

ORIGINAL

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT PROCEEDINGS BEFORE

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

DKT/CASE NO. 83-491

TITLE IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE, Petitioner,
v. ADAN LOPEZ-MENDOZA

PLACE Washington, D. C.

DATE April 18, 1984

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

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IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION :
SERVICE, :
Petitioner, :
v. : No. 83-491
ADAN LOPEZ-MENDOZA :

- - - - -x
Washington, D.C.
Wednesday, April 18, 1984

The above-entitled matter came on for oral
argument before the Supreme Court of the United States
at 10:13 o'clock a.m.

APPEARANCES:

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Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.; on behalf
of the petitioner.

MARY L. HEEN, ESQ., American Civil Liberties Union, New
York, New York; on behalf of the respondent.

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: We will hear arguments
3 first this morning in Immigration and Naturalization
4 Service against Lopez-Mendoza.

5 Mr. Frey, you may proceed whenever you are
6 ready.

7 ORAL ARGUMENT OF ANDREW L. FREY, ESQ.,
8 ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONER

9 MR. FREY: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice, and
10 may it please the Court.

11 The issue before the Court today is whether it
12 should extend the Fourth Amendment exclusionary rule
13 heretofore applied by it only in the context of criminal
14 prosecutions and quasi-criminal forfeiture proceedings
15 to civil deportation hearings.

16 Respondents Lopez and Sandoval are Mexican
17 nationals who entered the United States illegally nearly
18 ten years ago. Each was apprehended within a few months
19 after his illegal entry by an INS agent at his place of
20 employment, and each made admissions of his illegal
21 alien status following his apprehension.

22 These admissions were utilized at the
23 deportation hearings to establish that respondents were
24 not U.S. citizens, a fact that I might say is virtually
25 impossible for the Immigration Service to prove by other

1 means in cases of persons who enter the United States
2 without inspection, and these admissions formed the
3 basis of the decision ordering their deportation.

4 They appealed to the Court of Appeals and an
5 en banc panel of the Ninth Circuit held that Sandoval's
6 admission of his alien status was the fruit of an
7 unlawful arrest. As to respondent Lopez, it held that
8 the record did not establish whether or not his arrest
9 was unlawful.

10 It then turned to the question whether the
11 exclusionary rule applies to deportation hearings, and
12 concluding that it does, reversed the order of
13 deportation with respect to Sandoval, and remanded for
14 further proceedings with respect to Lopez.

15 Now, let me begin my discussion by saying --

16 QUESTION: Mr. Frey, may I ask --

17 MR. FREY: Certainly.

18 QUESTION: -- before you begin, respondent's
19 brief has this statement. "Contrary to the government's
20 characterization of the decision below as extending the
21 exclusionary rule to an entirely new category of cases
22 and creating a new barrier to enforcement of immigration
23 laws, it merely marks a return to long-standing former
24 practice. Until 1979, the INS performed its
25 investigative and prosecutorial functions in a legal

1 regime in which the exclusionary rule was thought to
2 apply."

3 It then goes on to say that really what you
4 are asking is abandonment of the exclusionary rule after
5 over 60 years of applicability. What do you say about
6 that?

7 MR. FREY: Well, I guess I have two things to
8 say about that. The first is that I am first addressing
9 the question of this Court's jurisprudence and what it
10 would mean in terms of this Court's jurisprudence to
11 decide that the exclusionary rule is applicable to
12 deportation proceedings, and as to that point, I think
13 it is clear that it would be an extension in the sense
14 that the Court has never applied the exclusionary rule
15 to civil proceedings of any kind, and it has never
16 applied the exclusionary rule to a non-punitive
17 proceeding the purpose of which is to determine status.

18 So, from the standpoint of this Court's
19 jurisprudence, while it is in a sense a question of
20 semantics, I think it is fair for us to characterize a
21 decision affirming as an extension.

22 Now, there is a second --

23 QUESTION: Well, has there been a practice for
24 60 years of recognizing the exclusionary rule?

25 MR. FREY: That is a point that I intend to

1 address. I do not think it has been a practice. It has
2 not been in any way a significant feature of
3 deportation --

4 QUESTION: No, but has it been a practice at
5 all --

6 MR. FREY: Well, I am not sure --

7 QUESTION: -- in deportation proceedings?

8 MR. FREY: I am not sure how to answer that
9 question. There is not a single decision of the Board
10 of Immigration Appeals or a single decision of a federal
11 court since 1920 in which it has been held that evidence
12 should be suppressed in a deportation proceeding, so
13 there has never been a case before the -- there is only
14 one case, and that is the case of respondent Sandoval,
15 in which it was held that someone should not be deported
16 because of the application of the Fourth Amendment
17 exclusionary rule.

18 Now, it is true that there are cases in which
19 the courts, the BIA, at least, had considered the
20 question whether an arrest was lawful, whether certain
21 evidence was lawfully obtained. In every one of those
22 cases, and there are not very many over this 60-year
23 period, it was either determined that there was no
24 illegality or that there was enough other evidence of
25 deportability, so it never was necessary for the BIA

1 actually to hold yea or nay as to whether the
2 exclusionary rule was applicable.

3 And when Matter of Sandoval, which is the 1979
4 decision of the Board of Immigration Appeals, came
5 before the board, the board concluded four to one that
6 this was effectively a question of first impression for
7 them, and that they were free to make a decision on the
8 merits and not bound by precedent. There was one
9 dissenting member of the board who felt it had been the
10 practice.

11 Now, I am not sure what to make of it from the
12 standpoint of this Court, except I think it is quite
13 important to understand that if this Court decides today
14 that the exclusionary rule should apply to deportation
15 proceedings, that will work a dramatic change in the
16 nature of the deportation process from what it was
17 before.

18 QUESTION: What about the situation of the
19 egregious violation that might constitute in and of
20 itself a violation of the due process clause? Now, the
21 Board of Immigration Appeals has adopted a different
22 view as to --

23 MR. FREY: As to that narrow class of cases,
24 and I believe there are two instances where it has
25 actually found that evidence should be suppressed under

1 a due process rationale. This is, I think --

2 QUESTION: Do you agree with that? Is that
3 required in your view in a purely civil proceeding?

4 MR. FREY: I don't believe it has done it -- I
5 don't believe it has done it because it thought it
6 constitutionally required it. It has done it because
7 the Attorney General determined on reviewing the
8 decision in Matter of Sandoval that it should be done.

9 QUESTION: And what is your position? Is it
10 constitutionally required under those circumstances?

11 MR. FREY: My position, I think, would be that
12 it is not constitutionally required, but it is a very
13 different thing to say that the Board of Immigration
14 Appeals in its discretion should determine what kind of
15 evidence it will receive in its proceedings for the
16 courts to tell the Board of Immigration Appeals what
17 kind of evidence it should receive.

18 QUESTION: How about the courts? Do you think
19 as a matter of deterrence, although not constitutionally
20 required, that in the egregious situation where there is
21 a violation of due process that the rule should be
22 applied?

23 MR. FREY: You are talking about in the
24 context of Fourth Amendment, evidence obtained in
25 violation of the Fourth Amendment --

1 QUESTION: Yes.

2 MR. FREY: -- but egregious violations?

3 QUESTION: Right.

4 MR. FREY: Well, in the context of the courts,
5 we do have a judicially adopted exclusionary rule which
6 does require the exclusion of illegally seized evidence,
7 and we have not suggested in the cases that the Court
8 has previously heard that it should modify the rule so
9 far as to allow the admission of such evidence. So, in
10 the context of criminal prosecutions, at least, it is
11 not our position that this evidence should be deemed
12 admissible, but I think it is quite a different question
13 as to when the courts are reviewing the decisions of the
14 agency.

15 I think it would be tenable perhaps to say
16 that even that kind of evidence is admissible, but of
17 course cases like *Verochin* against California suggested
18 even before *Mapp* that there was a restriction on the use
19 of such evidence in criminal prosecutions.

20 I don't know if I have fully answered your
21 question, but I think that in terms of this Court's own
22 jurisprudence, the only holding that really has any
23 applicability is its decision in *Janis*, United States
24 against *Janis*, and while that case clearly imposes
25 substantial restrictions on the use of the exclusionary

1 rule in civil proceedings, we concede that its reasoning
2 does not foreclose the possible extension of the
3 exclusionary rule to certain types of civil cases.

4 Now, for those who already entertain
5 substantial doubts about the wisdom of the exclusionary
6 rule and its existing applications, they may prefer to
7 simply draw the line, and to resist its extension to
8 entirely new contexts such as non-punitive civil
9 proceedings. But the Court does not have to go so far
10 or adopt such a broad rule to decide this case. Rather,
11 we think it can decide this case by employing the
12 traditional cost-benefit analysis that it has used in
13 deciding the application of the exclusionary rule in
14 connection with various aspects of criminal proceedings,
15 and it is to that analysis that I would like to turn.

16 But before I address the costs and benefits of
17 applying the exclusionary rule in deportation
18 proceedings, I think it is useful to take a little
19 journey through the looking glass, as it were, to the
20 imaginary world that respondents depict. Their argument
21 here rests critically on the following series of
22 assertions.

23 First, that there has long been and continues
24 to be a widespread pattern of Fourth Amendment
25 violations by INS agents. Second, that there has long

1 existed prior to the BIA's decision in Matter of
2 Sandoval in 1979 a meaningful and substantial
3 exclusionary rule remedy in deportation proceedings.
4 Third, that this state of affairs imposed no serious
5 burden on the deportation process because suppression
6 claims were infrequently raised and even more rarely
7 successful.

8 Fourth, that the decision in Matter of
9 Sandoval created a situation in which open season was
10 declared on the Fourth Amendment rights of Hispanic
11 Americans. And fifth, that only a restoration of the
12 exclusionary rule in deportation proceedings can restore
13 those rights.

14 Now, if these various assertions were
15 accurate, a case could be made for respondent's
16 position, but they are fundamentally inaccurate. First,
17 as the Court of Appeals itself noted, there is no
18 evidence of serious or widespread Fourth Amendment
19 violations by INS agents. Now, of course, there are
20 bound to be some. They make over a million arrests a
21 year. It would be inconceivable if they didn't make
22 mistakes. It would be inconceivable if occasionally
23 they didn't detain people without reasonable suspicion
24 or arrest them without probable cause.

25 But what is so striking about this case is the

1 inability of anybody to point to any substantial
2 evidence of a serious pattern of violations by
3 immigration agents.

4 Secondly, and this is the point I made in
5 responding to Justice Brennan's question before, it is
6 clear that the exclusionary rule has never been a
7 meaningful aspect of deportation proceedings. As I
8 said, there is not a single case since 1920 in which a
9 court or the Board of Immigration Appeals has suppressed
10 evidence.

11 QUESTION: Doesn't that cut the other way? I
12 am just not sure. If there has never been a problem,
13 and if the rule has been routinely enforced, maybe there
14 isn't just a big problem.

15 MR. FREY: Well, I don't think so at all. I
16 think the dilemma is not ours in this respect, because
17 the problem that we are concerned about is not so much
18 that the occasional illegal alien will escape
19 deportation as a result of the application of the
20 exclusionary rule, but the systemic consequences. Now,
21 what happened, I think, quite clearly prior to 1979 is
22 that there was no general understanding that the
23 exclusionary rule applied, that people would
24 occasionally raise claims that dealt with the legality --

25 QUESTION: Didn't the standard text on

1 immigration law say it applied?

2 MR. FREY: Well, the standard text, I noticed
3 that the Court of Appeals cites the 1980 edition of the
4 standard text, which says it applies. Matter of
5 Sandoval was decided in 1979, so I am not sure how much
6 weight should be given to a text that says it applies.

7 QUESTION: If you were a brand new immigration
8 lawyer and you went to that text, I suppose you would
9 assume it applied, I guess, is all I am saying.

10 MR. FREY: Well, I cannot account for the fact
11 that people never made suppression motions or hardly
12 ever did. If it had been a feature of the deportation
13 process, it is inconceivable that there would not have
14 been, as there are in criminal cases --

15 QUESTION: There are no statistics as to how
16 many cases that the Fourth Amendment was denied?

17 MR. FREY: You mean how many cases --

18 QUESTION: Where they held -- yes.

19 MR. FREY: There are not statistics about what
20 happened --

21 QUESTION: Weren't most of them, didn't they
22 hold that the Fourth Amendment didn't apply, so you
23 didn't get to the exclusion.

24 MR. FREY: But that is not true, because what
25 happens is that there is a right of appeal to the Board

1 of Immigration Appeals following which there is a right
2 of judicial review. Now, you can't tell me, I don't
3 think, that if the exclusionary rule was such a regular
4 feature of the deportation process, there would be a
5 handful of cases in the Board of Immigration Appeals and
6 not a single case until 1970, between 1920 and 1975.

7 QUESTION: I didn't say exclusion. I said
8 Fourth Amendment.

9 MR. FREY: Fourth Amendment exclusion.

10 QUESTION: Well, if you deny the Fourth
11 Amendment was violated, you will never get to the
12 exclusionary rule.

13 MR. FREY: No, but the alien who is seeking to
14 resist deportation gets his appeal rights. I mean,
15 don't you see cases that come up to this Court where
16 people are claiming that their Fourth Amendment rights
17 were violated in criminal cases, even though the
18 District Court denied their suppression motion?

19 QUESTION: Not that many on immigration.

20 MR. FREY: No, I am talking about in criminal
21 cases. If you look at what happened --

22 QUESTION: Well, in this case in particular,
23 there is no positive evidence of what this man said.

24 MR. FREY: That goes to a quite different
25 question as to whether --

1 QUESTION: Isn't that the normal proceeding?

2 MR. FREY: There is positive evidence that he
3 admitted his alienage. What is lacking is detailed
4 evidence about the circumstances leading up to his
5 arrest.

6 QUESTION: Which is a Fourth Amendment
7 point.

8 MR. FREY: Well --

9 QUESTION: There is no evidence in the record
10 about his Fourth Amendment point.

11 MR. FREY: There is ample evidence, but it is
12 not very clear as to the facts surrounding his arrest.
13 I mean, I --

14 QUESTION: Well, I have difficulty in getting
15 through the smoke.

16 MR. FREY: Well, I had a lot of difficulty,
17 too, and I think that is, as I will get to in a minute,
18 one of the reasons for not applying the exclusionary
19 rule in deportation proceedings, but I just want to
20 bring home this point, because I think it is quite
21 essential. If you look at what happens in criminal
22 cases, even people who don't have meritorious Fourth
23 Amendment claims still make suppression motions. When
24 their motions are denied, they appeal to the Court of
25 Appeals. When their convictions are affirmed by the

1 Court of Appeals, they petition for certiorari to the
2 Supreme Court.

3 Aliens resisting deportation take advantage of
4 every right they think they have to avoid an improper
5 deportation. It is simply inconceivable if the
6 exclusionary rule was a meaningful aspect of the
7 deportation process before 1979 that there would be no
8 cases. Where is the beef? Really.

9 QUESTION: You are talking about BIA cases?

10 MR. FREY: I am talking about court cases as
11 well. Not -- There are no court cases in which people
12 after they lost in the BIA appealed to the Court saying
13 the exclusionary rule should be applied. There should
14 be a large volume of those cases.

15 QUESTION: I can see how that would prove one
16 aspect of what you are talking about, but are there BIA
17 opinions, for instance, that discuss on the merits a
18 claim of --

19 MR. FREY: There are some BIA opinions that
20 discuss and reject on the merits claims that look like
21 Fourth Amendment suppression claims, but very few.

22 QUESTION: How many opinions does the BIA
23 write in an average year?

24 MR. FREY: I am told they write about 2,000,
25 of which about 200 are published as precedents.

1 QUESTION: Do you have any idea what
2 percentage of those opinions deal with Fourth Amendment
3 issues?

4 MR. FREY: I would say less than 1 percent,
5 and the point is that every single one of these people
6 -- look at the class of cases we are talking about.
7 Most aliens who are apprehended entered without
8 inspection. They are arrested some place. The only
9 evidence we have of their alienage is the admission that
10 they have made after their arrest that they are in fact
11 natives of Mexico or wherever they may be.

12 Each one of these people could raise a
13 plausible Fourth Amendment claim.

14 QUESTION: Is that typically true, that the
15 only evidence you have of alienage is their own
16 admission?

17 MR. FREY: The way the procedure now works is
18 that the burden is on the INS to establish by clear and
19 convincing evidence alienage, and at that point the
20 burden shifts to the alien. Now, if you could tell me
21 how the INS can prove that somebody is not a citizen
22 when all they have is his body --

23 QUESTION: By another alien.

24 MR. FREY: Hm?

25 QUESTION: By another alien.

1 MR. FREY: Well, I suppose that they might --

2 QUESTION: We have had several cases here on
3 that.

4 MR. FREY: There are cases in which they may
5 find other people who could testify that this person --

6 QUESTION: Didn't we have a case last year
7 where they kept those that testified for the government
8 and sent the other witnesses back?

9 MR. FREY: That was a criminal prosecution.

10 QUESTION: That's right.

11 MR. FREY: The question there was not the
12 alienage of the person at deportation proceedings.
13 There are 70,000 deportation proceedings a year. This
14 whole system is workable only because there are these
15 reliable admissions of alien status which are
16 introduced, and deportability is not an issue in these
17 deportation proceedings. They look to other things,
18 such as discretionary relief.

19 QUESTION: There are 70,000? I thought there
20 were a million a year.

21 MR. FREY: There are a million -- over a
22 million arrests.

23 QUESTION: What happens to the 930,000?

24 MR. FREY: They mostly take voluntary
25 departure at one stage or another. The number -- I

1 mean, the system would completely break down if they all
2 asked for deportation hearings. But the point that I am
3 making is that all of these people or a very large
4 proportion of them would have some kind of Fourth
5 Amendment claim. They have been arrested. The
6 circumstances of their arrest are uncertain. The
7 evidence against them is arguably a fruit of the
8 arrest. But they don't appear in the jurisprudence, so
9 I just think it cannot be said that the exclusionary
10 rule was a meaningful feature.

11 But if you decide this case against us, I have
12 no doubt that there will be a tremendous impact on
13 deportation proceedings in the future. Now, that impact
14 may be worthwhile, and I would like to turn to the
15 question of whether the benefits from applying the
16 exclusionary rule in terms of deterring illegal searches
17 and seizures by immigration officers are worth the
18 costs.

19 First of all, I'd like to make a general point
20 about the perspective from which this issue should be
21 approached. There has only been one time before that
22 this Court has extended the exclusionary rule to a
23 significant new class of cases and that was Mapp against
24 Ohio. There it was confronted not only with the case in
25 which there had been a particularly egregious Fourth

1 Amendment violation, but with a situation in which the
2 exclusionary rule seemed to be the only way to curb a
3 nationwide epidemic of police violations of the Fourth
4 Amendment.

5 And the Court of Appeals itself recognized
6 that there is nothing comparable to that that anybody is
7 aware of in the immigration context. Nevertheless, it
8 wholly ignored that factor. It simply began its
9 analysis by pointing out that since INS agents' duties
10 are to apprehend illegal aliens for purposes of
11 deportation, the application of the exclusionary rule
12 would be in an area within their zone of primary
13 interest.

14 QUESTION: Mr. Frey, can I ask just one other
15 question? I don't mean to take up too much of your
16 time. It is the same problem I think may have troubled
17 Justice O'Connor earlier. You talk about the
18 exclusionary rule, and it seems to me that -- Mapp
19 against Chio is what raised this question in my mind --
20 that one at least theoretically might say, say a coerced
21 confession case might be different from the search of a
22 home, which in turn might be different from just an
23 arrest.

24 Are you just talking about arrest cases, or
25 are you talking about no matter what the INS does to get

1 evidence, no exclusionary rule would ever apply?

2 MR. FREY: Well, I wouldn't be talking about
3 confession cases. We are talking about a Fourth
4 Amendment exclusionary rule.

5 QUESTION: What about, say, the search of a
6 home without a warrant, in the middle of the night, and
7 all that kind of stuff?

8 MR. FREY: Well, in those rare cases where
9 that happens, and the INS has changed its procedure so
10 that that happens much less often than it may have
11 happened in the past --

12 QUESTION: Well, I am sure it doesn't happen
13 very often. I am just trying to get to really what your
14 are asking us to do.

15 MR. FREY: The INS has recognized this
16 so-called discretionary due process right to suppression
17 of evidence in the case of a middle of the night
18 warrantless search of a home, but in terms of the Fourth
19 Amendment exclusionary rule, we would say that it would
20 not apply even to that kind of evidence. It would not
21 apply -- you simply could not come in and say, this
22 evidence was obtained in violation of the Fourth
23 Amendment.

24 QUESTION: So your argument is to all Fourth
25 Amendment, but you don't reach the Fifth Amendment.

1 MR. FREY: If the statement is an involuntary
2 statement that would raise a separate question. It
3 wouldn't raise the same question as it does in a
4 criminal case, because, of course, they don't have a
5 privilege against self-incrimination in a deportation
6 hearing, but it would raise a due process question
7 rather than a Fourth Amendment exclusionary rule
8 question.

9 QUESTION: Why don't you have a privilege
10 against self-incrimination at a deportation hearing?

11 MR. FREY: It is not a criminal prosecution.

12 QUESTION: But I thought -- didn't the -- the
13 Brandeis opinion --

14 MR. FREY: No, no, let me explain.

15 QUESTION: -- held it was applicable to
16 bankruptcy a long time ago.

17 MR. FREY: You don't have -- you don't have
18 the right not to be compelled. Evidence can be
19 compelled from you for use in a deportation proceeding.
20 Of course you have -- and that is what Bilcomski against
21 Todd said. You can put the alien on the stand and ask
22 him about his nationality. Now, he may invoke his Fifth
23 Amendment privilege, but that is because of the
24 possibility of a criminal prosecution arising out of the
25 same conduct. So you have the privilege in the sense

1 that a witness in a civil case has the privilege, but
2 you don't have the privilege in the deportation
3 proceeding.

4 QUESTION: It is a privilege against
5 testifying, not against being called as a witness.

6 MR. FREY: It's the same privilege that a
7 witness in a civil case would have, but it is not a
8 privilege against use of compelled testimony in the
9 deportation proceeding itself. Presumably these people
10 could be immunized and compelled to testify in the
11 deportation proceeding.

12 QUESTION: But your proposition doesn't affect
13 the criminal deportation hearing?

14 MR. FREY: Well, there is not a criminal
15 deportation hearing. It would not affect a criminal
16 prosecution for immigration law violations.

17 QUESTION: It wouldn't go that far?

18 MR. FREY: It does not. No. That is not at
19 all the question, and that is certainly not the question
20 that is important to the administration of the
21 immigration system, because that is a very small part,
22 and the deportation hearings are a very major part.

23 Now, I would like to look first briefly -- let
24 me just say that the point that I was making before
25 about the Court of Appeals' analysis is that to say that

1 this -- these arrests are within the zone of primary
2 interest because what they are looking toward is the
3 deportation of the aliens is to raise an issue for this
4 Court, because if you didn't at least get that far,
5 there would be no issue under Janis. It would be quite
6 clear that the exclusionary rule wouldn't apply.

7 But I agree that there is an issue for this
8 Court to consider which requires balancing the potential
9 benefits in terms of deterrence of misconduct from
10 applying the exclusionary rule against the special costs
11 that may exist in the deportation context.

12 Now, in terms of the benefits, it is not, we
13 believe, accurate to equate the effect of the
14 application of the exclusionary rule on immigration
15 officers with the effect of the application of the
16 exclusionary rule in criminal prosecutions on police
17 officers. There are at least three significant
18 differences between this case and Mapp that make it far
19 less likely that application of the exclusionary rule
20 will provide important incremental incentives to lawful
21 conduct.

22 First is the difference between the countless
23 local police forces scattered around the country in
24 Mapp, and here a single federal agency, which has shown
25 itself to be sensitive to Fourth Amendment issues, which

1 does follow judicial decisions, issue guidelines to its
2 agents instructing them what they may or may not do,
3 provide them with a substantial amount of training, have
4 disciplinary procedures, and there is a lot of dispute
5 about how effective --

6 QUESTION: Of course, you can argue that point
7 just the opposite, too, and say that because it is a
8 single federal agency, it has a good deal more power and
9 ability to conform the conduct of its agents to Fourth
10 Amendment decisions, whereas all the countless local and
11 state jurisdictions simply that are too scattered and too
12 poor --

13 MR. FREY: The question for this Court,
14 Justice Rehnquist, is whether adding the exclusionary
15 rule in deportation proceedings to the existing means
16 that are available to obtain compliance with the Fourth
17 Amendment will provide a substantial increment of
18 deterrence of illegal conduct.

19 I want to make the point, and I will have to
20 sit down in a moment, that there is a substantial
21 difference in the activities and the incentives that
22 operate on INS agents and police officers who are
23 looking to solve crimes. INS -- where a police officer
24 might make eight or ten or fifteen arrests in a year
25 leading to criminal prosecutions, INS agents make

1 hundreds. In many, many of the cases, it does not go to
2 a deportation hearing. There is voluntary departure.

3 So that the degree of probability that the
4 exclusionary rule will actually be applied if the agent
5 violates the Fourth Amendment is far less, far less in
6 the immigration context than it is in the criminal
7 context, and therefore the assumption of deterrence that
8 the court is willing to make in the context of criminal
9 prosecutions carries far less weight in the context of
10 immigration operations.

11 I want to make one other point on the cost
12 side. My time is running out, and I would like to save
13 a little time for rebuttal. •

14 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Mr. Frey, we will
15 enlarge your time five minutes. We will enlarge your
16 time five minutes.

17 MR. FREY: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice.

18 Well, then let me make one more point on the
19 benefit side. Another important question is the
20 reliability of the determination that the Fourth
21 Amendment has been violated in deciding to apply the
22 exclusionary rule. The exclusionary rule can't
23 accomplish its purpose if it is supplied to suppress
24 evidence that was in fact lawfully seized.

25 So you only -- it is going to work only where

1 it is reasonably accurate in identifying the class of
2 cases in which there has been an illegal obtaining of
3 evidence, and only the suppression of that evidence.

4 Now, as the Sandoval case itself shows, the
5 remedy cannot be applied with precision in the
6 deportation context. What the Court of Appeals
7 essentially said is, the officer couldn't remember the
8 precise details of his encounter with Mr. Sandoval, so
9 he hasn't carried his burden of proof, and so we are
10 going to determine that the arrest was illegal, and so
11 we are going to suppress the statement, all against a
12 background in which it seems to me quite clear that in
13 all probability there was no Fourth Amendment
14 violation.

15 So, I think it is very important, and we made
16 the same point in connection with the so-called good
17 faith exception to the exclusionary rule, that when you
18 are -- as to these cases where it is difficult to
19 determine whether there has been a Fourth Amendment
20 violation, applying the exclusionary rule won't work the
21 way you want it to work.

22 QUESTION: Mr. Frey, how rigid is the burden
23 of proof in this proceeding on the Fourth Amendment
24 issue?

25 MR. FREY: Well, I am sure that we would argue

1 that the conventional rule in criminal cases it that if
2 you have a warrantless search or seizure, the burden is
3 on the government to show probable cause.

4 QUESTION: But surely the mere absence of a
5 warrant in an arrest of this kind of case wouldn't put
6 the burden on the agent to defend the arrest, would it?

7 MR. FREY: Well, the Court of Appeals -- what
8 did the Court of Appeals say? The Court of Appeals said
9 that Mr. Sandoval was down at the police station, the
10 agent couldn't remember precisely why it was, precisely
11 what his interaction with Mr. Sandoval was, and let me
12 make the point that if you look at cases like Florida
13 against Royer, and you are asking yourself the question,
14 was there an illegal stop --

15 QUESTION: Well, I realize in the criminal. I
16 am just wondering if maybe the solution to your problem
17 is a rule that requires the movant to bear a fairly
18 substantial burden of proof.

19 MR. FREY: Well, the movant in this case told
20 a story, incredible as I think it is, and never credited
21 by anybody.

22 QUESTION: Well, an incredible story shouldn't
23 carry a burden of proof. I just don't --

24 MR. FREY: Well, there may be other means of
25 dealing with this problem in terms of adjusting the

1 traditional burdens of proof which would make the
2 problem less of a problem, but I have to emphasize that
3 the problem on the cost side of the equation is not just
4 that a few illegal aliens will escape deportation. The
5 problem is, what does it do to the system?

6 And I wanted to point out what the Board of
7 Immigration Appeals said in deciding Sandoval, because I
8 think it is very important. They are the people who
9 know what the immigration, the deportation process is
10 like far better than the courts, and they said that
11 absent the applicability of the exclusivity rule,
12 questions relating to deportability routinely involve
13 simple factual allegations and matters of proof.

14 When Fourth Amendment issues are raised in
15 deportation hearings, the result is a diversion of
16 attention from the main issues. The result is asking
17 people who don't at least currently have the expertise
18 to decide these questions, and particularly pertinent
19 here, the BIA said the result frequently seems to be a
20 long, confused record in which the issues are not
21 clearly defined, and in which there is voluminous
22 testimony, but the underlying facts are not sufficiently
23 developed. You have only to look at the record in this
24 case to see that.

25 I am not sure what that signal was in terms of

1 time.

2 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Five minutes for
3 rebuttal is still available. You have five minutes
4 more.

5 MR. FREY: All right. Let me just see if
6 there is anything else I would like to --

7 QUESTION: Mr. Frey, what would happen if the
8 exclusionary rule were applied and the only evidence
9 that the government had on the deportation was the
10 alien's own admission, so the deportation proceeding
11 resulted in the release of the individual who had been
12 questioned. Now, does that mean that the alien who has,
13 of course, admitted he is not properly here can just
14 remain indefinitely in this country? What, as a
15 practical matter, does the government then do?

16 MR. FREY: Well, the government can't do
17 anything directly. What it can do is continue its
18 general enforcement operations, and perhaps it will
19 catch him again in a situation where it has other
20 evidence. It can do nothing. I mean, the alien is
21 allowed to remain in the United States unless and until
22 with new evidence that is not subject to suppression
23 they can establish his deportability.

24 QUESTION: So you get a special class of
25 illegal aliens.

1 MR. FREY: You have a special class of people
2 who are here by virtue of a suppression motion. Of
3 course, this is different from the criminal case or even
4 other civil contexts where, for instance, an OSHA
5 penalty proceeding, where you might apply the
6 exclusionary rule even though it is a civil proceeding,
7 because the purpose of the proceeding is to impose a
8 penalty for some past misconduct that at least bears
9 some resemblance to the traditional criminal case.

10 QUESTION: Would you be faced with the
11 application of an illegal fruits of the evidence
12 doctrine in trying to follow up on the individual
13 later?

14 MR. FREY: Certainly.

15 I think I will reserve the balance of my
16 time.

17 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Very well.

18 Ms. Heen.

19 ORAL ARGUMENT OF MARY L. HEEN, ESQ.,

20 ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT

21 MS. HEEN: Mr. Chief Justice, and may it
22 please the Court, at the heart of this case is the
23 question of whether the Fourth Amendment will remain
24 enforceable in the immigration context. In the criminal
25 law enforcement setting, the Court seven years ago in

1 Weeks and later in *Matt versus Ohio* adopted the
2 exclusionary rule as the only way to give life and
3 meaning to the Fourth Amendment.

4 Although deportation proceedings have been
5 given a civil label, they are completely analogous in
6 this regard to criminal proceedings. The rule in
7 deportation proceedings functions in the same way,
8 serves the same values, and provides the same effective
9 safeguard against arbitrary intrusions by government
10 officials.

11 I plan to address here four principal reasons
12 why the government's arguments for a different treatment
13 are invalid. First, the Fourth Amendment privacy rights
14 to be protected are just as important in this context.
15 The Fourth Amendment protects society generally, not
16 just the rights of those accused of criminal violations.

17 Second, the degree of deterrence is the same.
18 As in the criminal context, it is direct and
19 substantial. Third, there are no other remedies which
20 will effectively enforce Fourth Amendment rights. The
21 alternatives urged by the INS in this context are no
22 different than those which have been rejected as
23 inadequate and insufficient in the criminal setting.
24 And fourth, the social costs of applying the rule to
25 deportation proceedings are no greater than the social

1 costs in the criminal setting.

2 Moreover, the immigration system itself has
3 demonstrated in the past that it can function under the
4 rule without excessive costs.

5 QUESTION: How widespread was that?

6 MS. HEEN: Well, as explained in greater
7 detail in our brief, the --

8 QUESTION: Well, Mr. Frey takes very vigorous
9 issue with what you said in your brief.

10 MS. HEEN: Well, the administrative practice
11 and the judicial history both demonstrate that there was
12 a substantial body of both administrative cases and
13 judicial review cases looking at the Fourth Amendment
14 violation.

15 QUESTION: Are they cited?

16 MS. HEEN: They are cited in our brief. And
17 in addition, the Board of Immigration Appeals set up a
18 procedure for examining motions for suppression, placed
19 the burden on the alien to show that the conduct was
20 illegal, and then once that prima facie showing of
21 illegality was established, the burden then would shift
22 to the government to show the lawfulness of the conduct
23 in a particular situation. So it is clear that under
24 the administrative practice --

25 QUESTION: When did the BIA do that, what you

1 just referred to?

2 MS. HEEN: The BIA did that in the early
3 seventies. However, prior to that time, it had also
4 looked at offers of proof in this setting. It set up
5 the specific mechanism for review in the Matter of Tsang
6 case, Matter of Wong, and Matter of Tong case.

7 Now, with regard to Mr. Frey's argument that
8 there is a paucity of decisions in this area, let me
9 just address the population that we are dealing with
10 with regard to the suppression motions. First of all,
11 the target population is in general a group that is
12 poor. It is legally unsophisticated, and they are not
13 in general represented by counsel.

14 Secondly, the nature of the bureaucracy itself
15 tends to understate the amount of the problem here,
16 because first of all immigration law judge decisions are
17 not reported. A substantial number of Board of
18 Immigration Appeals decisions are not reported. As we
19 just heard, it is something like 10 percent per year.
20 And finally, there are built-in incentives in the system
21 so that people tend to opt for voluntary departure
22 rather than to insist on their right to a deportation
23 hearing. And all of these factors --

24 QUESTION: Well, is that bad?

25 MS. HEEN: I am not suggesting that --

1 QUESTION: If people opt for voluntary
2 deportation when they admit that they have illegally
3 entered the country?

4 MS. HEEN: There is a mechanism set up so that
5 they can opt for voluntary departure, and in that way
6 avoid some of the consequences with regard to being
7 detained while waiting for a hearing, and --

8 QUESTION: Since you analogize this -- you
9 seem to think a deportation proceeding equates to a
10 criminal proceeding, is that voluntary deportation
11 somewhat analogous to a guilty plea in a criminal case?

12 MS. HEEN: It is analogous to a plea
13 bargaining situation. However, getting back to the
14 issue of whether or not the reported decisions
15 themselves indicate the amount of significance that an
16 exclusionary rule could have in terms of applying it in
17 this context, it is clear that the number of decisions
18 themselves would not fully indicate the amount of impact
19 the decision could have on the general training and
20 supervision of officers in this context.

21 A good example in the criminal setting is the
22 reaction to this Court's decision in Delaware versus
23 Prouse, when the random traffic stop practice was
24 invalidated. For example, in the District of Columbia
25 the chief of police issued a telex to officers informing

1 them of this new practice with regard to traffic stops.
2 The same sort of mechanism applies in the immigration
3 context, so that when the Court of Appeals is reviewing
4 the Board of Immigration Appeals' decisions with regard
5 to the Fourth Amendment, the judicial review establishes
6 the standards under which these officers will conduct
7 their future investigations.

8 In Matter of Sandoval, the Board of
9 Immigration Appeals really turned its back on its prior
10 history, and decided in large part because of the civil
11 nature of the proceeding that it would no longer apply
12 the rule in deportation proceedings. That decision was
13 erroneous. It was based in part on a misapplication of
14 the Janis decision, and should not be followed here.

15 The Fourth Amendment privacy rights are just
16 as important whether the government is enforcing civil
17 immigration laws or criminal laws. The Fourth Amendment
18 itself was adopted in response to abuses which arose in
19 the enforcement of civil rather than criminal laws. The
20 use of general warrants in enforcement of libel laws and
21 writs of assistance in enforcement of British taxation
22 and import regulations.

23 The privacy interest itself is the same.
24 Here, the privacy interest to be protected and those
25 interests most threatened by INS intrusions are the

1 targets of INS searches who look like or could be
2 mistaken for illegal aliens. At the current time, that
3 group is composed largely of persons of Hispanic or
4 Asian ancestry. The interests to be protected are thus
5 more important in this context.

6 For example, in area control operations, INS
7 inevitably encounters numerous citizens of Hispanic
8 ancestry. In California, for example, there are 4.5
9 million persons of Hispanic descent, and 17 percent of
10 that number are citizens. In Texas, 88 percent of the
11 state's Hispanic population of nearly three million are
12 citizens. Where those most threatened by INS intrusions
13 are members of a racially defined minority group, they
14 deserve the most resolute protection of Fourth Amendment
15 rights.

16 Next, with regard to the deterrent effect in
17 this context, as in the criminal setting, excluding
18 illegally obtained evidence in deportation proceedings
19 would exert a substantial deterrent effect on
20 unconstitutional conduct. The government concedes that
21 deportation of illegal aliens, not criminal prosecution,
22 is the primary concern of immigration officers.
23 Obtaining evidence of deportation is therefore in the
24 officer's zone of primary interest.

25 In addition, there is no question here that

1 the offending INS officers work for the same federal
2 agency which seeks to use the unlawfully obtained
3 evidence in their case in chief. They share a common
4 law enforcement goal and purpose, and the agency
5 utilizes a large investigative force in which to perform
6 this function. By the very nature of this process,
7 therefore, INS agents are pushed by the pressures of
8 their jobs to the very limits of the Fourth Amendment.

9 There are pressures on the agents to apprehend
10 large numbers of deportable aliens rather than to
11 concentrate on whether or not their apprehensions comply
12 with constitutional standards. There is therefore in
13 this case a demonstrable need for a deterrent sanction
14 in immigration investigations.

15 Here, in addition, although the government
16 maintains that in this case there is not a serious
17 penalty with regard to civil deportation proceedings,
18 this Court has recognized in the past that deportation
19 can be a severe punishment. It can be the equivalent of
20 banishment or exile, and in the words of the Court, it
21 can mean the loss of all that makes life worth living.

22 In many cases, the civil consequence of a
23 deportation proceeding can be of greater importance to
24 the individual and also the law enforcement goals of the
25 system than imposition of a corresponding criminal

1 sanction for exactly the same conduct. Therefore, under
2 the rationale of One 1958 Plymouth Sedan versus
3 Pennsylvania, the serious consequences of deportation
4 proceedings provide another justification for applying
5 the rule in this context.

6 All of these factors taken together sharply
7 distinguish this case from Janis, Calandra, and the
8 other cases in which the Court has declined to apply the
9 exclusionary rule. Here the deterrent effect is not
10 marginal. It is substantial and efficient.

11 QUESTION: May I ask a question? You are
12 talking about deterrence. It seems to me just as I
13 listen to you that given the large number of citizens
14 who are perhaps going to be victimized if there are a
15 lot of Fourth Amendment violations, this might be an
16 area in which the civil damage remedy might actually be
17 effective, because if you have an illegal arrest of a
18 person just because he looked Hispanic or something like
19 that would seem like one of the simplest cases to win
20 from a damage point of view.

21 MS. HEEN: Well, as in the criminal setting,
22 the Bivens actions or civil damage actions do not
23 provide an effective substitute for the rule. It can be
24 a helpful complement to the exclusionary rule.

25 QUESTION: But the reason -- the difference

1 that occurs to me as I listen to your argument is that
2 you have a large number of potential plaintiffs out
3 there in this particular area that you may not have in
4 the other areas, because you are talking about arresting
5 the wrong person basically.

6 MS. HEEN: Well, the problem with regard to
7 the reliance on civil damage actions as a surrogate for
8 the rule in this context is that first of all the nature
9 of the population, which I already mentioned. The
10 citizens who may be apprehended because they work
11 alongside illegal aliens are probably a population which
12 is very unlikely to have the resources and the access to
13 legal representation in order to pursue civil damage
14 actions, and as the government has conceded in its
15 brief, Bivens actions are very rarely successful. There
16 is the good faith immunity defense on the part of INS
17 officers.

18 And with regard to the deterrent impact of a
19 civil damage action, the real question is with regard to
20 those instances which would not be tremendously flagrant
21 or egregious. The civil damage actions do not provide
22 the incentive for INS officers to err on the side of
23 constitutional behavior, and therefore cannot provide an
24 effective alternative to the exclusionary rule in this
25 context.

1 The same is true with regard to the other
2 alternatives which the government relies on. For
3 example, declaratory and injunctive actions. Now, as
4 outlined last term in City of Los Angeles versus Lyons,
5 because of equitable and standing prerequisites, it is
6 very difficult to obtain injunctive relief. Injunctive
7 relief can be obtained only where the victims of the
8 unlawful actions can establish that INS would subject
9 them to another unlawful search or seizure.

10 Moreover, it must be shown under Rizzo versus
11 Goode that the actions are a result of a policy adopted
12 by INS. Therefore, the injunction can be obtained only
13 in rare cases, and only after the deterrent mechanism
14 has already failed with regard to the institution of an
15 unconstitutional policy.

16 Reliance on internal rules, training, and
17 discipline have not been effective as an accepted
18 alternative in the -- acceptable alternative in the
19 criminal setting, and in the case of INS, has been used
20 in the past only to sanction the most flagrant and
21 appalling misconduct.

22 There are three major failures of the INS
23 disciplinary procedures. First of all, it is not
24 applied to Fourth Amendment violations. Secondly, there
25 has been no recordkeeping. And thirdly, the procedures

1 are themselves inadequate on their face.

2 With regard to the first point, that INS does
3 not in fact discipline officers for Fourth Amendment
4 violations, INS can point to no disciplinary sanctions
5 applied to INS officers for Fourth Amendment violations
6 since the Matter of Sandoval decision in 1979. In fact,
7 the only examples of discipline that INS has produced
8 for the last four fiscal years are truly criminal and
9 flagrant misconduct.

10 Three officers were terminated or suspended
11 because of rape of aliens, three for physical brutality
12 of federal undercover agents posing as aliens, and in
13 one case a supervisory agent abused and detained a
14 United States citizen for 19 hours without food or
15 water, and transported him to Mexico.

16 Therefore, it is obvious from the way that the
17 internal procedures have been applied that INS is not
18 applying high priority in terms of disciplining officers
19 for Fourth Amendment violations.

20 Secondly, INS keeps no adequate records of
21 Fourth Amendment violations, and does not and therefore
22 cannot monitor the effectiveness of its training
23 procedures. And third, as we mentioned in our brief,
24 there are significant inadequacies with regard to the
25 procedures themselves on their face.

1 Finally, I would like to address --

2 QUESTION: Ms. Heen, in your brief, at
3 Footnote 9 on Page 30, you refer to the fact that
4 patterns of INS conduct described and reported in cases
5 evidence widespread Fourth Amendment violations by
6 immigration officers. Then you cite INS versus Delgado,
7 which of course was reversed by us yesterday;
8 Immigration Council versus Pilict, which I don't believe
9 can be the law any more after Delgado.

10 Are these the theme of all your citations?
11 Are they pretty well overruled by our decision
12 yesterday?

13 MS. HEEN: No. With regard to LaDue versus
14 Nelson, Mendoza versus INS, and Marquez versus Kiley,
15 these cases, although only the Mendoza versus INS case
16 arouse subsequent to the Matter of Sandoval decision,
17 are really used as examples of the kind of conduct which
18 INS officers have overstepped the boundaries with regard
19 to compliance with the Fourth Amendment in their
20 investigations.

21 The government places great reliance with
22 regard to the issue of whether or not there are
23 widespread violations in this context, and I think that
24 we would be closing our eyes to the problem which exists
25 with regard to an area of law enforcement where there

1 are over a million apprehensions per year.

2 Matt versus Ohio', in which the Court applied
3 the exclusionary rule to this case through the due
4 process clause, does not require a showing of widespread
5 violations prior to applying the rule. There, the Court
6 held that there is really no Fourth Amendment in the
7 criminal context without application of the exclusionary
8 rule.

9 The government also relies on the fact that
10 this is one single federal agency, and therefore is more
11 manageable with regard to protection of Fourth Amendment
12 rights. If that were the rationale, the FBI, also one
13 single federal agency, with regard to the application of
14 the exclusionary rule, which has always applied in the
15 context of federal criminal enforcement since Weeks,
16 would also apply in terms of the rationale.

17 In addition to the reported cases, with regard
18 to the indication of the problem in this area, and also
19 the nature of the population and the nature of the
20 bureaucracy with regard to this, I may just point out
21 that in terms of the record in this particular case,
22 both of the issues arose during a time period when the
23 exclusionary rule applied in deportation proceedings,
24 and therefore there was no attempt to make this kind of
25 record below with regard to the extent of the problem.

1 Finally, I would like to address with regard
2 to alternatives the government's reliance on the due
3 process exclusionary rule. The government maintains
4 that this is a discretionary rule, and was not adopted
5 as a constitutional requirement, but in terms of the
6 actual language of the Board of Immigration Appeals'
7 decision in Matter of Toro, and prior to that in its
8 unpublished decision in In re Ramira-Cordova, it is
9 clear that the Board of Immigration Appeals felt that it
10 was compelled under the due process clause to apply the
11 exclusionary rule for egregious Fourth Amendment
12 violations, and therefore it is analogous in some
13 respects to the rule which was adopted by the Court in
14 Rochen versus California and later discussed in the
15 Irvine versus California case.

16 The problem with regard to relying on this
17 rule as an effective alternative is that basically it
18 rewrites the Fourth Amendment in the immigration
19 context. In other words, unreasonable but less severe
20 violations would be permitted in this context. It also
21 fails to provide clear standards for application of the
22 exclusionary rule, and this is a problem which was
23 addressed in the Irvine decision in the criminal
24 context.

25 And finally, because it applies to intentional

1 misconduct, it may require inquiry into the subjective
2 state of mind of the officer. Thus the due process
3 exclusionary rule does not provide adequate protection
4 of Fourth Amendment values.

5 I would like to next address the issue of the
6 societal costs involved. The social costs of applying
7 the rule in this context provide no basis for a
8 distinction between deportation proceedings and criminal
9 proceedings, yet the government argues that the cost to
10 society of applying the rule in this context is greater
11 than we can afford, even greater than the cost borne by
12 the criminal justice system. That argument should be
13 rejected for the following three reasons.

14 First, the immigration system has functioned
15 under the rule in the past without excessive cost. And
16 it presently functions under a due process exclusionary
17 rule. For example, suppression motions are permitted
18 for violation of INS regulations, and suppression
19 motions are also ruled upon with regard to the
20 voluntariness of statements and the voluntariness under
21 the Fifth Amendment.

22 Applying the rule in deportation proceedings
23 therefore will not mark a change in procedure, and will
24 not require the system to adapt to something which has
25 not already functioned quite adequately in the past.

1 The government's attempt to label the rule's
2 application as a judicial licensing of unlawful conduct
3 is simply a red herring in this case. No special class
4 of aliens will result as a consequence of applying the
5 rule in this context at any time independent, untainted
6 evidence of alienage may support a deportation order.
7 In fact, as the reported cases show, that is extremely
8 common in this context.

9 In addition, the government fails to note that
10 once the due process exclusionary rule is applied in
11 this context, and a deportation proceeding is terminated
12 as a result of that suppression motion, an alien also is
13 released, and that same person can later be apprehended
14 on the basis of independent tips and all the other
15 enforcement mechanisms that the agency uses to apprehend
16 illegal aliens. In the --

17 QUESTION: Such as?

18 MS. HEEN: Such as its area control
19 operations. The factory raid situation, where the INS
20 goes into a factory and surveys it to determine whether
21 or not there are illegal aliens working there.

22 An example of a pre-Matter of Sandoval
23 decision in which the Board of Immigration Appeals
24 applied independent evidence in order to deport someone
25 is the case of In the Matter of Perez-Lopez. And in

1 that case, which was decided in 1972, the immigration
2 law judge had suppressed evidence of deportability at
3 the original hearing. That hearing was terminated, and
4 later on the hearing was reopened when the agency
5 received from an informant information that the person
6 was in this country illegally.

7 Therefore, on the basis of that independent
8 source of information, the Board of Immigration Appeals
9 upheld the deportation order. That provides an example
10 of how the system has been able to work under the rule
11 in the past, and that same sort of evidence can be used
12 in the future in order to deport those who may be
13 released as a result of application of the exclusionary
14 rule.

15 QUESTION: May I ask you this question, Ms.
16 Heen? One of their arguments is not just how it works
17 in a particular case, but rather that if we decide the
18 way you urge us to, that there will be an opinion on the
19 books that will stimulate a large number of motions that
20 have not been filed in the past, and both in the 70,000
21 contested cases and in the 900,000 uncontested cases
22 there will be a very great practical change in the way
23 these matters are handled.

24 Would you like to comment on that?

25 MS. HEEN: Well, there may be some slight

1 increase in the number of suppression motions, which may
2 be tied to the increased enforcement activity of the INS
3 at the present time, but in terms of looking at the past
4 history of applying the rule in this context, as
5 mentioned earlier, the leading treatise in the field,
6 going back to its original editions, had stated that it
7 was undisputed that evidence obtained illegally may be
8 suppressed in deportation hearings.

9 Therefore, it was a part of the recognized
10 administrative practice that such suppression motions
11 could be filed. In addition, there are other types of
12 suppression motions, not just Fourth Amendment
13 suppression motions, which are filed in the context of a
14 proceeding.

15 In terms of the actual mechanism established
16 by the Board of Immigration Appeals to review
17 suppression motions, as pointed out by board member
18 Appleman in the dissent in Matter of Sandoval, the
19 answer is really to require a prima facie showing of
20 illegality in order to support the suppression motion
21 itself, and under the mechanism which was established in
22 the pre-Matter of Sandoval decisions, that showing of
23 illegality had to be supported by affidavits and by a
24 non-frivolous offer of proof.

25 Therefore, with regard to whether or not the

1 agency will be swamped by the filing of frivolous
2 suppression motions can really be addressed in terms of
3 the mechanisms for review of these motions, and the
4 agency may also, in addition to its mechanism for
5 subpoenas, require the alien to file such a suppression
6 motion prior to the hearing. Therefore, the government
7 will be able to respond in such a case to a
8 non-frivolous assertion of illegality on the part of the
9 government.

10 What the government is really asking for in
11 this case is that the Fourth Amendment not be enforced
12 as rigorously in this context because it would be more
13 efficient for the government to enforce immigration laws
14 without the Fourth Amendment. So the costs relied upon
15 by the government in this context are really the costs
16 imposed on the enforcement system by the Fourth
17 Amendment itself.

18 There is a need for neutral procedures to be
19 adopted by the agency, or a need for sufficient facts
20 for the government to justify its intrusion, and that
21 cost analysis has already been conducted by the framers
22 of the Constitution in applying the Fourth Amendment to
23 government intrusions.

24 It is really unacceptable for the government
25 to say that it cannot enforce the immigration laws and

1 live effectively within the Fourth Amendment. That is a
2 bad enough result when it affects the rights of
3 undocumented aliens, and it is an even worse result when
4 its primary impact is on corroding the rights of
5 Hispanic Americans.

6 This Court must also consider the cost to
7 society posed by an abandonment of the exclusionary rule
8 in this context.

9 With regard to whether or not this case
10 requires an extension of the exclusionary rule or a
11 return to former long-standing practice, what is
12 important with regard to that consideration is whether
13 or not, first of all, the costs asserted by the
14 government are as significant as they maintain, and if
15 you look at the past history of applying the rule, and
16 the way that the suppression motions have come up in
17 this context, that cost is not going to be significant
18 in terms of the system being able to adopt procedures to
19 apply the exclusionary rule.

20 But the issue of extension is also important
21 with regard to the signal that it would send to agents
22 out in the field who are enforcing the immigration
23 laws. If the signal is that the Fourth Amendment is not
24 going to be taken as seriously in this context as it is
25 in the criminal context, and abandonment of the rule

1 will indicate to officers in the field that their
2 actions will not be reviewed with as much rigorousness,
3 and they will have additional discretion in the field.

4 The real danger is that officers will confuse
5 ethnicity with probable cause in this area. This Court
6 has structured a careful balancing of Fourth Amendment
7 protections and law enforcement needs in the roving
8 border patrol cases and the fixed checkpoint cases. If
9 freed from the exclusionary rule in this context, that
10 balance would be lost.

11 Inevitably, given the pressures under which
12 INS officers work, INS officers would increasingly
13 confuse ethnicity with a reason for apprehending illegal
14 aliens. Those who look like the targets of INS searches
15 would be swept into an ever-growing net of suspicion and
16 fear. In effect, the government asks that Hispanic
17 Americans surrender the enjoyment of their Fourth
18 Amendment rights to permit more efficient enforcement of
19 immigration laws. That is a price that no American may
20 be asked to pay.

21 In sum, the Fourth Amendment exclusionary rule
22 should be applied in deportation proceedings just as it
23 is applied in criminal proceedings. The privacy
24 interests to be protected are just as important here.
25 The rule's deterrent effect is substantial. It has long

1 been applied in deportation proceedings without
2 excessive cost, and no realistic or equally effective
3 alternatives exist which will adequately safeguard
4 against violation of Fourth Amendment rights.

5 The Court should therefore affirm the judgment
6 below.

7 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Do you have anything
8 further, Mr. Frey?

9 ORAL ARGUMENT OF ANDREW L. FREY, ESQ.,

10 ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONER

11 MR. FREY: Mr. Chief Justice --

12 QUESTION: Mr. Frey, before you commence, it
13 may or may not be important, but I am not clear as to
14 what the answer is. Justice Brennan asked you at the
15 outset of your argument a question whether or not the
16 statement in the brief of respondents was correct that
17 the rule had been enforced consistently for many years.
18 I understood you to say that there was no evidence of
19 that in the decisions of the Board of Immigration
20 Appeals. Counsel for respondents say, and they cite
21 Pages 67-69 of their brief, that there have been any
22 number of cases. I haven't looked at those cases.
23 Maybe I misunderstood either or both of you. What is
24 the situation?

25 MR. FREY: Well, I think the situation is that

1 it is difficult to know in the purely abstract sense
2 whether the exclusionary rule in the air applied in
3 deportation proceedings prior to 1979 or not. I don't
4 think that was a matter that was ever quite clear.

5 There were a number of cases that reached the
6 BIA with claims of Fourth Amendment violations. Some of
7 them, they said there was no Fourth Amendment
8 violation. This is not a large number of cases compared
9 to the total case load that we are talking about. Some
10 of them they -- a lot of the cases they cite are alien
11 crewmen cases, where there was other evidence of
12 alienage, and therefore the challenge to evidence was not
13 necessary to reach a decision in the case, and therefore
14 the BIA had no occasion to pass upon whether it should
15 have been admitted or excluded.

16 I would not say to you that it was clear that
17 the exclusionary rule did not apply.

18 QUESTION: They really wouldn't have wasted
19 their time deciding Fourth Amendment issues in a case if
20 the evidence was admissible anyway, would they?

21 MR. FREY: If it was inadmissible anyway?

22 QUESTION: You say they actually ruled on
23 Fourth Amendment claims. Why would they waste their
24 time doing that?

25 MR. FREY: I am not suggesting to the Court

1 that there was a settled principle that the exclusionary
2 rule did not apply. What I am suggesting to the Court
3 is that it was not a significant feature in any way of
4 the deportation hearing process or the review process.
5 And on those -- that handful of cases that reached the
6 BIA where there were substantive Fourth Amendment
7 questions raised, they either disposed of them or said
8 it was unnecessary to consider them simply without
9 deciding.

10 QUESTION: But isn't it correct that they cite
11 some cases that say they set up a regular procedure for
12 processing, who had the burden of proof and all that
13 sort of thing.

14 MR. FREY: I am not aware of that. I am
15 sorry. I will say that there is one case, this
16 Perez-Lopez case, that is cited where deportation
17 initially did not occur because of a Fourth Amendment
18 violation. This was at the ALJ level. One case. Now,
19 just ask yourself, all of these people are being
20 arrested in these various kinds of encounters that are
21 bound to raise Fourth Amendment issues.

22 I just -- I mean, I feel that something that
23 is so clear to me is perhaps not as clear to the Court,
24 but how could it have been a meaningful feature, and
25 yet all these people who would have had at least

1 colorable Fourth Amendment claims to suppress vital
2 evidence in the deportation proceeding never went to a
3 Court of Appeals until the Wong Chung Che case in 1975
4 in the First Circuit.

5 QUESTION: Could it be they didn't have
6 lawyers?

7 MR. FREY: Well, that is an interesting point
8 that I wanted to get to. One of the arguments -- they
9 had lawyers in the deportation process, I think, most of
10 them, but one of the arguments that is made for why the
11 costs are not unacceptable is that most of these people
12 are poor, they won't have lawyers, they will be deported
13 anyway, so it is all right to have the exclusionary rule
14 because we can rely on the fact that they won't have
15 lawyers to invoke these rights that we are giving them.

16 Now, this seems to be a very odd way to try to
17 minimize the costs of the exclusionary rule. What it
18 really shows -- it is true, most of them don't have
19 lawyers. Most of them leave without asserting all the
20 legal rights that they could assert, and it is for that
21 very reason that the exclusionary sanction is not going
22 to be an effective way of getting INS agents who are
23 otherwise acting without regard to their
24 responsibilities under the Fourth Amendment to change
25 their behavior.

1 We are not talking here about rewriting the
2 Fourth Amendment. My friend does not keep clearly in
3 mind the distinction between the Fourth Amendment and
4 the exclusionary rule. The framers didn't adopt the
5 exclusionary rule. They adopted the Fourth Amendment.
6 If applying the exclusionary rule substantially advances
7 Fourth Amendment values, a case can be made for it. If
8 it doesn't, I think no case can be made for it.

9 Now, with respect to Justice Rehnquist's
10 question about their footnote, of course there are some
11 violations that probably occur that are not -- do not
12 involve the issues in the Delgado case that was decided
13 yesterday, but I think the vast bulk of claims do
14 involve that kind of claim, so that the history of
15 violations against which the Court should decide whether
16 it needs an exclusionary rule here is largely violations
17 that have turned out upon this Court's inspection of the
18 legal issue not to be violations.

19 This also alters the cost-benefit balance.
20 These people can still raise the claim. If Sandoval's
21 claim were to be believed, he was walking through the
22 line with the mask on, minding his own business. He was
23 grabbed by the seat of the pants, put into the restroom,
24 no questions asked, without any reason whatsoever, taken
25 down to the station house, and presumably all 37 of

1 these people, for all we know, the same thing happened
2 to them, yet it happened just by a stroke of good
3 fortune that all 37 of these people were illegal
4 aliens. They were incredibly lucky in using these
5 procedures that supposedly violated the Fourth Amendment
6 to have such a good batting average.

7 The point in these cases is that it is going
8 to be very hard when you get into this kind of
9 nitty-gritty, what did the agent see, what did the agent
10 know, what did the alien do, was there a seizure, was it
11 supported by reasonable suspicion, at what point was the
12 admission of illegal alienage made, these are
13 exceedingly intricate questions.

14 If these 70,000 deportation hearings, which
15 now have very few -- have had very few cases in which
16 that kind of question is raised, if that kind of
17 question has to be litigated in a substantial number of
18 these cases, and then on appeal to the BIA, and then,
19 don't kid yourselves, on appeals to the Courts of
20 Appeals, because if you say there is an exclusionary
21 rule, you will see this in the courts as well as within
22 the immigration system.

23 Thank you.

24 CHIEF JUSTICE BURGER: Thank you, counsel.

25 The case is submitted.

1 (Whereupon, at 11:24 o'clock a.m., the case in
2 the above-entitled matter was submitted.)
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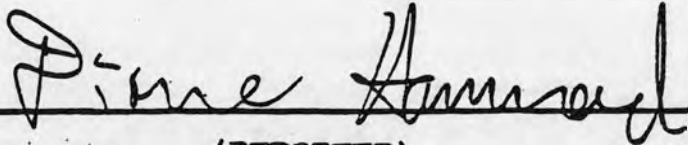
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#83-491 - IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE, Petitioner v.

ADAN LOPEZ-MENDOZA

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

BY

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fina Amador", is written over a horizontal line.

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