

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO. 64,403

THE STATE OF FLORIDA,

Petitioner,

vs.

J. B., a juvenile,

Respondent.

FILED  
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ON CERTIFIED QUESTION FROM THE  
DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL OF FLORIDA,  
THIRD DISTRICT

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BRIEF OF RESPONDENT ON MERITS

BENNETT H. BRUMMER  
Public Defender  
Eleventh Judicial Circuit of  
Florida  
1351 Northwest 12th Street  
Miami, Florida 33125

BRUCE A. ROSENTHAL  
Assistant Public Defender

Attorney for Respondent

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INTRODUCTION

The Respondent, the juvenile J.B., was the Respondent in the trial court and the Appellee before the Third District Court of Appeal. The Petitioner, the State, was the Petitioner in the trial court and the Appellant before the Third District.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The State's appeal, from a juvenile court order dismissing a petition of delinquency which had been filed against the Respondent, was dismissed by the Third District Court of Appeal on September 27, 1983. State v. J.B., 449 So.2d 284 (Fla. 3d DCA 1983). The District Court certified the following question as one of great public importance:

"Does the State have the authority to file plenary appeals in juvenile cases, and, if not, may this court review by certiorari an order dismissing a petition for delinquency?"

Id. at 284.

By order dated October 18, 1983, this Court granted consolidation of this and several other cases under State v. J.M., et al, Case Nos. 64,395-64,403. Briefs by the parties had previously been filed under the consolidated cases. The instant brief responds to the brief recently filed by the Petitioner in this case.

ARGUMENT

THE ABSENCE OF REVIEW BY THE STATE OF ADVERSE  
JUVENILE COURT ORDERS HAS BEEN SETTLED BY THIS  
COURT'S RECENT DECISIONS.

The question certified by the Third District has been  
dispositively answered by this Court's recent decisions in State  
v. C.C., 476 So.2d 144 (Fla. 1985) and State v. G.P., 476 So.2d  
1272 (Fla. 1985), which respectively hold that the State does not  
have the right of appeal of adverse juvenile court decisions, and  
has no greater right to obtain such review by certiorari. The  
dismissal of the State's appeal by the Third District was  
therefore eminently correct, and should be approved upon  
authority of State v. C.C. and State v. G.P.

CONCLUSION

The question certified by the Third District has been conclusively answered by this Court in State v. C.C., 476 So.2d 144 (Fla. 1985) and State v. G.P., 476 So.2d 1272 (Fla. 1985) and the dismissal of the appeal below should be approved upon authority of same.

Respectfully submitted,

BENNETT H. BRUMMER  
Public Defender  
Eleventh Judicial Circuit of  
Florida  
1351 Northwest 12th Street  
Miami, Florida 33125

By:   
BRUCE A. ROSENTHAL  
Assistant Public Defender

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing was mailed to MICHAEL J. NEIMAND, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, 401 Northwest 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida, this 18th day of December, 1985.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce A. Rosenthal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

BRUCE A. ROSENTHAL  
Assistant Public Defender