## OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT PROCEEDINGS BEFORE

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

DKT/CASE NO. 82-1684

TITLE RAYMOND J. DONOVAN, SECRETARY OF LABOR, ET AL., Appellants v. LONE STEER, INC.

PLACE Washington, D. C.

DATE November 29, 1983

PAGES 1 thru 28



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

1	IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
2	x
3	RAYMOND J. DONOVAN, SECRETARY OF :
4	LABOR, ET AL.,
5	v. : No. 82-1684
6	LONE STEER, INC.
7	x
8	Washington, D.C.
9	Tuesday, November 29, 1983
10	The above-entitled matter came on for oral
11	argument before the Supreme Court of the United States
12	at 2:09 p.m.
13	APPEAR ANCES:
14	ALAN I. HOROWITZ, ESQ., Office of the Solicitor General,
15	Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.; on behalf of
16	the Appellants.
17	RICHARD G. PETERSON, ESQ., Fargo, N. Dak.; on behalf of
18	Appellee.
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- 2 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. Horowitz, I think
- 3 you may proceed whenever you are ready.
- 4 ORAL ARGUMENT OF ALAN I. HOROWITZ, ESQ.,
- 5 ON BEHALF OF APPELLANTS
- 6 MR. HOROWITZ: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it
- 7 please the Court:
- 8 This case is here on direct appeal under 28
- 9 U.S.C. 1252 from the United States District Court for
- 10 the District of North Dakota. Under review is the
- 11 District Court's decision holding unconstitutional the
- 12 investigative provisions of the Fair Labor Standards
- 13 Act, specifically the Court's holding that the Fourth
- 14 Amendment prohibits the use of an administrative
- 15 subpoena for the inspection of documents and rather
- 16 requires that a search warrant be obtained before any
- 17 documents may be examined.
- 18 Because some of the briefs here have generated
- 19 some confusion about the issue presented I think it
- 20 would be useful to summarize briefly the background of
- 21 this litigation.
- 22 On January 6, 1982 Al Godes, the Wage Hour
- 23 compliance officer, telephoned Appellee, a
- 24 restaurant-motel, located in Steele, North Dakota to
- 25 schedule an inspection for the following day and to ask

- 1 that certain wage and payroll records be made available
- 2 for inspection at that time.
- 3 When Appellee's manager informed Godes that
- 4 the time was not convenient he rescheduled the
- 5 inspection for the following week. In the interim
- 6 Appellee's counsel wrote to Mr. Godes stating that
- 7 Appellee would not consider the request for an
- 8 inspection until it was informed of either the nature of
- 9 the complaint that triggered the investigation or the
- 10 scope of the investigation.
- 11 The government responded with a letter
- 12 outlining the general scope of a fair labor standards
- 13 investigation and declining to give the reason for this
- 14 particular investigation. In this letter the government
- 15 rescheduled the inspection for two weeks hence.
- 16 The letter also requested Appellee to inform
- 17 the government whether it would decline to permit the
- 18 inspection so that an administrative subpoena could be
- 19 obtained in that event. Appellee responded that
- 20 permission would be refused under the authority of
- 21 Marshall v. Barlow's and thereafter Appellee was served
- 22 with a subpoena duces tecum requiring production of
- 23 specified payroll records at the Department of Labor's
- 24 Wage Hour Offices in Bismarck, North Dakota.
- 25 Appellee's counsel informed the Department of

- 1 Labor that it would not comply with the subpoena on the
- 2 ground that it was invalid under Barlow's, and to date
- 3 it has not produced the subpoena documents.
- 4 QUESTION: Mr. Horowitz, do the Appellees
- 5 suggest that maybe this was really an attempt by the
- 8 government to get unauthorized entry into the premises?
- 7 Would you comment on that?
- 8 MR. HOROWITZ: I just do not think there is
- 9 any support for that in the record. All we know is that
- 10 they phoned and -- The government phoned and said that
- 11 it wanted to conduct an inspection the next day.
- 12 Appellee obviously did not feel compelled to
- 13 comply with this. It simply first stated that it wasn't
- 14 convenient and then later declined to permit the
- 15 government to enter. In the brief --
- 16 QUESTION: The question is not really before
- 17 us here, of course, but do you think the statutory
- 18 authority under the Act to enter and inspect the
- 19 premises is possibly invalid under Barlow's?
- MR. HOROWITZ: Well, it has never come up
- 21 because the general practice of the Labor Department is
- 22 not to conduct these entries without consent so they did
- 23 not try to do it here. They have never tried to do it.
- 24 If they did --
- 25 QUESTION: Do you think it is possibly

- 1 invalid?
- 2 MR. HOROWITZ: If they did I think unlike this
- 3 case Barlow's would be guite relevant and there would be
- 4 a serious question under Barlow's, but the question
- 5 would be whether Barlow's was distinguishable or not.
- 6 It might be difficult to distinguish.
- 7 Barlow's itself was careful to confine itself
- 8 to the OSHA context so arguably it might be
- 9 distinguishable, but it would certainly be a close
- 10 case.
- 11 QUESTION: Well, did the subpoena here
- 12 actually request entry?
- MR. HOROWITZ: No. The subpoena specifically
- 14 said that it was returnable off the premises, that the
- 15 documents were to be produced at the Labor Department's
- 16 office in Bismarck, North Dakota.
- 17 I should say also in response to Justice
- 18 O'Connor's original question the Appellee has said and
- 19 the briefs in this Court have characterized the
- 20 Department of Labor's initial phone call as sort of a
- 21 demand for entry and tried to paint the picture that we
- 22 were trying to force our way in. That's something
- 23 that's come up in the course of litigation.
- I think if you look at the more
- 25 contemporaneous discussion of what was going on the

- 1 letter that I just referred to that Appellee sent to the
- 2 government that is reproduced at page 13 of the Joint
- 3 Appendix Mr. Peterson stated "I represent Lone Steer
- 4 Cafe. Before we consider your request to conduct an
- 5 inspection we would like the following information."
- 6 So I think at least at the time everyone
- 7 understood that this was just a request to enter the
- 8 premises. It was only later that this has been
- 9 characterized more as a demand.
- 10 QUESTION: May I ask was the subpoena ever
- 11 served?
- MR. HOROWITZ: Yes, the subpoena was
- 13 served.
- 14 QUESTION: Did you ever file a motion for
- 15 contempt for failing --
- 16 MR. HOROWITZ: We filed as I was about to say
- 17 We filed a petition with the District Court to compel
- 18 Appellees to comply with this subpoena.
- 19 QUESTION: The judge's order does not rule on
- 20 that though does it?
- 21 MR. HOROWITZ: Well, the cases were
- 22 consolidated so the order does rule on it. It is a
- 23 little cryptic.
- 24 QUESTION: But he does not mention it?
- MR. HOROWITZ: He does not mention it, no.

- 1 QUESTION: All he denies -- Really all he says
- 2 you have no right to enter the premises.
- 3 MR. HOROWITZ: Well, that is what the order
- 4 says. In the course of the court's opinion he states
- 5 that the Appellee's contention is that they are not
- 6 required to turn over these documents in response to
- 7 this subpoena so the court seems to have understood that
- 8 what this case was about was a subpoena, but then when
- 9 it gets to drafting the order it just says that
- 10 government can't enter on the premises.
- 11 At that point the government filed a motion to
- 12 amend the judgment pointing out to the court that all we
- 13 wanted was for the documents to be turned over at cur
- 14 offices. The court did not really address that very
- 15 well either so perhaps the District Court did not
- 16 exactly focus on what was going on here, but I think it
- 17 is made clear enough in all the papers that have been
- 18 filed.
- 19 When Appellee declined to permit the
- 20 inspection originally the government responded with a
- 21 letter that outlined the general scope of the
- 22 investigation of a fair labor standards general
- 23 investigation but declined to give the reason for this
- 24 particular investigation, and as I said we requested
- 25 that Appellee inform the government whether it would

- 1 consent -- decline to permit the inspection so the
- 2 subpoena could be obtained.
- 3 When Appellee declined to permit the
- 4 inspection a Department of Labor officer went to the
- 5 premises on February the 2nd and served him with the
- 6 subpoena. The Appellee brought this law suit seeking
- 7 declaratory and injunctive relief on the grounds that
- 8 the Fair Labor Standards Act was unconstitutional and
- 9 quoting from the complaint "insofar as it purports to
- 10 authorize a warrantless inspection of records by way of
- 11 administrative subpoena after entry to inspect has been
- 12 denied."
- 13 This action was consolidated with the
- 14 government's action as discussed earlier petitioning the
- 15 District Court to compel Appellee to comply with the
- 16 subpoena, and the District Court found for the Appellee
- 17 without really explaining why. The court's opinion
- 18 relied exclusively on Marshall v. Barlow's and accepted
- 19 the Appellee's contention that the subpoena was invalid
- 20 under Barlow's.
- 21 QUESTION: I did not find that the court
- 22 referred to Oklahoma Press at all.
- MR. HOROWITZ: No. The court --
- QUESTION: Was this pressed upon the court by
- 25 the United States Attorney?

- 1 MR. HOROWITZ: It certainly was featured quite
- 2 heavily in the government's motion for summary judgment,
- 3 the Oklahoma Press case, but it was not really discussed
- 4 by the Appellee and the court did not see fit to discuss
- 5 it either.
- 6 QUESTION: Judge Van Sickle had Oklahoma
- 7 Press.
- 8 MR. HOROWITZ: Yes, he did.
- 9 As we've stated in our briefs we view this as
- 10 a straightforward case governed by principles that have
- 11 been well settled by this Court.
- 12 QUESTION: Mr. Horowitz, maybe I've already
- 13 asked it but I just want to be sure. Not only in his
- 14 judgment but also in his opinion all he mentions is the
- 15 right to enter. He did not write another opinion that
- 16 somehow did not get in the papers did he because the
- 17 strangest thing to me about this case is the judge's
- 18 total failure to mention anything about complying with
- 19 the subpoena.
- 20 MR. HOROWITZ: Well, it is certainly strange.
- 21 At the beginning of the court's opinion or at least at
- 22 the beginning of discussing the issues at the bottom of
- 23 page 6 A in framing the issue the court says in the last
- 24 paragraph there on page 6A "Lone Steer asserts that the
- 25 statutory scheme is constitutionally impermissible and

- 1 that the records described in the administrative
- 2 subpoena issued in this case need not be produced except
- 3 in response to a warrant."
- 4 So the court certainly took cognizance there
- 5 of the fact that there had been a subpoena issued, and
- 6 that's what was involved. But then the court just goes
- 7 on to discuss Barlow's and then kind of falls back onto
- 8 this discussion of entry onto the premises.
- 9 QUESTION: You thought it was so strange that
- 10 you suggested summary reversal.
- 11 MR. HOROWITZ: We did suggest summary
- 12 reversal, but the court did not see fit to act on that
- 13 suggestion.
- 14 The case is here today because of the direct
- 15 appeal provisions of Section 1252 in light of the
- 16 District Court's finding of unconstitutionality. It is
- 17 not because this case presents an unsettled
- 18 constitutional question.
- 19 I would like if I might briefly to emphasize
- 20 just a few points in this connection. At the outset let
- 21 me emphasize again that the only issue presented in this
- 22 case is the constitutionality of the subpoena duces
- 23 tecum served upon Appellee, that is, requiring the
- 24 production of documents off premises without resort to a
- 25 search warrant.

- 1 Perhaps because the validity of such subscena
- 2 is so clearly established by this Court's precedent
- 3 Appellee and the amicae supporting it have sought to
- 4 cloud this issue by suggesting that this case involves
- 5 an attempted nonconsensual entry onto private premises.
- 6 This is simply not sc. There is no question
- 7 here of an entry onto private premises without consent
- 8 as there was in Barlow's. The government never made any
- 9 attempt to enter and the Department of Labor's general
- 10 policy is not to make such entries.
- 11 From the time the subpoena was served almost
- 12 every document in the record perhaps with the exception
- 13 of the District Court's opinion confirms that this
- 14 litigation has focused on the validity of the subpoena.
- 15 Only one week after the subpoena was served Appellee
- 16 wrote the government, sent a copy of this letter to the
- 17 District Court stating that it would not comply with the
- 18 subpoena because it was invalid under Barlow's.
- 19 Appellee's complaint, the government's
- 20 petition to enforce this subpoena, the District Court's
- 21 own description of the issue presented in its opinion
- 22 and the motions for summary judgment all focus on the
- 23 issue of the validity of the subpoena . On this issue
- 24 Appellee's contention is foreclosed by a long line of
- 25 precedent of this Court.

- 1 In Oklahoma Press this Court unequivocally
- 2 held that an administrative subpoena, indeed in that
- 3 case a subpoena issued under the very statute involved
- 4 here, the Fair Labor Standards Act, a subpoena is not
- 5 governed by the requirements of the warrant clause.
- 6 That is, neither a warrant nor probable cause is
- 7 required for the issuance of a subpoena.
- 8 The Court explained that a subpoena does not
- 9 involve any actual search of private matters. It is a
- 10 search only in a theoretical sense, what the Court
- 11 termed a constructive search.
- 12 The Court concluded, therefore, that a
- 13 subpoena is reasonable within the meaning of the Fourth
- 14 Amendment if the request is authorized by law, is not
- 15 indefinite or unduly burdensome and seeks documents that
- 16 are relevant to the investigation. This rule has been
- 17 reaffirmed by this Court in Morton Salt and several
- 18 other subsequent cases and has been routinely and
- 19 uniformly applied to administrative subpoenas for the
- 20 last 40 years.
- 21 Neither Appellee or the District Court
- 22 discusses Oklahoma Press and its progeny. No defect in
- 23 the reasoning of the Court in those cases nor any reason
- 24 for concluding that those cases were wrongly decided has
- 25 been suggested.

- 1 The sole basis for the decision below and for
- 2 Appellee's argument is the assumption that this long
- 3 line of cases has been wiped off the books overruled sub
- 4 silentio by Barlow's. There is absolutely no basis for
- 5 this assumption.
- 6 Barlow's has nothing to do with this case or
- 7 with Oklahoma Press. Barlow's involved an actual
- 8 search, an entry onto a manufacturer's private business
- 9 premises and a search of those premises for evidence of
- 10 safety and health violations.
- 11 This is the precise sort of investigative tool
- 12 with which the Court in Oklahoma Press contrasted a
- 13 subpoena and drew a distinction. Barlow's did not
- 14 suggest any erosion of the traditional distinction
- 15 between subpoenas and actual searches.
- 16 Indeed Barlow's relied heavily on See v. City
- 17 of Seattle an earlier case where the Court had
- 18 established a warrant requirement for fire inspections,
- 19 inspections that required an entry onto private
- 20 premises. In the course of that decision, however, the
- 21 Court expressly reaffirmed the distinction drawn in
- 22 Oklahoma Press between subpoenas and actual searches and
- 23 reaffirmed the standards set forth there under which
- 24 such subpoenas are to be judged.
- 25 Barlow's and following See did not interfere

- 1 with these standards. Morever, the problems with OSHA
- 2 inspections primarily concerned the Court in Barlow's.
- 3 That is, the unbridled expression of officers in the
- 4 field to conduct inspections and the unlimited nature of
- 5 the search involved do not exist with subpoenas.
- 6 The subpoena is not open ended. It
- 7 specifically identifies the documents scught. The
- 8 subpoena is not left to the unbridled discretion of the
- 9 officer in the field.
- 10 It may be issued only by the Wage Hour
- 11 administrator and enforced only by resort to adversary
- 12 court proceedings. In short, nothing in Barlow's casts
- 13 any doubt on the continued validity of Oklahoma Press or
- 14 on the validity of the subpoena returnable off premises
- 15 that was issued in this case.
- 16 Thus, to repeat we believe that well settled
- 17 Supreme Court precedent clearly controls the disposition
- 18 of this case and requires reversal of the judgment
- 19 below.
- 20 Unless there are any questions, I will reserve.
- 21 the remainder of my time.
- QUESTION: I have one, Mr. Horowitz. Again, I
- 23 do not think it is really raised here but do you think
- 24 there are any limits in addition to those spelled out in
- 25 Oklahoma Press on the government's subpoena power?

- 1 Could a person whose records are being subpoenaed, for
- 2 example, seek a protective order from the court on the
- 3 grounds that he'd been singled out or was being
- 4 harrassed and, therefore, the subpoena wouldn't issue?
- 5 Are there any limits?
- 6 MR. HOROWITZ: I am not sure whether the
- 7 Fourth Amendment would give any protection or not
- 8 against sort of being singled out. It might be that the
- 9 due process clause or something could have some sort of
- 10 selective prosecution kind, but I think it would be a
- 11 difficult standard to meet certainly.
- 12 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. Peterson.
- ORAL ARGUMENT OF RIAHCRD G. PETERSON, ESQ.,
- 14 ON BEHALF OF APPELLEE
- 15 MR. PETERSON: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it
- 16 please the Court:
- 17 First of all, this is not a simple subpoena
- 18 case. Such characterization is misleading and
- 19 erroneous. It is somewhat glib, and it is made by
- 20 government appellate attorneys from afar.
- 21 Those who have been directly involved with
- 22 this case including the District Court judge were
- 23 intimately aware of the facts. The issues basically
- 24 involved entry, and if you look at the facts and the
- 25 facts were stipulated there were at the outset

- 1 unilateral scheduling of an inspection appointment
- 2 date.
- 3 QUESTION: Mr. Peterson.
- 4 MR. PETERSON: Yes.
- 5 QUESTION: Where do we find the stipulation?
- 8 In the briefs or the appendix?
- 7 MR. PETERSON: I believe it is in the --
- 8 QUESTION: Is it in the appendix somewhere?
- MR. PETERSON: Yes, it is in the appendix,
- 10 Justice Rehnquist.
- 11 QUESTION: Page 11.
- 12 MR. PETERSON: Right.
- 13 The Labor Department basically was informing
- 14 Lone Steer that it was about to enter and inspect the
- 15 premises, question employees and generally conduct its
- 16 normal investigation.
- 17 QUESTION: Did they enter?
- 18 MR. PETERSON: Yes, they did ultimately.
- 19 The issue became --
- QUESTION: When did they enter?
- 21 . MR. PETERSON: They entered I believe it was
- 22 February 2nd of 1981.
- 23 QUESTION: What is that in relation to this
- 24 case?
- MR. PETERSON: Excuse me?

- 1 QUESTION: Was that when the hearing was had?
- 2 MR. PETERSON: They entered following the
- 3 institution of a law suit by Lone Steer to get a
- 4 declaratory judgment on Section 11.
- 5 QUESTION: Well, does that apply to this case?
- 6 MR. PETERSON: Yes, it does, Your Honor.
- 7 QUESTION: Is it in the record?
- 8 MR. PETERSON: Yes, it is, Your Honor.
- The Labor Department, a compliance officer,
- 10 Mr. Godes from Bismarck together with some high ranking
- 11 Labor Department official flown in from Denver entered
- 12 the Lone Steer to attempt to conduct the investigation
- 13 on the premises showing, attempting to show that Section
- 14 11 -- .
- 15 QUESTION: Well, did they enter? You now said
- 16 they attempted to enter.
- 17 MR. PETERSON: Well, they entered and
- 18 attempted to conduct the investigation.
- 19 QUESTION: Isn't there a difference between
- 20 entering and attempting to enter?
- 21 MR. PETERSON: They entered the Lone Steer
- 22 Cafe in Steele, North Dakota and sought to conduct an
- 23 investigation there. .
- QUESTION: A cafe? They entered it?
- MR. PETERSON: They did enter it.

- 1 QUESTION: And they were excluded.
- 2 MR. PETERSON: They were turned away, right.
- 3 QUESTION: They were turned away.
- 4 MR. PETERSON: Right.
- 5 QUESTION: Mr. Peterson, you used the word
- 6 "enter" as if to give almost a feeling of breaking down
- 7 the door. Your paragraph 10 of the stipulation says
- 8 that at approximately 10:30 a.m. Godes and Hill entered
- 9 the Lone Steer establishment to attempt to conduct an
- 10 investigation.
- 11 They asked for Ms. White and were told she was
- 12 not available but expected shortly. They were offered
- 13 some coffee and waited in the lobby area. After 20 to
- 14 30 minutes when Ms. White had not appeared Mr. Godes
- 15 served an administrative subpoena on employee Karen
- 16 Arnold.
- 17 Do you mean by the use of the word "entered"
- 18 kind of entered against the will of the parties?
- 19 MR. PETERSON: No, Your Honor, and I certainly
- 20 did not seek to give the Court that impression. If I
- 21 could give you a short scenario of what exactly happened
- 22 --
- 23 QUESTION: Well, is it something different
- 24 from the stipulation in paragraph 10?
- 25 MR. PETERSON: Only from a -- No, it is not,

- 1 Your Honor. It is basically in the stipulated facts.
- 2 We had two instances where Lone Steer's attorney told
- 3 the Labor Department that they did not have authority or
- 4 consent to conduct its investigation on the premises of
- 5 Lone Steer.
- 6 QUESTION: Are you suggesting they had no
- 7 authority to enter to serve the subpoena?
- 8 MR. PETERSON: No, Your Honor, definitely
- 9 not.
- 10 QUESTION: You are not arguing that?
- MR. PETERSON: No. We're saying --
- 12 QUESTION: That is a public place. Anyone
- 13 could enter it, could they not?
- 14 MR. PETERSON: Yes, it is, Your Honor.
- 15 QUESTION: How else would they serve the
- 16 subpoena except to enter it?
- 17 MR. PETERSON: Your Honor, in the first
- 18 instance what they sought to do was to conduct the
- 19 investigation.
- QUESTION: We are not concerned about what
- 21 they thought to do. What did they do?
- 22 MR. PETERSON: They informed us by way of a
- 23 letter that they were going to attempt to conduct the
- 24 investigation and if they were prohibited -- That was
- 25 the word used -- if they were prohibited from conducting

- 1 the investigation they were going to leave an
- 2 administrative subpoena.
- 3 QUESTION: Mr. Peterson, the stipulation goes
- 4 on and says they did properly serve the subpoena.
- 5 MR. PETERSON: Yes, Your Honor.
- 6 QUESTION: The subpoena commands the
- 7 production of a person to testify and to bring with him
- 8 certain records to the Federal Building in Bismarck.
- 9 MR. PETERSON: Yes, Your Honor.
- 10 QUESTION: Why did you not do that?
- 11 MR. PETERSON: Your Honor, at that point prior
- 12 to that the issue was under Section 11 whether or not
- 13 the inspection powers of the Labor Department were
- 14 limited by the Fourth Amendment as interpreted by
- 15 Barlow's, and the issue before the Court as the Court
- 16 perceived it and as we perceived it we wanted a
- 17 declaratory judgment as to whether or not the Labor
- 18 Department did have the right to conduct the
- 19 investigation without the consent of the owner.
- 20 QUESTION: Do you understand the District
- 21 Court to have ruled that you did not have to comply with
- 22 the subpoena.
- 23 MR. PETERSON: Yes, Your Honor.
- QUESTION: What reason did he give for that
- 25 ruling?

- 1 MR. PETERSON: He did not really give a reason
- 2 for that ruling other than to say that the inspection
- 3 power under Section 11 of the Fair Labor Standards Act
- 4 was clearly in his mind at least subject to the warrant
- 5 clause under the Fourth Amendment as interpreted in
- 6 Barlow's.
- 7 QUESTION: He talked only of entries onto the
- 8 premises.
- 9 MR. PETERSON: Yes, Your Honor.
- 10 QUESTION: The subpoena asks for production
- 11 elsewhere. Is there any reason why you should not
- 12 comply with a subpoena to produce elsewhere?
- MR. PETERSON: The subpoena as we understand
- 14 the subpoena is an enforcement device as a part of
- 15 Section 11's conferring of inspection powers to enter
- 16 and inspect the premises.
- 17 QUESTION: Had they not first tried to get in
- 18 would you be making the same argument?
- 19 MR. PETERSON: I believe, Your Honor, that
- 20 either Section 11 is subject to the warrant clause or it
- 21 isn't. I believe that it is subject to Section 11, and
- 22 the Labor Department did not or left undisturbed the
- 23 judgment with respect to entry.
- 24 The judgement with resoect to entry right now
- 25 stands that Section 11 is subject to the warrant

- 1 clause.
- 2 QUESTION: Well, let me give you a
- 3 hypothetical. The same type of subpoena is issued to
- 4 another corporation which has only been in business a
- 5 week. Would you be arguing the same thing?
- 8 MR. PETERSON: I would argue --
- 7 QUESTION: I said only been a week because I
- 8 do not want anything in the past to have anything to io
- g with it.
- MR. PETERSON: I would argue there, Your
- 11 Honor, that a subpoena is subject to Barlow principles.
- 12 A subpoena can be enforced under Barlow principles, and
- 13 it would be subject to the --
- 14 QUESTION: So they have no subpoena power.
- 15 MR. PETERSON: Yes, they have subpoena power
- 16 which I believe was limited by Barlow's --
- 17 QUESTION: How would they exercise the
- 18 subpoena power?
- 19 MR. PETERSON: I think what this Court has to
- 20 do consistent with Barlow's is to look at the entire
- 21 investigatory scheme and see that a subpoena is being
- 22 used and enforced in Federal District Court, and the
- 23 test there would be whether or not the subpoena and an
- 24 enforcement would be the functional equivalent of a
- 25 Warrant.

- 1 QUESTION: And every subpoena would have to
- 2 have court approval?
- 3 MR. PETERSON: Ultimately in an enforcement
- 4 action. It could have in this case.
- 5 QUESTION: Why does this type of subpoena need
- 6 court action, others do not?
- 7 . MR. PETERSON: Because of the particular way
- 8 the statute is postured in terms of entry.
- 9 QUESTION: When it involves this particular
- 10 statute?
- 11 MR. PETERSON: Yes, Your Honor.
- 12 QUESTION: Mr. Peterson, does not Oklahoma
- 13 Press clearly say that subject to the requirements
- 14 spelled out there administrative subpoenas can issue
- 15 without the concerns expressed in Barlow's?
- 16 MR. PETERSON: Your Honor, I believe that --
- 17 QUESTION: Barlow's did not overrule Oklahoma
- 18 Press.
- 19 MR. PETERSON: No, I do not believe so, Your
- 20 Honor. I believe that Oklahoma Press Publishing was
- 21 perhaps altered to a certain extent and perhaps certain
- 22 grey areas were filled in in that a subpoena could issue
- 23 but the test of reasonableness would involve Barlow
- 24 substantive principles, for example, the issue of
- 25 probable cause limiting properly the scope of the

- 1 investigation to the purpose of the investigation.
- 2 QUESTION: Well, you have to read a lot into
- 3 Barlow's to think that do you not?
- 4 MR. PETERSON: No, Your Honor.
- 5 QUESTION: To what extent did Barlow's deal
- 6 with papers and records?
- 7 MR. PETERSON: To the extent that the Labor
- 8 Department there sought certain I believe it was health
- 9 accident reports and so forth that are required by the
- 10 OSHA law. An inspection was sought of those documents.
- 11 QUESTION: Did Barlow's even cite Oklahoma
- 12 Press?
- 13 MR. PETERSON: No, it did not, Your Honor.
- 14 However, in footnote 22 you pointed out that delineating
- 15 the scope of a search with some care is particularly
- 16 important where documents are involved. At a certain
- 17 point you indicated it is the secretary's position which
- 18 we reject that an inspection of documents of this scope
- 19 may be effective without a warrant.
- 20 QUESTION: Well, you can get relief with
- 21 respect to the scope of the subpoena under Oklahoma
- 22 Press, under Walling.
- MR. PETERSON: We believe, Your Honor, that
- 24 because of the entry provisions of this particular
- 25 statute, Section 11, which there is no question in my

- 1 mind, there is no question in the District Court's mind
- 2 and apparently there is no question in the Labor
- 3 Department's mind, is subject to the warrant clause on
- 4 Barlow's. It is very difficult for me to then say
- 5 Section 11 is subject to the warrant clause; however,
- 6 the subpoena is not which is the enforcement device.
- I believe that essentially the cases are the
- 8 same, Barlow's and Lone Steer. The only difference
- 9 occurred when entry was denied and an enforcement
- 10 mechanism under a particular statute was utilized.
- In the Barlow's case it involved a compulsory
- 12 process to enter, and as I read Barlow's the Labor
- 13 Department did not contend that that compulsory process
- 14 was the equivalent of a warrant. You did indicate that
- 15 it could be viewed as such in one of your footnotes.
- 16 The same is true in this particular case. We
- 17 have to look at the enforcement mechanism of Section 11,
- 18 and in this case it is the subpoena, a subpoena that is
- 19 issued by the Labor Department itself without regard to
- 20 probable cause and without properly limiting the scope
- 21 of the investigation to the purpose or the probable
- 22 cause involved.
- 23 Again, I would have to iterate and reiterate
- 24 that the case involved a declaratory judgment at a
- 25 particular time. On February 1, 1981 there was a

- 1 dispute as to whether or not the Labor Department had a
- 2 right to come in and conduct an investigation over the
- 3 objection of an owner.
- 4 When Lone Steer objected twice through its
- 5 attorney that you cannot come in without a warrant cr
- 6 its functional equivalent, the Labor Department then
- 7 cited in its letter its inspection powers under Section
- 8 11 to enter and conduct an inspection. At that point
- 9 there was a dispute as far as the District Court was
- 10 concerned as to whether or not the Labor Department did
- 11 in fact have a right to enter and inspect.
- 12 Following the initiation of that law suit the
- 13 Labor Department despite all these protestations through
- 14 the legal counsel and through the court system the Labor
- 15 Department still sought to conduct that inspection on
- 16 the premises of Lone Steer. It is --
- 17 QUESTION: So what you say is basically you
- 18 are entitled to a declaratory judgment that would say
- 19 the Labor Department does not have the authority to
- 20 enter and inspect notwithstanding --
- 21 MR. PETERSON: Without the consent of --
- QUESTION: Without the consent of the owner
- 23 notwithstanding that we might resolve the subpoena
- 24 question in favor of the government. You see them as
- 25 two distinct issues I take it.

1 MR. PETERSON: Yes, they are two distinct issues, but if Section 11 is subject to the warrant 2 clause under a Barlow's test type of analysis it seems clear to me that you have to also apply that analysis to the enforcement mechanism of that right under Section 11. In fact the Labor Department is saying that it 7 is seeking to inspect the documents under the subpoena under Section 11. They are citing Section 11 and 10 Section 9. I seriously question whether or not the Labor 11 12 Department can conduct its investigation without utilizing the authority of Section 11 which is a right 13 to enter provision. 14 Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice. 15 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Thank you. 16 Do you have anything further, Mr. Horowitz? 17 MR. HOROWITZ: I have nothing further unless 18 there are any questions. 19 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Thank you, gentlemen. 20 The case is submitted. 21 (Whereupon, at 2:41 p.m., the case in the 22 above-entitled matter was submitted.) 23

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## CERTIFICATION

Alderson Reporting Company, Inc., hereby certifies that the attached pages represent an accurate transcription of elactronic sound recording of the oral argument before the Supreme Court of the United States in the Matter of:

RAYMOND J. DONOVAN, SECRETARY OF LABOR, Appellants vs. LONE STEER, INC.

#82-1684

and that these attached pages constitute the original transcript of the proceedings for the records of the court.

(REPORTER)

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