

IN THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OF TEXAS

NO. PD-0072-15

JAMES EDWARD LEMING, Appellant

v.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

ON STATE'S PETITION FOR DISCRETIONARY REVIEW FROM THE SIXTH COURT OF APPEALS GREGG COUNTY

NEWELL, J., filed a dissenting opinion.

I join Judge Keasler's dissenting opinion on the issue of the statutory construction of Section 545.060(a) of the Transportation Code because I, too, do not read "and" to mean "or." But on the issue of whether there was reasonable suspicion to stop Appellant for suspicion of DWI, it is, as Judge Keasler acknowledges, a close call. Though the State, as the prevailing party in the trial court, is permitted to raise a theory upholding the trial court's ruling in a petition for discretionary review, the court of appeals nevertheless did not have

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the opportunity to address that theory. Leming v. State, 454 S.W.3d 78 (Tex.

App.—Texarkana 2014) (holding that facts did not support reasonable suspicion to believe a

traffic violation occurred and that traffic stop was not justified under the community

caretaking function). Given that this issue is not clear cut, I would remand the case so that

the court of appeals can consider in the first instance whether that theory supports the trial

court's ruling. McClintock v. State, 444 S.W.3d 15, 20 (Tex. Crim. App. 2014) (""[T]he

proper disposition of a petition for discretionary review that correctly asserts that the lower

court has failed to consider a complaint as to the propriety of its ultimate disposition is for

this Court, in the exercise of its supervisory authority, to remand the cause to the court of

appeals to reach a "decision" on that question in the first instance.") (quoting Sotelo v. State,

913 S.W.2d 507, 510 (Tex. Crim. App. 1995)). The parties make a number of arguments in

support of their respective positions in this Court, and "our resolution of the issue (if any

should even be necessary after a remand) would benefit from a carefully wrought decision

from the court of appeals." McClintock, 444 S.W.3d at 21. I respectfully dissent.

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