## OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT PROCEEDINGS BEFORE

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

## DKT/CASE NO. 86-108

TITLE GARY HILTON, SUPERINTENDENT, NEW JERSEY STATE PRISON, ET AL., Petitioners V. DANA BRAUNSKILL PLACE Washington, D. C. DATE March 25, 1987 PAGES 1 thru 50



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES 1 - - X GARY HILTON, SUPERINTENDENT, NEW : I JERSEY STATE PRISON, ET AL., ¥ : Petitioners Ŧ : No. 86-108 3 v. DANA BRAUNSKILL : -X 1 1 Washington, D.C. 1) Wednesday, March 25, 1987 1 P The above-entitled matter came on for oral B argument before the Supreme Court of the United States 1 at 11:12 o'clock a.m. 5 Б APPEARANCES: 9 JOHN G. HOLL, ESQ., Trenton, N.J.; 8 on behalf of Petitioners 3 MARK H. FRIEDMAN, ESQ., East Orange, N.J.; 2 on behalf of Respondent 2 3 4 5 1 ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY, INC. 20 F ST., N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001 (202) 628-9300

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PROCEEDINGS 1 CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST: Mr. Holl, you may 2 proceed whenever you're ready. 3 ORAL ARGUMENT OF 4 JOHN G. HOLL, ESQ. 5 ON BEHALF OF PETITIONERS 6 MR. HOLL: Mr. Chief Justice and may it please 7 the Court: 8 This case is here on a writ of certiorari to 9 the Third Circuit Court of Appeals, and it involves a 10 purely legal issue of the interpretation of Federal Rule 11 of Appellate Procedure 23(c), specifically the 12 permissible factors that federal courts can take into 13 account in determining whether or not to release a 14 successful habeas petitioner pending an appeal by the 15 state. 16 Relying almost exclusively on the decision of 17 the Third Circuit in Carter against Rafferty, the Third 18 Circuit has held and the district court below have held 19 that they will only take into account the possibility of 20 flight in making this decision. 21 The State of New Jersey, Petitioner herein, is 22 arguing that there are additional factors that are 23 properly considered under 23(c), including the chances 24 of success on appeal by the state as a factor that the 25 3

court should take into account, as well as the 1 dangerousness of the Petitioner. 2 Initially, I would note with respect to the 3 factor of likelihood of success on appeal, that issue I 4 don't think was considered by the Carter court. The 5 Carter court concentrated exclusively on dangerousness. 6 QUESTION: You mean the Carter court did not 7 explicitly reject --8 MR. HOLL: Yes. 9 QUESTION: -- likelihood of success on 10 appeal? 11 MR. HOLL: That's correct. And I think the 12 rationale of the Carter decision, which is something 13 that we take issue with but I'll get into later, even if 14 you apply the rationale of the Carter decision, which is 15 the federal courts can only take into account what it 16 perceives as a federal interest, if you apply that 17 rationale you would see that the chances of state 18 success on appeal is also a federal interest. 19 We have the state as a party in a federal 20 action. The Respondent is a party in a federal action. 21 There is an appeal to a federal court. So the outcome 22 of that appeal is certainly an issue which the federal 23 courts have an interest in, and should be an appropriate 24 factor under 23(c) even if you accept the Carter 25

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analysis.

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However, we don't think that the Carter court interpreted 23(c) properly. We think that there are a number of reasons to reject the narrow interpretation that the Carter court adopted here.

The first one is, the Carter court held that 6 the only interest, the only factor, is a probability of 7 flight. We think that the language of the rule, which 8 is extremely broad and which says that a petitioner is 9 presumed to be released -- it doesn't specifically use 10 the word of presumption of release, but the state would 11 concede that the rule does contain a presumption of 12 release. 13

The presumption of release is there when a petitioner is successful in district court, but it can be overcome. He shall be released unless a court shall order otherwise.

In those instances -- that's kind of broad language right there. It's extremely broad language, and we don't think there's any reason to believe that it narrowly confines the federal courts to the probability of flight.

23 QUESTION: You're here arguing for the state, 24 I take it.

MR. HOLL: That's correct, Justice White.

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QUESTION: And you want to -- you've convicted 1 a person and you don't want him at large until there is 2 some final ruling on the habeas corpus. 3 MR. HOLL: Yes, that's correct, Justice 4 White. 5 QUESTION: Does New Jersey have a 6 post-conviction relief? 7 MR. HOLL: Yes, we do. 8 QUESTION: Well, let's suppose that a 9 convicted defendant files for state habeas or state 10 collateral relief, and he wins in the lower court and 11 then he's on appeal in the state system. Now, I 12 understand the state law to be that only flight is to be 13 considered. 14 MR. HOLL: No, I don't believe that is the 15 state of the law in New Jersey. We have a rule called 16 bail pending appeal. 17 QUESTION: So you think -- wasn't there an 18 amicus who claimed that that's the rule? 19 MR. HOLL: I believe that -- I'm not sure 20 there was an amicus that claimed that that was the rule 21 in this case, Justice White. 22 We have a rule, a New Jersey court rule which 23 was adopted by the New Jersey Supreme Court, which is 24 entitled bail pending appeal. And it permits a court to 25 6

take into account the dangerousness. 1 QUESTION: Oh, it does specifically? 2 MR. HOLL: Yes, it does specifically. 3 QUESTION: That's bail pending appeal of a 4 direct conviction? 5 MR. HOLL: Yes. And there are no cases as to 6 whether or not that rule applies to a --7 QUESTION: Collateral. 8 MR. HOLL: -- a collateral proceeding. But 9 it's our position that it is the rule which is most 10 analogous. 11 QUESTION: Well, why shouldn't we really know 12 that for a certainty before we decide what the rule that 13 the federal court should apply in this case? It seems 14 to me if there's any interest in holding this prisoner, 15 it's a state interest, not a federal interest, and that 16 if the states would not -- if the state would in fact 17 let this individual out pending appeal from a state 18 habeas corpus, I see no reason whatever why the federal 19 court should do otherwise. 20 MR. HOLL: Well, I think that there is a 21 reason here. The state courts have already found this 22 man to be dangerous and they have incarcerated him. 23 They have already made that finding. 24 QUESTION: No, no. You mistake me. I'm 25 7 ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY, INC.

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saying if the New Jersey Supreme Court itself would not feel offended by a New Jersey lower court releasing an ineividual when the lower court finds that he's entitled to state habeaus, I ion't know why a federal court should be any more stingy with this man's freedom, because the only interest in holding him is a state interest.

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If the state itself would let him go, I see no 8 reason why the federal court shouldn't let him go. So don't we have to know what the New Jersey rule is? 10

MR. HOLL: I don't think you have to know to decide this case, because I think that would frustrate a 12 federal interest in the uniform application of the 13 habeas rule, and it would permit perhaps a state to come 14 up with a rule --15

QUESTION: He hasn't been convicted of a federal crime, right? He's been convicted of a state crime?

MR. HOLL: That's correct.

QUESTION: So the only reason he should be held in prison at all is a state reason, it seems to me.

MR. HOLL: Nell, I think that the law of New Jersey is rather clear, first of all, that he would -that a court would be permitted to keep him incarcerated

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pending his state habeas proceeding pursuant to that rule.

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3	But aside from that, the federal courts if
4	you reach a if you take the position that the
5	decision whether or not, that a federal court makes to
6	release a defendant is based on the state rule, then
7	you're not going to have a uniform application of the
8	federal habeas corpus laws, because it's the federal
9	court which releases him pursuant to a federal statute.
10	QUESTION: On the other hand, if you take the
11	position that it depends on federal law you're not going
12	to have it's sort of an Erie question. You're not
13	going to have uniform application within the state. If
14	you apply for state habeas corpus and the state gives it
15	to you, you're free pending the appeal. But if you
16	apply for federal nabeas corpus and you win, the federal
17	court holds you.
18	So it's like Erie. Do you want uniformity
19	within the state or do you want uniformity nationwide?
20	MR. HOLL: I think the answer is that in this
21	case and in all cases the state courts will have
22	considered the same claims that are being raised on
23	habeas and will already have made the decision that the
24	individual involved is dangerous and should be
25	incarcerated.

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So I think that's the rationale behind it. 1 QUESTION: Mr. Holl, at least I'm along with 2 Justice Scalia. Can you brief that and send it in to 3 us? 4 MR. HOLL: Sure, Your Honor. We'd be happy to 5 accommodate the Court on that issue. 6 QUESTION: I mean, I would like to know 7 personally. I'd like to know what the New Jersey law 8 is. 9 MR. HOLL: Well, this issue has been 10 researched. There are no cases directly on point as to 11 whether or not our bail pending appeal rule applies to a 12 state collateral proceeding. 13 QUESTION: I'm talking about the New Jersey 14 law. 15 MR. HOLL: That's correct. And there are no 16 cases, but we think that the most analogous rule --17 QUESTION: Have you researched it? 18 MR. HOLL: Yes, we have, Justice Marshall. 19 OUESTION: Where is he now? 20 MR. HOLL: This man, I don't know, Your Honor, 21 Justice Blackmun, I don't know. He is not 22 incarcerated. He has been released. 23 QUESTION: Well, the state did not seek cert 24 in the Carter case, did it? 25

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MR. HOLL: I don't believe the Carter case is 1 -- oh, you mean in the Carter case at issue here? Yes, 2 I believe that's correct, that the state did not seek a 3 writ of certiorari. 4 QUESTION: Do you know why? 5 MR. HOLL: That case was handled by the 6 Passaic County Prosecutor's Office, which is a separate 7 entity. And I do not know their reasons for not seeking 8 it. 9 QUESTION: It was all over the press. It was 10 all over the press. Was that the reason why? 11 MR. HOLL: Well, that could be the reason why, 12 Justice Marshall. 13 QUESTION: Mr. Holl, are you suggesting that 14 because of the delicate relationship of the federal 15 habeas procedures to state convictions, there might be a 16 federal interest apart from a state interest in seeing 17 that the man is delivered over if it were reversed on 18 appeal? 19 MR. HOLL: I think that there are federal 20 interests here, there's no question about that. There 21 are a number of federal interests, including and I think 22 the most important one is the interest in comity between 23 the federal and state systems here. 24 The deference that would be provided by a rule 25 11

permitting a court to take dangerousness into account 1 would result in less of a strain on the federal-state 2 comity relationship. 3 QUESTION: Well, Mr. Holl, do you think that 4 there is some appropriate inquiry in the federal court 5 to try to preserve the status guo pending an appeal? 6 MR. HOLL: Yes, I do. 7 QUESTION: In which the court might consider 8 the likelihood of success on appeal and the fact that 9 the defendant was incarcerated, and so forth? 10 MR. HOLL: I believe that's a very important 11 interest here. An important federal interest in comity 12 is to maintain the status quo and to take into account 13 all factors that are relevant to this decision as to 14 whether or not to stay. 15 There's no good reason in law or justice, and 16 the courts are required under Section 2243 of the habeas 17 corpus law to dispose of these matters as law and 18 justice require. That's a broad standard. 19 QUESTION: Dangerousness and likelihood of 20 success, and they find this man is very -- they think 21 he's very dangerous, but that he's almost sure to win on 22 appeal. What are they supposed to do with him? 23 MR. HOLL: I think if we have an instance 24 where the state loss not have a substantial case on 25 12

appeal and all we had is a dangerous individual who was 1 being held under an unconstitutional conviction --2 QUESTION: Well, it hasn't been finally 3 decided. 4 MR. HOLL: It hasn't been finally decided. 5 QUESTION: But the district court says, 6 somebody says, very good likelihood of success on 7 appeal. 8 MR. HOLL: Likelihood of success on behalf of 9 the prisoner? 10 OUESTION: Yes. 11 MR. HOLL: In that case I think that if the 12 state can't make an issue, a showing that it also has a 13 substantial case --14 QUESTION: That's what I mean, yes. 15 MR. HOLL: -- a substantial case on the 16 merits, if we can't make that showing and all we have is 17 a dangerous fellow, I don't think we have been able to 18 -- there is a presumption there that he shall be 19 released, and I ion't think we've been able to overcome 20 it purely on the grounds of dangerousness. 21 QUESTION: So it really turns on the 22 likelihood of success. 23 MR. HOLL: I think likelihood of success is 24 the more significant factor. 25 13

QUESTION: But Carter said you can't consider 1 that at all? 2 MR. HOLL: No, that's not what Carter said. 3 QUESTION: Oh, it isn't? 4 MR. HOLL: Carter said that you can't consider 5 dangerousness. It did not discuss that issue. 6 QUESTION: Has the Court of Appeals said that 7 the only thing you can consider is the likelihood of 8 flight? 9 MR. HOLL: That is what that -- yes, that is 10 correct. 11 QUESTION: So that -- when did they say that? 12 MR. HOLL: They said that in the decision in 13 Carter. 14 QUESTION: Well, that excludes likelihood of 15 success. 16 MR. HOLL: That's correct. I guess you could 17 make that. I'm not so sure that the Court of Appeals 18 even considered, though, the likelihood of success as a 19 factor. And that's why I believe that, even if they 20 used their same rationale that they used in Carter, that 21 the federal courts only take into account the --22 QUESTION: Well, the dangerousness then is a 23 red herring. 24 MR. HOLL: No. 25 14

QUESTION: Because if there's a likelihood of success, you're going to -- if he's likely to prevail in the appellate court, he's going to get out whether he's dangerous or not. And if he hasn't got any likelihood of success, he's going to stay in even if he isn't dangerous.

7 MR. HOLL: We think that it is a weighing 8 process here. We think the courts have to weigh whether 9 the state or the Respondent has a substantial case on 10 the issue, not necessarily a likelihood that it's more 11 likely than not. We're not getting involved in a 12 numbers game.

We're more interested in, if the state can show it has a substantial case on the merits of an appeal and it can also show there is dangerousness, we think those two factors should be taken into account and considered and weighed.

In some cases the courts will find that the --QUESTION: Can I interrupt you for a second and ask you about this particular case, prompted by Justice Blackmun's question. As I understand, this man is on parole now, and he's already had his habeas corpus petition. He was successful on the appeal on that, so there obviously is likelihood -- was he not?

MR. HOLL: No.

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QUESTION: Wasn't the writ, the issuance of 1 the writ affirmed by the Court of Appeals? 2 MR. HOLL: Yes, it was, but then the state 3 made a motion before the Court of Appeals to 4 reconsider. And that motion has been granted by the 5 Third Circuit. 6 QUESTION: Oh, I see. 7 MR. HOLL: And the prior order which affirmed 8 the district court's decision has been vacated. So 9 there is no order in effect from the Third Circuit. 10 QUESTION: Specifically what order are we 11 being asked to review? Is it the en banc order of the 12 Third Circuit refusing to grant a stay? 13 MR. HOLL: Yes. 14 QUESTION: And the reasons for that really are 15 not terribly clear from the order. The only thing they 16 really recite in there is that the motion was filed on 17 May 16th and the man is scheduled to be released from 18 custody on May 20th, petition is denied. 19 MR. HOLL: That's correct. 20 QUESTION: So is it not possible that they 21 denied the motion thinking that, since he's going to be 22 at large anyway, that there's no point in granting a 23 stay? 24 MR. HOLL: Well, I don't think that's the 25 16

reason that they alopted that or they made that 1 decision. 2 OUESTION: Could we reverse that now and tell 3 them they must enter a stay at this point, when the 4 man's at large on parole? 5 MR. HOLL: I think that in the courts below 6 there is not a sufficient record, unfortunately, because 7 of the -- some factors just simply haven't been 8 considered. The district court wouldn't consider 9 likelihood of success. 10 QUESTION: Well, what relief can you get in 11 this case from this Court now? 12 MR. HOLL: I think what we're asking from this 13 Court is a decision on the law that these are --14 QUESTION: Totally unrelated to this 15 Petitioner? Just you want a general pronouncement of 16 the law? 17 MR. HOLL: No, because the state went before 18 the district court --19 **OUESTION:** Right. 20 MR. HOLL: -- and attempted to --21 QUESTION: And he didn't give you a stay. 22 MR. HOLL: That's right. 23 OUESTION: He said -- for one thing, he said, 24 he doesn't really look all that dangerous, because you 25 17

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misrepresented his criminal record in the district 1 court. And anyway, and in addition, under Carter I 2 couldn't consider dangerous anyway. 3 MR. HOLL: And he also said that he would not 4 take into account the state's chances of success. 5 QUESTION: He didn't write an opinion. This 6 was kind of a colloguy. 7 And then you go to the Court of Appeals and 8 they say: Well, he's going to be released in four days 9 anyway, so we can't grant a stay. 10 MR. HOLL: There's a factual --11 QUESTION: So what are we -- I mean, what 12 order do you expect this Court to enter now? 13 MR. HOLL: We would ask that the case be 14 remanded all the way back to the district court. 15 QUESTION: And what should the district court 16 do then? 17 MR. HOLL: The district court should be 18 instructed to take into account factors such as the 19 Petitioner's --20 QUESTION: For what purpose? The man's at 21 large. 22 MR. HOLL: The man is at large because he was 23 released under an erroneous standard of law. 24 QUESTION: I thought he has also been 25 13 ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY, INC.

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paroled.

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MR. HOLL: No. He has an additional --2 OUESTION: He's been released because of the 3 order of the district court? 4 MR. HOLL: Yes. 5 QUESTION: I misunderstood. I'm sorry, I 6 apologize. I thought that he also -- hadn't he been up 7 for parole in August of '86? 8 MR. HOLL: Well, there was a 9 misunderstanding. In the record now before the Third 10 Circuit, there is a letter from the New Jersey Parole 11 Board which indicates that the Petitioner has an 12 additional -- the Respondent has an additional six or 13 seven months to serve on his sentence should he be sent 14 back, should the order of the district court --15 QUESTION: I'm sorry, I'm sorry. I 16 misunderstood. 17 QUESTION: I come back to Carter, however, and 18 don't understand why the state didn't seek cert on that 19 when factually it's a much better case than this one. 20 MR. HOLL: That was a decision, I'm sure there 21 were a number of factors that went into that decision, 22 Justice Blackmun. The state, I know, is also pursuing 23 the appeal on the Carter case on the merits before the. 24 Third Circuit. I don't think it's been decided yet. 25

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1 QUESTION: What you're saying, I take it, is 2 in the case where perhaps the state -- where the 3 district court orders release on habeas, the state has a 4 plausible case on appeal but not an overwhelming one, 5 there a very dangerous habeas petitioner probably should 6 not be released, one who is not found dangerous probably 7 should be released?

8 9 What we're saying. We're saying that dangerous is an 10 appropriate factor, because in some cases the state's 11 case on appeal will be more or less substantial, in that 12 range where it should be considered and also would 13 justify the weighing of the dangerousness of the 14 prisoner.

QUESTION: Well, if he's real dangerous you couldn't keep him more than that six months could you?

> MR. HOLL: That's correct, that's correct. QUESTION: So that's what is before us, six

months?

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MR. HOLL: That's correct.

21 QUESTION: I'm reading an amicus brief. It 22 says that the state of New Jersey has declared as a 23 matter of state policy that the potential dangerousness 24 of an accused defendant cannot be the basis for 25 incarcerating him before trial. That's State against

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Johnson. 1 MR. HOLL: That is correct, Justice White. We 2 do not have in our state a pretrial --3 QUESTION: But you think the rule is different 4 once there's a conviction and there's an appeal? 5 MR. HOLL: That's correct. 6 QUESTION: And that there's a specific rule on 7 that? 8 MR. HOLL: Yes, there is. 9 QUESTION: And the only issue now that is 10 undecided is about state collateral? 11 MR. HOLL: That's right. The issue is, does 12 our rule of bail after conviction apply to state 13 collateral proceedings. There are no cases, but we 14 believe it does. 15 QUESTION: Thank you. 16 MR. HOLL: The decision in Carter which estops 17 a federal court from considering these factors does 18 serious damage to comity. The state, when it has a 19 dangerous individual, is going to be forced, if the 20 federal courts are not going to consider these factors, 21 to retry a dangerous individual rather than risk being 22 released pending appeal if a court won't take that into 23 account in many cases. 24 And therefore, we won't be able to pursue our 25

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appeal. If we have to -- if we go back and retry an 1 individual under the same kind of an order that was 2 entered here by the district court, then we don't have a 3 right to appeal. Obviously we won't be permitted to 4 pursue a retrial in the state court and a federal appeal 5 at the same time. 6 This puts us in a very unpleasant situation. 7 QUESTION: You put yourself in that 8 situation. 9 MR. HOLL: Well, we've been put in that 10 situation. 11 QUESTION: You put yourself in that 12 situation. What are you complaining about? 13 MR. HOLL: Well, we have not put ourselves in 14 that situation. 15 QUESTION: Well, you didn't bring the Carter 16 case up here. 17 MR. HOLL: The Carter case eventually could 18 get here. I don't know whether it will. There is a 19 pending Carter case, and whether that issue remains a 20 part of it I don't know. I'm not familiar with the 21 ongoing Carter case other than that issue. 22 QUESTION: You haven't read the newspapers 23 recently? 24 MR. HOLL: I'm sorry? 25 22 ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY, INC.

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2UESTION: You haven't read the newspapers recently? That's where the Carter case has been all along.

4 MR. HOLL: I haven't seen anything in recent 5 days about the Carter case. I don't believe that the 6 state of New Jersey has put itself in this position. 7 We've been put in this position by the order of the 8 federal district court, forcing us into, he has to be 9 tried or he has to be released.

If we want to pursue an appeal of that decision because we think it isn't a correct decision, then this man will be released.

QUESTION: Well, I don't understand. Even if you decided to retry him, you wouldn't be able to hold him, would you? You just told me you don't have any pretrial detention.

MR. HOLL: That's unclear. I think pursuant -- that brings up the practice of the issuance of conditional writs by the federal courts. The federal courts have adopted a procedure in certain cases where they will tell a state, this petitioner has to be retried within a certain amount of time or else he's released, and we will have the order stayed.

24 So they will not -- so they will tell the 25 state to retry this defendant and he will remain

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incarcerated because the federal court will not sign an order --

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QUESTION: Only if he can't make bail, I presume. I mean, you're not talking about -- even if you retry him, I presume you would have to release him unless he could make bail on the retrial? Isn't that right? You told me you don't have any pretrial detention in New Jersey.

MR. HOLL: The federal court in that case -he remains incarcerated, because the federal court --QUESTION: Without bail?

MR. HOLL: -- has not ordered his release. 12 That's why he's still incarcerated. He's still 13 incarcerated because a federal judge -- this is a common 14 practice, this issuance of conditional writs. The 15 federal courts will find that the petitioner was denied 16 a fair trial and they will say to the state: This 17 petitioner has to be retried within a certain amount of 18 time; if you don't, he will be released. But then they 19 will stay that order for the state to appeal, and so 20 there will not be in effect an order of the courts 21 requiring the petitioner to be released. 22

I'd like to reserve my time.

CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST: Thank you, Mr. Holl.

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1	We'll hear now from you, Mr. Friedman.
2	ORAL ARGUMENT OF
3	MARK H. FRIEDMAN, ESQ.
4	ON BEHALF OF RESPONDENT
5	MR. FRIEDMAN: Mr. Chief Justice, may it
6	please the Court:
7	Although both parties in this case invoke
8	federalism and comity to support their positions, their
9	views of what those phrases mean in the context of Rule
10	23 could not contrast more starkly.
11	The Third Circuit's opinion in Carter versus
12	Rafferty resolves the tension in federal-state relations
13	that is a necessary byproduct of habeas corpus
14	litigation by construing Rule 23 in light of the basic
15	interests that habeas serves, which is the vindication
16	of constitutional rights, along with the unquestioned
17	interest that any court has in seeing that parties,
18	defendants or otherwise, will be available to answer to
19	later court judgments, and by leaving other purely state
20	interests to state courts themselves to resolve under
21	state law, however it may be defined.
22	QUESTION: Mr. Friedman, before you get into
23	your argument could I ask you one sort of basic
24	guestion. Assuming the state didn't want to appeal and
25	the district court entered one of these 30 day
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conditional orders that you've got to release him if you don't put him on trial within 30 days, and they do put him on trial within 25 days and they keep him in prison while they're doing this, do you agree that the federal court has power to do that?

MR. FRIEDMAN: To keep him in prison during the conditional writ period?

QUESTION: Yes.

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MR. FRIEDMAN: We do not challenge the 15 practice of conditional writs. We think that the 16 language in Rule 23 that states that he shall be 17 released on a surety unless the court otherwise orders 18 refers to the conditional writs and nothing more. But 19 we do not challenge the right to the 30, 60 days for the 20 state simply to have a reasonable period of time to make 21 up its mind of what it is going to do. 22

Now, if --

QUESTION: Why isn't it just as illogical? It seems to me the rule you apply in one situation you

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ought to apply in the other. Here you have a state that on retrial would not have any preventive detention. What's the justification for the holding that you acknowledge to be legitimate during the 30 day conditional writ period?

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MR. FRIEDMAN: Logically, I cannot draw a distinction. It would seem to me the argument would apply to both. But over the years this practice has developed of simply preserving a very short, reasonable period.

It would seem to me that certainly in many situations --

13 QUESTION: Well, wait. A very short 14 reasonable period. What happens after the 30 days 15 expires?

MR. FRIEDMAN: After the 30 days expires, it depends on what the state has decided to do during that 30 days. If it has decided to retry the defendant during the 30 days, in answer to an earlier question, then the jurisdiction of the district court lapses and he moves into the state system to be retried, at which point he could not be held.

23 So before the 30 days if the state moves to 24 retry him, then it is state bail rules that would apply 25 and federal jurisdiction would be divested. If they

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decide to appeal, then when the 30 days expires without a retrial Carter would dictate he is released on a reasonable surety, unless --

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QUESTION: I'm not sure you're right about the first part of your answer. If the 30 days does not expire before he's put back on trial, then the conditional writ does not issue as I understand it. The writ says: If you are not put on trial, then you've got to release him.

If he is put on trial, that in effect 10 nullifies the force of the writ. So he just stays in jail as I understand it. 12

MR. FRIEDMAN: For the 30 days --

QUESTION: Without having to comply with any bail requirements.

MR. FRIEDMAN: I apologize for a verbal 16 mistake. A conditional writ is indeed as you said it 17 is, Justice Stevens. It issues if the 30 days expires. 18 During that period before the writ expires, if the state 19 chooses to go to trial, it would be our position, let's 20 say on the twenty-fifth day, he would be under state 21 bail protection. 22

In fact, the action that would signal reinstitution of a state trial proceeding would be a bail hearing, during which, under the New Jersey

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Constitution, he cannot be held. 1 QUESTION: Why would he need a bail hearing? 2 No writ having issued, he's still --3 MR. FRIEDMAN: Because by taking the defendant 4 back to trial, the state has acknowledged that its 5 conviction is no longer of any force or effect. The 6 defendant is clearly in that situation in the position 7 of an indicted defendant facing trial. 8 QUESTION: Well now, I understood from the 9 state's representative that that question is not clearly 10 answered --11 MR. FRIEDMAN: No, Your Honor. 12 QUESTION: -- by New Jersey state law. You 13 take the position that that's what the law surely should 14 be, and the state's attorney takes a different view of 15 it. And I gather we don't have a clear holding. 16 MR. FRIEDMAN: No, Your Honor. I believe that 17 the issue that the state was addressing, in response to, 18 I believe it was, Justice White's question --19 QUESTION: All right, on state collateral. 20 MR. FRIEDMAN: That's right. And there there 21 is no case law that specifically holds that the rule 22 involving post-conviction bail applies to 23 post-conviction release. 24 QUESTION: Is there clear state case law in 25 29

the situation of federal habeas collateral relief as to 1 what applies in the state of New Jersey? 2 MR. FRIEDMAN: Are you referring to the 3 situation that Justice Scalia, I believe, referred to 4 earlier, where the defendant is taken to trial because 5 the state chooses not to appeal, or the situation where 6 the state chooses to appeal in the federal courts? 7 Because the answer would be different. 8 QUESTION: Well, I want to know both. 9 MR. FRIEDMAN: I beg your pardon. The answer 10 would not be different. 11 OUESTION: All right. Then what is the 12 answer? 13 MR. FRIEDMAN: If the state decides to take 14 the defendant to trial, to abandon its conviction, then 15 he is now a state indictee who --16 QUESTION: Do you have New Jersey Supreme 17 Court authority for that? Can you cite cases to me? 18 MR. FRIEDMAN: No, Your Honor. All I can cite 19 is the New Jersey Constitution. My premise in that 20 answer is --21 QUESTION: Well, you both agree there are no 22 binding decisions, then, of the New Jersey courts on 23 this issue? 24 MR. FRIEDMAN: There is no decision that I'm 25 30 ALDERSON REPORTING COMPANY, INC.

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aware of that expressly addresses the situation of what happens.

QUESTION: While I have you interrupted, let 3 me ask you about the situation in the federal habeas 4 proceeding when it results in a determination in favor 5 of the prisoner, and if the state decides to appeal that 6 holding. Do you think there are federal interests at 7 stake that enable the federal court, in deciding whether 8 or not to release the prisoner, to consider the 9 likelihood of success on appeal and so forth? 10 MR. FRIEDMAN: Your Honor, I believe that 11 applying the likelihood of success or the Rule 8 four 12 factors, as the state requests to io, to the release 13 decision would be fundamentally unfair to a defendant 14 and would in a case like this one, particularly a short 15 sentence case, would vitiate the writ itself and its 16 effectiveness. 17 It would damage the federal interest in 18 ensuring that --19 QUESTION: Well, doesn't the federal 20 government have an interest in being sure that that 21 initial decision was correctly reached and to try to 22 preserve the status quo pending the further resolution 23 of that in federal courts? 24

MR. FRIEDMAN: The status quo that constantly

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is being referred to by the Petitioners is actually not the status quo, but the status quo ante, as though the judgment didn't exist. Consideration has to be given to the equivalent federal interest that's shared by the federal courts and the defendant in having a writ issue that is effective.

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Compare, if you will, the situation in a habeas case with the situation that is normally provided under Rule 8, a judgment for money or property, which is the standard Rule 3 situation. If the appellant decides to take appeal after a judgment is given to him, then ordinarily what happens is the money or property is secured by a boni.

And the reason that that is done under Rule 8, 14 under Rule 44 of this Court, under Rule 62 of the Civil 15 Rules, is that both parties' interests are protected. 16 The appellant does not have to come up with the money or 17 property immediately, to damage his interests; and the 18 appellee, if he wins the case or she wins the case 19 ultimately, is assured of paying. 20

Try to apply that to a habeas corpus situation involving a man's freedom and it simply does not work. 22 There is no bond, there is no supersedeas bond, there is 23 no amount of money that can replace freedom that is lost. 25

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QUESTION: What about the standard for granting a stay by the appellate court, where you also have, you know, likelihood of success as a significant factor? It's not the only one.

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MR. FRIEDMAN: But as I was indicating, Mr. 5 Chief Justice, the entry of a stay has to be tailored to 6 protect the interests of both parties. That cannot be 7 done if the stay proceeding is applied to Rule 8 in a 8 situation like this, where what will inevitably happen 9 in this case if enlargement was stayed was he would have 10 served his entire unconstitutionally obtained sentence 11 even if he won the appeal. 12

The compromise to be adopted, I would submit, 13 is the line taken by the Sixth Circuit in Jago versus 14 District Court of Northern Ohio and in Hill versus Rose, 15 where the Rule 8 procedure was used to stay the judgment 16 ordering a retrial or holding a statute 17 unconstitutional, but where deference was given to the 18 fact that the defendant's interests were not damaged 19 because he would be out. 20

QUESTION: Well, that's just making the writ conditional. That's the appellate court making it conditional.

24 MR. FRIEDMAN: No, Your Honor, I don't think 25 so, because when the period would end the defendant

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would still be out through a surety. It is conditional -- his freedom is conditional or his ability to be retried is conditional on his winning the appeal. But I do not think it is the same doctrinal basis as the conditional writ.

QUESTION: Well, supposing that a district court finds, yes, I'm going to enlarge this petitioner on habeas. I find that I'm not at all sure what I did is right; I think there's a very substantial chance of success on appeal. I think he's extremely dangerous to the community.

You say the district court does not even have the discretion to say the guy doesn't get out on appeal?

MR. FRIEDMAN: I say that the district court does not have the discretion to hold a man because he is dangerous.

QUESTION: Well, I gave you a hypothesis. Is the answer, your answer, that the district court does 19 not even have the discretion to detain that man?

MR. FRIEDMAN: He does not have the discretion 21 to detain that man, or he should not have the discretion 22 to detain that man based primarily on likelihood of 23 success, which is apparently what the Petitioners have 24 shifted their focus to. 25

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On the dangerousness question --

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QUESTION: I gave you a hypothesis that he was 2 found to be very dangerous, the district court has 3 granted the habeas, but finds there is a good deal of 4 chance of success on appeal. 5 Now, does the district court in that case have 6 any discretion to deny release? 7 MR. FRIEDMAN: No, I would say he does not, or 8 he should not. If Your Honors decide he has, then so be 9 it. But the fact is he should not have. 10 QUESTION: And the Court of Appeals could not 11 issue a stay --12 MR. FRIEDMAN: The Court of Appeals --13 QUESTION: -- based on the fact that the state 14 may very well prevail on appeal? 15 MR. FRIEDMAN: No, Your Honor. As I said, the 16 answer --17 QUESTION: No what? The court has no power to 18 do that? 19 MR. FRIEDMAN: Should not have the power to do 20 that, to hold him for likelihood under Rule 23. As 21 indicated in the Jago case, because to do so -- as I 22 say, you have to take --23 QUESTION: And likewise, this Court would have 24 no power to stay a particular proceeding pending review 25

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here of a habeas?

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MR. FRIEDMAN: This Court, it would seem to me, would have the power to stay if the judgment resulted in the order releasing him, but not the release. Under Rule 23, those are two separate tracks. That will be my position.

QUESTION: Well, but if you have power to stay the order ordering release, that would have the effect of staying the release. And it seems to me quite clear that an appellate court does have such power. We do that sort of thing all the time. We think there's an arguably erroneous order entered by a district court, when I was on the Court of Appeals we would stay the order.

MR. FRIEDMAN: Your Honor, if --

QUESTION: It seems to me there are two separate questions here. One is what is the power of the district court, which is what most people have been talking about; the other is what is the power of the Court of Appeals.

And it seems to me really you have a very difficult burden of convincing us that the Court of Appeals would not have the power to stay that order.

MR. FRIEDMAN: What I'm trying to do to discharge that burden, Justice Stevens, is make a

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distinction between the release decision and the stay of the underlying order that held that the conviction was obtained unconstitutionally.

I think that the existence of the rule does 4 mean that a stay of one in a habeas, in a unique habeas 5 situation, does not necessarily apply to the other, 6 because the defendant's interest in custody, 7 particularly in a short sentence case like this, 8 particularly in a case where the appeal would be going 9 on long after he was released under regular parole rules 10 in New Jersey, would mean that he would have, if the 11 release decision was held to be stayed as opposed to 12 simply the judgment, he would have no remedy at all. 13

QUESTION: I don't think there is such a distinction.

MR. FRIEDMAN: It's a difficult distinction and it's an unusual one. But as I say, courts have made the distinction.

19 QUESTION: I think it's a nonexistent 20 distinction. There is no release decision apart from 21 the judgment ordering release. That's what the release 22 decision is. You don't have an abstract thing, I think 23 you let him out of jail. You enter an order that 24 compels something.

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I just don't think you can divide those two

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into two separate things.

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MR. FRIEDMAN: Well, I don't --

QUESTION: We review orders, Courts of Appeals review orders entered by district courts. They don't --I suppose they could enter an injunction against a release. That's quite different from the stay of an order.

MR. FRIEDMAN: Well then, Your Honor, if Your 8 Honors are to hold that they can take into consideration 9 the release decision, I would at least have Your Honors 10 consider the unique posture of a habeas petitioner. His 11 burden, his position, is so different from a typical 12 civil appellant that the distinction between the release 13 order and the judgment, which as I say does have 14 precedent in cases like Jaco and Hill versus Rose, is 15 well suited to the habeas context, because without 16 release from custody the chances are he would have no 17 remedy whatsoever, even if the federal courts, even if 18 this court or the circuit courts --19

20 QUESTION: Well, that really isn't correct in 21 this case. He had four more years of parole to serve, 22 didn't he?

MR. FRIEDMAN: No, Your Honor, he did not. QUESTION: I guess I'm mixed up. And at least he would expunge his record from

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the improper conviction. That's not a trivial matter.

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MR. FRIEDMAN: Yes, Your Honor, where custody is no longer in issue, then this Court has ruled that habeas can reach other things. But as a practical matter, in the real world, for a defendant being held in custody his remedy is what the habeas remedy has always been: release from custody, at least until his order or the basis for the order releasing him from custody is reversed by a higher court of competent jurisdiction.

It seems to me that the status guo that the 10 state is arguing from represents nothing more than an 11 absolutely resolute and relentless attempt to ignore the 12 fact that he has received the judgment. And I would ask 13 Your Honor in considering the question of whether a stay 14 that would stay his release and leave him to be paroled 15 while the appeal wa still pending is appropriate, given 16 the nature of the habeas case. 17

There is a different track that you can go on that's fair to the interests of both sides. The fact of the matter is the defendant can never get his time back, but the state can.

22 QUESTION: No, but you're arguing whether it's 23 a matter of discretion and so forth. Maybe it wouldn't 24 be fair in, say, 60 percent of the cases. But the 25 question that we're really asked is a question of power,

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as I understand it, that the district court simply has no power to enter a stay of its own order if he thinks the man is terribly dangerous and that there is a 50-50 chance on appeal.

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MR. FRIEDMAN: Your Honor has to separate the 5 dangerousness component from the likelihood component, 6 because they implicate very different interests. Even 7 if Your Honors rule that the federal courts have and 8 should have the power to stay an order of release based on likelihood of success, the dangerousness component 10 has to be very strictly delineated from it, because the dangerousness to the community is a purely state 12 function and it offends against federalism to allow 13 federal courts to be used as means of defying -- and that is all that they would be used for -- as a means of 15 defying the judgments made by the polity of the states, the constitution and legislatures and voters, that for 17 defendants in a situation similar to this one, that he will be held even though no other state inmate in a comparable situation can be held.

OUESTION: But that's on the assumption that, 21 having decided the writ should be issued, he is the 22 functional equivalent of the person who is presumed to 23 be innocent, has never been tried. That's the basis for 24 your argument. 25

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1 MR. FRIEDMAN: From the practical and legal 2 sense, we contend that that is true, although we would 3 say that if the Coirt decides to liken him instead to a 4 defendant on bail pending appeal, the same underlying 5 bottom line holds.

You still have to focus on the fact that he is pending appeal, but it is the state's appeal, because his conviction no longer exists. It has been found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be fatally flawed, hence of no force and effect.

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11 QUESTION: Why not liken it instead to a 12 defendant who has been released on state habeas? Isn't 13 that the most precise analogue in the state system?

MR. FRIEDMAN: It depends on whether or not you're talking about state habeas by a defendant who remains convicted, getting back to an earlier question that I believe Justice White asked, or a defendant who has been given, been granted a petition for post-conviction relief, which is what it is called in New Jersey, and the state wishes to appeal.

There is no case law on the subject as to what happens when a state district court judge grants a petition for post-conviction appeal -- sorry -post-conviction relief. But even there, the precise analogy --

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QUESTION: I don't care for the moment what the law is. All I'm asking is isn't that the most precise analogue in the state system? I mean, your argument is you should be doing -- you're furthering a state interest, you've said, and you should be doing what the state does.

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But the closest analogue in the state system is the granting of state habeas, isn't it?

MR. FRIEDMAN: Perhaps it is, Your Honor. But 9 we feel that the logic of cases like State against 10 Johnson, the logic of the constitutional provision in New Jersey that assures all defendants not convicted to 12 be bailable on sureties, means that even in that 13 situation while the appeal is pending the analogue, even 14 the state analogue that you've just described, is to a 15 pre-trial defendant. 16

The fact remains there is no conviction to hold him.

QUESTION: In the state system, there's a conviction and the defendant appeals, the pretrial rule does not apply there?

MR. FRIEDMAN: No, because his conviction is valid. 23

QUESTION: Yes.

MR. FRIEDMAN: Under the rule in New Jersey --

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QUESTION: He's challenging it on appeal. 1 MR. FRIEDMAN: He is challenging it on 2 10 appeal. 3 QUESTION: And he stays in jail. 4 MR. FRIEDMAN: While his conviction is valid. 5 OUESTION: Yes. 6 MR. FRIEDMAN: Until an appellate court 7 decides that it is not. At that point, we are, I admit, 8 drifting on uncharted seas because we have no New Jersey 9 appellate law that specifically says that. I have the 10 state's word for it in a footnote in their brief that 11 there is no federal law. 12 There is certainly no analogue in the 1984 13 Bail Reform Act that covers that precise situation. 14 Apparently there is no case law. 15 But you have to look again at the state law. 16 Federalism requires that, and it seems to me that in the 17 state like New Jersey, where unconvicted defendants are 18 guaranteed bail until they are convicted, that a state 19 post-conviction relief or a state appellate decision on 20 direct appeal that would vitiate his conviction and set 21 him free --22 QUESTION: But here the conviction has been 23 upheld all through the New Jersey courts, hasn't it? 24 MR. FRIEDMAN: It has. 25 43

QUESTION: It's not as if they have thought there was reversible error in the case.

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MR. FRIEDMAN: All that proves, it seems to me, with respect, Mr. Chief Justice, is that the state judgment has gotten all the deference it deserves up to the point at which a federal district court judge, a judge of competent jurisdiction, no matter how much the attorney general's representatives denigrate that judgment, that the state has been given all the deference it deserves by having the state be the first line of defense, if you will, for the vindication of constitutional rights.

Once the case is properly in the federal courts, then it is certainly within the power -- as a matter of fact, it is the essence of the power -- of the federal courts to disagree with the state judges and indicate that there have been constitutional violations that require his conviction be vitiated.

19 QUESTION: But I don't think it follows from 20 that that New Jersey would necessarily insist that he go 21 free on his appeal from the federal district court 22 habeas to the Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

MR. FRIEDMAN: Well, Your Honor, again the New Jersey Constitution says what it says. The fact of the matter is the state has conceded, if I understand your

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question properly, that there is no preventive detention in New Jersey, except for a convicted offender.

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QUESTION: But the state is here speaking for New Jersey and saying: We think this fellow ought to be held.

MR. FRIEDMAN: I am not entirely certain, Your Honor, that you can say with absolute confidence that the state is speaking for the state of New Jersey on this issue. The fact is that the New Jersey law in this issue --

11 QUESTION: We've held in certainly other cases 12 that the attorney general is presumed to speak for the 13 state.

MR. FRIEDMAN: Your Honor, the attorney general is speaking on behalf of the conviction. He represents the state of New Jersey, I don't doubt that. But the fact remains that the position they are taking in this Court is contrary, I would say, to the position of the law in New Jersey on the subject that we're discussing.

To that extent, they differ from the state law, and they are asking federal courts to override state law.

24 QUESTION: I don't know that there's any real, 25 anything wrong with saying that on an appeal in the

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state system from a trial court order giving the defendant collateral relief and the state appealing, I don't know that it's so unreasonable to say that the rule that should apply on enlarging him is the rule that should apply on direct appeal.

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MR. FRIEDMAN: Your Honor, that would not perhaps be an unreasonable decision for state courts or the state legislature to make.

QUESTION: Well, is it unreasonable for a state attorney general to say that's what the rule ought to be?

MR. FRIEDMAN: The point is that the attorney general and I both agree that there is no case law either way. What I'm relying on is the case law --

QUESTION: What if there was case law in New 15 Jersey that said the rule on an appeal of a collateral 16 judgment is the rule that applies on direct appeal? 17 Then what should a federal court do?

MR. FRIEDMAN: The federal court should do 19 precisely what it did in Carter anyway, because the fact 20 is the federal court has its own rules to follow. I do 21 not think that what the state court does should affect 22 what the federal court does, because all that proves is 23 that under certain situations the state can handle the 24 problem of its defendants any way it pleases. 25

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And I think that that should certainly not affect whether or not a federal court should grant it in similar situations, since we are talking about concurrent jurisdictions here.

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Your question raises the ultimate issue in 5 this case, particularly as regards dangerousness. The 6 fact is that there is no roving commission in either the 7 federal courts or the state courts to sweep dangerous 8 people off the streets wherever they find them. Dangerousness and the determination of who shall be held because they're dangerous follows the forms of the law.

The area of preventive pretrial detention or 12 the area of detention of unconvicted defendants, 13 whatever analogue you use, is a quintessentially state 14 concern, and Carter pays deference to that state concern 15 by allowing the states to act on this defendant, who is 16 no longer subject to conviction, in any way they please 17 as long as their decision is constitutional. 18

And after all, this Court has not determined 19 whether preventive detention is unconstitutional in any 20 case. But the fact is that the Hobson's choice that 21 their positing because they can't put a dangerous person 22 away simply does not exist, or if it does exist it's 23 because the polity, as I said, of the state of New 24 Jersey, its Constitution and its voters, have determined 25

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that that's how they wish to run their affairs in the criminal justice system.

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The Hobson's choice does not exist in any case. There is nothing about what the federal court would do in the release decision that would prevent this appeal from going forward. And what would simply happen is he would be released on a sufficient surety.

If the state instead, as I indicated earlier to Justice Scalia's question, decides that they wish to retry this person, then as Justice Scalia indicated earlier, by submitting the defendant once again to state processes on retrial, they cannot hold him.

What avenue is that out of their Hobson's choice? The fact is that the state's right to appeal has ample protection in this Court, in the appellate court, regardless of what happens to this defendant in terms of his custody. Their interests are protected in that sense.

Allowing the defendant to be held while the appeal goes on would do nothing more in a case like this one, where we've already passed the first anniversary of this appeal in the Third Circuit, than extinguish the defendant's rights to an effective remedy. And the Court should pay some concern to that, because certainly the state's interests that Petitioners put forth as a

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party litigant are amply protected without any regard to Rule 23.

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In closing, Your Honors, we do feel that the Carter decision as we have described it serves the interests of every party properly. It serves the interests of this Court, that this Court has shown in federalism and comity, by allowing the states to act within their proper sphere.

9 It safeguards the rights of the defendant by 10 allowing him to have an efficacious remedy while the 11 appeal is pending. And it would do substantial justice 12 in a case of this kind.

13 If Your Honors intend to depart from Carter, \I 14 would submit it should do so by finding an unmistakably 15 federal interest or one that is related to the federal 16 role in habeas cases.

Since the state has presented no such interest here, in our judgment, since no interest cognizable by the federal court could justify holding this defendant, whatever the test, we think that the decision of the Third Circuit en banc in refusing to grant a stay or to reconsider the Carter opinion should be affirmed.

23 If Your Honors have no further questions.
24 CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST: Thank you, Mr.
25 Friedman.

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1	Mr. Holl, you have four minutes remaining.
2	MR. HOLL: That's all right, Your Honor.
3	CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST: You mean you're
4	waiving your time?
5	MR. HOLL: Yes, thank you.
6	CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST: The case is
7	submitted.
8	(Whereupon, at 12:25 p.m., oral argument in
9	the above-entitled case was submitted.)
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## Petitioners V. DANA BRAUNSKILL

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

BY Paul A. Richardon

(REPORTER)

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