IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO. 85,203

PATRICE RATCLIFFE,

Petitioner,

-vs-

THE STATE OF FLORIDA,

Respondent.

FILED SID J. WHITE MAY 26 19951 CLERK URT By _ Chief Deputy Clerk

ON PETITION FOR DISCRETIONARY REVIEW

RESPONDENT'S BRIEF ON THE MERITS

ROBERT A. BUTTERWORTH Attorney General

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INTRODUCTION

The Petitioner, **PATRICE RATCLIFFE**, was the Appellant below. The Respondent, the **STATE OF FLORIDA**, was the Appellee below. The parties will be referred to as they stand before this Court. The symbol "A" will designate the Appendix to this brief.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND FACTS

The Respondent accepts the Petitioner's statement of the case and facts as a substantially accurate account of the proceedings below.

QUESTION PRESENTED

WHETHER SECTION 784.048, FLA. STAT. (1992) IS UNCONSTITUTIONALLY OVERBROAD OR VAGUE.

This Court has upheld Florida's Stalking Statute in <u>Bouters</u> <u>v. State</u>, Case No. 83,558 (Fla. April 27, 1995) and there is no need to reverse it.

ARGUMENT

SECTION 784.048, FLA. STAT. (1992) IS NOT UNCONSTITUTIONALLY OVERBROAD AND/OR VAGUE.

This Court, in <u>Bouters v. State</u>, Case No. 83,558 (Fla. April 27, 1995 has upheld the constitutionally offense Stalking Statute against the same challenged as raised herein. Therefore, this Court should affirm the District Court's finding that the Statute posses constitutional muster.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Respondent requests this Court to affirm the District Court and hold that Section 784.04, Florida Statutes (1992) is constitutional.

Respectfully submitted, ROBERT A. BUTTERWORTH Attørney General MICHAEL J. NEIMAND Assistant Attorney General Florida Bar No. 0239437

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing RESPONDENT'S BRIEF ON THE MERITS was furnished by mail to ALLYN GIAMBALVO, Attorney for Petitioner, Pinellas County Courthouse, 5100 144th Avenue North, Clearwater, Florida 34620 on this d day of May, 1995.

MICHAEL J. NEIMAND

Assistant Attorney General

mls/

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Respondent.

APPENDIX TO RESPONDENT'S BRIEF ON THE MERITS

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NOT FINAL UNTIL TIME EXPIRES TO FILE REHEARING MOTION AND, IF FILED, DETERMINED

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

OF FLORIDA

SECOND DISTRICT

PATRICE RATCLIFFE,

Appellant,

v.

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Appellee.

Opinion filed February 1, 1995.

Appeal from the Circuit Court for Pinellas County, Claire K. Luten, Judge.

Bartow, and Allyn Giambalvo, Assistant Public Defender, Clearwater, for Appellant.

Robert A. Butterworth, Attorney General, Tallahassee, and Michael J. Neimand, Assistant Attorney General, Parker D. Thomson and Carol A. Licko, Assistant Attorney Generals, Miami, for Appellee.

PER CURIAM.

Affirmed. See State v. Tremmel, 644 So. 2d 102 (Fla.

2d DCA 1994).

PATTERSON, A.C.J., and BLUE and FULMER, JJ., Concur.

CASE NO. 93-04054