17 case went on to reach and decide the question. There is 18 nothing in there to the -- there is no waiver holding in 19 that case. There is no question that that case was 20 decided on the merits of the Fourth Amendment or the 21 Constitution.

22 Since the focus of this case really should be 23 inventory, I would like to limit my comments to that. I 24 would rely on part three of our brief where we discuss 25 the search incident to arrest question, and there is

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another reason in this case why the focus of the case
should be on inventory. That is what the facts show it
is.

The officer testified he searched the contents of this shoulder bag because, pursuant to Kankakee Police Department policy, everything had to be inventoried. As Your Honors will recall, there was an arrest in this case, and I must dispute the facts as supported by the Petitioner this morning.

10 The arrest in this case was for disturbing the
11 peace. It was not subject to incarceration. That was a
12 petty offense punishable by a fine only. It was a
13 violation of the Kankakee Municipal Code, and petty
14 offenses in Illinois are punishable by fine only.

15 QUESTION: How about the custodial nature of 16 an arrest made for a violation of that ordinance? Is it 17 totally unknown to make a custodial arrest?

18 MR. CARUSONA: Certainly not, Your Honor, and 19 this is the -- you can have a custodial arrest for a misdemeanor, and this is not even a misdemeanor. It is 20 even lower. It is simply a petty offense carrying no 21 subject of incarceration. In fact, there is a bail 22 23 schedule for this offense, and the defendant could have obtained his release by posting \$35 bond money. 24 QUESTION: If he had it. If he had it. 25

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1 MR. CARUSONA: If he had it. That is correct, 2 Your Honor. In that regard, there has been some 3 discussion this morning of his property index card in the brief of the amicus. That is not in the record. 4 That card apparently was obtained by the amicus writing 5 to the Kankakee Police Department. That is not evidence 6 in the record, and I wanted to point that out. 7 But, however, that card indicates that he did 8 have \$79 and enough to make bond. Following the arrest 9 in this case --10 QUESTION: May I ask you if the record tells 11 us what he had in the purse other than the cigarettes, 12 which I guess are mentioned, and the --13 14 MR. CARUSONA: The record does not show. QUESTION: Because neither the cigarettes nor 15 16 the drugs are listed on the card. Was there anything else in the purse? 17 MR. CARUSONA: There is no indication in the 18 19 record. Following the arrest in this case, the 20 Defendant was taken down to the police station. At that 21 22 point, he was allowed to fill out some forms. After he filled out some forms it eventually was determined that 23 he was going to spend the night in jail or going to 24 spend some time in jail. They took all of his 25

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belongings, and at that point they decided that they
were going to search them because they were safeguarding
them.

I would like to point out what this search is not, in this case. This is not a search based on probable cause. This is not a search based on any exigency. This is not a search of any property that was going to accompany the Defendant into the jail cell.

9 What this is is simply a search pursuant to 10 the Kankakee Police Department policy to inventory 11 everything that they are going to be safeguarding, and I 12 would also point out that this is not a search which 13 could ever be justified by a warrant. With respect to 14 this inventory question, the state --

15 QUESTION: What did you say? Suppose right at 16 the time of arrest, would they have been able to search 17 the purse?

18 MR. CARUSONA: Perhaps as a search incident to
19 arrest under the Fourth Amendment, yes.

20 QUESTION: So --

21 MR. CARUSONA: We are not disputing a
22 contemporaneous search.

23 QUESTION: All right. Thank you.

24 MR. CARUSONA: I might add, however, that such 25 a search might be illegal under Illinois law because it

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1 is controlled by state statute.

2 With respect to this inventory question, the 3 state asked the Court to fashion a rule which requires 4 the police, just as the Kankakee Police Department policy, to open up every container, every repository of 5 personal effects, and this would have to include an 6 7 envelope because you would have to open up an envelope to check to see whether or not there was currency in it 8 9 or some type of bearer bond.

Our position, on the other hand, is that this Our position, on the other hand, is that this Court should approve or affirm the decision in this case and approve the majority rule and that is that the contents of these containers should not be searched as part of an inventory.

15 QUESTION: Now, you have said, if I understood 16 you correctly, that the police would not even have been 17 able to obtain a search warrant for that bag that he was 18 carrying.

19 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct, Your Honor. 20 QUESTION: What if, in fact, there was \$20,000 21 worth of raw heroin in it and the police do not know 22 that when they arrest him but his conduct was such that 23 they might reasonably think he was influenced by drugs. 24 Are you telling us that under Illinois law there was no 25 way that the police could ever search that shoulder bag

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1 to see, either to inventory it or for any other purpose? 2 MR. CARUSONA: What we are saying, Your Honor, 3 is that such a search would not be an inventory search. That would be a criminal search, and it would have to go 4 5 by the Court's normal standard and perhaps the warrant 6 would apply as in Chadwick. 7 QUESTION: Suppose -- you are suggesting that 8 they should have put it in a sealed wrapper and put it 9 away and not looked inside of it. That is part of your point, is it not? 10 11 MR. CARUSONA: As far as the inventory issue 12 is concerned. 13 QUESTION: Now suppose after he posted his bond and had been fined he then claimed that he had had 14 \$10,000 in currency in it but that the \$10,000 in 15 currency was missing. Are you suggesting the police did 16 17 not have the right to protect themselves from such a claim? 18 MR. CARUSONA: What we are suggesting, Your 19 Honor, is the right -- the police do have a right to 20 protect themselves from a claim, and they could have 21 done it exactly as the officer testified in this case by 22 placing the shoulder bag in an inventory bag, which were 23

QUESTION: Would that prevent this gentleman

available, and securing it in a locker.

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from claiming afterward that he had \$10,000 when he put
 it in, that the \$10,000 was missing when he was released?
 MR. CARUSONA: Your Honor, absolutely no
 procedure would prevent that from happening.

5 QUESTION: Well, the inventory at the time and 6 place at the police station, spreading the things all 7 out on the table and counting the money would protect 8 them, would it not?

9 MR. CARUSONA: That would not protect a false
10 claim. I mean, a claim could be made at that time that
11 the money was taken when it was handled.

12 QUESTION: Even if the person arrested had to 13 sign the form and say I acknowledge this is what I had 14 and here it is and you have listed it on the inventory 15 and yes that is right?

16 MR. CARUSONA: Well, Your Honor, in this case 17 the shoulder bag could have been placed in an inventory 18 bag and that could have been sealed and the Defendant 19 could have initialed that and then --

20 QUESTION: Yes, but that does not do away with 21 the type of claim the Chief Justice was inquiring about.

22 MR. CARUSONA: I understand. Perhaps Your 23 Honors may even feel that it is slightly better to 24 search every thing, but that slight interest cannot 25 outweigh the privacy that we are talking about here,

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1 and, in fact --

2	QUESTION: Well, it is not the function of
3	judges to try to say how it should be done. The only
4	function of this Court would be to say is the way they
5	are doing is the procedure they are following, a
6	reasonable procedure given all the circumstances.
7	MR. CARUSONA: I agree with Your Honor. In a
8	majority of the jurisdictions today they do not search
9	these contents. They do not search the contents of
10	these containers. They are the ones that are faced with
11	these false claims, and they to not find them
12	significant. For the moment or during this discussion
13	we have been assuming that they are, in fact,
14	significant.
14 15	significant. QUESTION: Well, in Opperman we said that an
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significant risk there is no evidence that it is a
 significant risk in this case. The state has cited some
 federal cases in their reply brief, but none of those
 involve a claim from a container and most of them
 involve property taken from someone's cell, not property
 which was being stored.

7 The evidence that it is not significant comes
8 from two Supreme Courts and that is Minnesota and
9 Delaware, excuse me, and Wisconsin where the courts have
10 indicated that they have never seen such a claim. They
11 were sure they existed, but they had never heard of one.

12 QUESTION: Is that the sort of a record upon 13 which this Court could say that as a matter of 14 constitutional law you have to inventory one way rather 15 than another?

MR. CARUSONA: Certainly not, Your Honor. 16 We are not asking this Court to do that. What we are 17 asking in this case is to apply the balancing test of 18 19 Opperman and that is what is the need to search and balance that against the high privacy interest involved, 20 and there is no need to search to prevent these false 21 claims. Even if there is a slight need or even if it is 22 better by having some type of rummaging through letters 23 and everything, and as I said you would have to open up 24 a letter to check it and read papers to make sure they 25

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1 were not a stock certificate or some type of bearer bond
2 --

3 QUESTION: But we do not reach the question of
4 opening up letters in this case.

5 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct, Your Honor,
6 but that is the rule that the Petitioner is advocating.

7 QUESTION: Well, we do not have to take in
8 haec verba either your submission or Petitioner's, I
9 take it, to decide the case.

MR. CARUSONA: That is correct, Your Honor. QUESTION: Would you say that if the arrestee has in his pocket a little box that is wrapped up with strings, it looks like a little box with a present in it or something, would the police be permitted to open that or not?

16 MR. CARUSONA: No, Your Honor. We are saying
17 that they should not be able to open any container.

QUESTION: And, how about his wallet?

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MR. CARUSONA: The same goes to that, Your
Honor. Again, we are talking about containers which the
police have in their custody, and the Defendant is going
off to jail.

QUESTION: They get him into the station.
They have arrested him and take him to the station house
and they tell him to empty his pockets and he does, and

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1 there is his wallet, and you say they just must put the2 wallet in a bag and not look in it.

3 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct, Your Honor.
4 QUESTION: But why isn't the wallet like the
5 cigarette package in Robinson?

MR. CARUSONA: Well, Robinson was a search
incident to arrest case, and it involved a
contemporaneous search. It was a criminal search. We
are not talking about any type of criminal search in
this case.

11 QUESTION: So you are saying -- What case is 12 it that holds, do you think, that -- You would think 13 that if they arrested him out on the street corner they 14 could then search his wallet. They take it out of his 15 pocket and search him right then and there, and say this is a search incident to arrest. Now, you say that is 16 17 permissible, and they find this little package in his pocket when the arrest him out on the street. May they 18 19 search the box right them?

20 MR. CARUSONA: Sometimes they can, Your Honor. 21 QUESTION: And it was because of incident to 22 arrest, --

23 MR. CARUSONA: Right.

QUESTION: But they would not have to haveprobable cause or anything to believe anything is in the

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1 box.

MR. CARUSONA: That is correct. Under
Robinson in search incident to arrest, we excuse the
need for the moment because actually as Justice
Frankfuter -QUESTION: Now, tell me the case that says
that with respect to a personal article that is

8 intimately connected with a person like a wallet that 9 could be searched in the field, the arrest was in the 10 field. Tell me the case that says you cannot search 11 that at the station house if you have not searched it 12 before.

13 MR. CARUSONA: We would submit as far as
14 search incident to arrest goes that that would be
15 controlled by Sanders and Chadwick. I realize that it
16 is an extension of those cases perhaps.

QUESTION: What about Opperman? 17 18 MR. CARUSONA: Opperman for inventory purposes, we submit that Opperman does not allow opening 19 containers that are to be stored in the station house. 20 QUESTION: Why should Justice White's 21 hypothetical be controlled by Sanders and Chadwick 22 rather than, which you consider to be extensions, rather 23 24 than by Robinson for purposes of search incident to 25 arrest?

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MR. CARUSONA: Because Robinson is a case
 which allows -- There is no need. There is no -- There
 has to be no justification other than the fact of
 arrest. In other words --

5 QUESTION: I thought Chadwick carefully put 6 aside those items that were intimately connected with 7 the person and did not say that those could not be 8 searched at the station house.

9 MR. CARUSONA: There is some language in Chadwick to that effect, but it is our position that 10 11 that just applies to clothing. There is no need for 12 this Court to make any kind of container rule on 13 clothing, and, in fact, I think as the Chief Justice 14 wrote in Sanders is what we are talking about here and 15 that is that items carried on, accompanied or being 16 carried by the person when they are arrested that a 17 search of those items cannot be justified by any reduced expectation of privacy. 18

19 QUESTION: Let me take you back to the wallet 20 that Justice White postulated to you. A man puts the 21 wallet down on the table, and you say they must wrap 22 that up in some kind of a seal and not look inside of 23 it. All right, they do that. Two days later he is 24 released and they hand him his billfold and ask him to 25 sign a receipt. He looks at it and said, well, I had

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1 \$10,000 in here when I left it, and now there is only 2 \$3. You mean to tell me that they cannot inventory the 3 contents of that wallet in order to protect the police 4 from that kind of a claim? 5 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct, Your Honor, 6 because we feel that they are protected by sealing --7 QUESTION: Well, then that is -- You are 8 running counter to Opperman. 9 MR. CARUSONA: Excuse me, Your Honor? 10 MR. CARUSONA: You are running counter to 11 Opperman. 12 MR. CARUSONA: Opperman allowed the search of 13 an automobile --14 QUESTION: The entire of everything in the 15 automobile including things that were in the --16 MR. CARUSONA: Glove compartment. 17 QUESTION: --glove compartment. 18 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct, Your Honor, 19 but there was essential need in that case. In fact, the state courts -- This is the reverse of Opperman. The 20 21 state courts have said -- In Opperman, the majority said the search was essential. Why? Because of the need to 22 protect from vandalism. 23 24 QUESTION: Also to protect the police. 25 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct, Your Honor,

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1 but the idea was that a car is stored outside. That 2 involves significant burdens. There are two key factors 3 why the courts have not found Opperman to extend to this 4 situation, and again one is the significantly higher 5 expectation of privacy in the contents of these repositories, and the second one is that it involves no 6 7 burden to secure them. In this case they simply put it 8 in a locker.

9 An automobile, on the other hand, is subject 10 to vandalism, and when there is vandalism that is when 11 false claims are even more likely because you have an insurance fraud type claim. But the idea of the 12 13 security of the station house and this higher expectation of privacy is what has made the scales tip 14 15 the other way. Again, we are talking about -- The test 16 here is the need to search versus the privacy interest 17 involved, and we must consider as one of those factors the scope of the search, and as I pointed out the 18 state's search is virtually unlimited in scope. The 19 scope of their rule is unlimited. 20

Another interest which has been advanced is normally the idea that you have to protect the police from injury and so on. In other words, that interest, too, is served by securing the property in a locker. Once you have secured the property in the locker, you

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have maintained jail security. You have protected the
owner's property from theft and vandalism. You have
also protected the police from the idea that someone is
going to obtain a weapon from the container and use it
against the police.

6 QUESTION: And to you it would not make any
7 difference if they had a probable cause to search the
8 purse?

9 MR. CARUSONA: Probable cause would be a
10 different case, Your Honor. It would not be an
11 inventory case.

12 QUESTION: But you would just say they would 13 have to go get a warrant. You would not say they could 14 make a warrantless search?

MR. CARUSONA: If there were probable -- That is correct, Your Honor. If there were probable cause to search for contraband, this case would be controlled by Readwick and Sanders at the station house now. Again, this is something that is securely in their control.

But once -- We are not suggesting that there cannot be a search for these other reasons once you get out of inventory context. One example is the idea that there is a bomb in every type of container. That is true. Every container is a potential bomb. However, it is very remote that the Defendant would have planned his

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1 arrest with a bomb in there and secondly, we have to 2 understand that it is foolhardy to routinely open up 3 containers looking for a bomb because it may be 4 boobytrapped, and you would have one injured officer. 5 QUESTION: In Washington just recently a young man was arrested and he had a package and it was 6 7 discovered that there were two venomous, poisonous snakes which had inflicted very serious injury on him 8 endangering his life. Now would you suggest that police 9 10 should not have done a little checking on that, the contents of that bag? 11 MR. CARUSONA: Certainly, I do not think it 12 would be wise --13 14 QUESTION: In this case it was a translucent bag, and they could see what was there, but suppose it 15 16 had been a bag that was not translucent. MR. CARUSONA: If the officer has reason to 17 think that there is a poisonous snake in there or any 18 other dangerous instrumentality --19 OUESTION: The whole point is that he might 20 not have any reason to think there was a bomb or a 21 poisonous snake any more than you would have any reason 22 to think there was \$10,000 in the man's wallet, but is 23 it not the business of the police to find out? 24 MR. CARUSONA: Yes, Your Honor, and I submit 25

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1 it would be foolhardy to open up a container where a 2 snake jumps out and bites you. 3 (Laughter) 4 QUESTION: It would be embarassing. The young 5 man nearly died as a result of this. 6 QUESTION: Fortunately, the policeman knew 7 what to do with the snake, but I think the Chief Justice 8 means if an ordinary policeman had put his hand in there 9 he would be dead. 10 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct. 11 QUESTION: So what is your answer? 12 MR. CARUSONA: That he should not be opening 13 -- He is better protected by putting it in a locker. 14 (Laughter) 15 QUESTION: Letting the custodian deal with 16 them. MR. CARUSONA: Excuse me, Your Honor? 17 18 QUESTION: Letting the custodian deal with 19 them. QUESTION: Let the Attorney General get in 20 there. 21 (Laughter) 22 23 MR. CARUSONA: It is -- I do not know how else to answer this potential bomb or potential dangerous 24 instrumentality except to say that it is foolhardy to 25

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routinely open these up and how it should be dealt with
 is if there is a reasonable suspicion then, of course,
 he should do something. He should not open it up. He
 should have an expert come and take it.

5 Your Honors, I would like to talk a little 6 about the waiver question in this case and that is review of the search as incident to the arrest shoud be 7 8 precluded because the Appellate Court rejected that 9 theory on an adequate and independent state ground which 10 served legitimate state interest, and as I noted the 11 Court's discussion was purely hypothetical. And I think 12 it is important to note here that are extreme legitimate 13 state interests in this case.

We have the normal state interest that there is an inadquate record. We do not know exactly what this container is. It is called a shoulder bag or a purse. We do not know the exact circumstances at the time of the search whether or not the Defendant was in the middle of taking off his clothes --

20QUESTION: Who are you talking about? The21state? You say state interest?

22 MR. CARUSONA: That is right. The waiver rule
23 serves legitimate state interest.

QUESTION: Well, we have the state represented25 here.

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MR. CARUSONA: The legitimate state interest
 served, Your Honor, is that the courts should not be
 deciding --

4 QUESTION: So the state gets a judicial5 interest?

6 MR. CARUSONA: A judicial interest as the 7 interest that this Court recognizes in Tyler. It is a 8 judicial interest. They should not decide cases on 9 piece meal litigation or with an inadequate record.

10 QUESTION: Well, they did. It was not the --11 The burden was on your client to show that the evidence 12 should be suppressed, I take it, and that would be the 13 rule in Illinois as elsewhere, and if you were to make a 14 claim that could be sustained on appeal, it is up to you 15 to make the record that would justify sustaining the 16 claim. If the Illinois Appellate Court upholds that 17 claim on the basis of a record that will not support it, 18 then it seems to me it is you who suffer and not the other side. 19

20 MR. CARUSONA: That is not the rule in 21 Illinois, Your Honor.

QUESTION: The rule is that the burden is on
the state to defeat a motion to suppress?
MR. CARUSONA: The burden on the state is to
raise questions in a timely fashion. The Defendant

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walked into the hearing in this case with a case in his
 hand, and that was People v. Bayles, an inventory case.
 The discovery says this was an inventory search. He did
 everything he had to do to win.

5 Had the state brought up this question, he
6 could have asserted the state statute which controls
7 this question.

8 QUESTION: You are talking about the waiver9 argument now?

10 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct.

11 QUESTION: I am sorry. I misunderstood you.

12 MR. CARUSONA: The important legitimate state 13 interest here is that he could have asserted a state 14 statute. Searches incident to arrest in Illinois are 15 controlled by statute, and in a strikingly similar case, 16 People v. Helm, decided by the Supreme Court, the 17 Illinois Supreme Court, they held that a search almost 18 identical to this one violated that statute.

19 QUESTION: Well, when the Illinois court,
20 though, said even if it was not waived this is not a
21 search incident to arrest, it did not talk about
22 Illinois law did it?

23 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct, Your Honor.
24 They went on to hypothetically --

25 QUESTION: Why didn't it? Why didn't it? I

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1 would think it certainly could have avoided a lot of 2 talk about federal law if it was controlled by an 3 Illinois statute. 4 MR. CARUSONA: There was no need for the court 5 to talk about -- I mean, what we are talking about is in 6 the trial court we were denied our opportunity to 7 present that statute. 8 QUESTION: Yes. 9 MR. CARUSONA: In the Appellate Court we 10 contended that the state had waived the theory --QUESTION: Yes, and your court said it had. 11 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct. 12 OUESTION: And then it nevertheless decided 13 14 the question? MR. CARUSONA: We did not decide the guestion, 15 16 Your Honor, and, in fact, the --QUESTION: Well, what did they say? 17 MR. CARUSONA: Exactly what the state says 18 they said, and they held that it was waived and then 19 they went on to note --20 QUESTION: Assuming it was not waived, it 21 nevertheless -- We reject the state's position. 22 23 MR. CARUSONA: That is correct. QUESTION: They did not say a word about 24 Illinois law during that discussion. 25

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MR. CARUSONA: That is correct.

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2 QUESTION: I am not sure it is right to call 3 that a hypothetical, that alternative ground, because 4 they were subject to review by the Illinois Supreme 5 Court which might have disagreed with them on waiver so 6 they had a perfectly good reason for putting another 7 reason in the record if they wanted to avoid review by 8 their superior court.

9 MR. CARUSONA: I think Your Honor brings up a 10 good point, and that is that in the petition for leave 11 to appeal the state did not raise the waiver question. 12 In fact, they never disputed the waiver contention until 13 the brief that they filed in this Court, and that is 14 something that this Court noted in Tyler was significant.

With respect to this search incident to arrest 15 16 question, it is our position that we must look at what Justice Frankfuter stated in United States v. Rubinowitz 17 and that is that the exception has its basic root on 18 need, and there was no need to conduct a search in this 19 case. That need exists at the time of arrest as in 20 Robinson, but once the item, the container, is secured 21 at the station, is in custody of the police that there 22 is no need then to conduct a search for that reason. 23 And if we just facially look at this case compared with 24 Chadwick and Sanders, this is a stronger case. There is 25

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no probable cause to search in this case. There is no
 exigency.

3 The idea that the Defendant in Sanders could 4 have got to his suitcase was much greater than in this 5 case. Accordingly, Your Honors, we would ask that this Court affirm the decision of the Appellate Court finding 6 7 that the inventory question was rightly decided, and also we think review of the search incident to arrest 8 9 question is precluded. 10 Thank you. 11 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. Ficaro, do you have 12 anything further? 13 ORAL ARGUMENT OF MICHAEL A. FICARO, ESQ. ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONERS -- REBUTTAL 14 MR. FICARO: Brief response, Mr. Chief 15 16 Justice. Whether we wish to call this a search incidental to arrest or a valid inventory search, the 17 search is based upon the validity of that arrest, and 18 the justification then is existent in an inventory 19 search the same as it is in the search incidental to 20 arrest. 21 When Justice White addressed the question of 22 what do we do with the wallet, if we follow the 23

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counsel's least restrictive rules test, we must ignore

25 that there are 10 million arrests annually that involve

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custodial taking of a person into custody or taking him
 into custody.

3 QUESTION: In Chicago do you mean or --MR. FICARO: In the United States --4 QUESTION: -- the United States. 5 6 MR. FICARO: -- according to the FBI uniform 7 crime statistics, although at times it seems that there 8 are that many in Chicago. 9 (Laughter) 10 MR. FICARO: If we take counsel's less intrusive means test, we do not balance the state's 11 interests because we are dealing with a pre-trial 12 13 detainee whose expectation of privacy in the contents of his purse or wallet have been severely restricted. So 14 we must balance the state's interest to search as 15 provided for in the interest named in Opperman versus 16 the rights of a pre-trial detainee. 17 And finally as this Court has questioned the 18 waiver issue by the state, the importance in my 19 statement of facts and the relation to a brief being 20 filed after the court took this matter under advisement 21

22 in the trial court was that the state raised this issue 23 of search incident to arrest eight days before the court 24 decided this matter, and, therefore, it was timely 25 raised in the trial court below.

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1	Thank you very much.
2	CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Thank you, gentlemen.
3	The case is submitted.
4	(Whereupon, at 3:11 p.m., the case in the
5	above-entitled matter was submitted.)
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