

IN THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OF TEXAS

NO. WR-92,488-01

EX PARTE KENNETH EUGENE RICE JR., Applicant

ON APPLICATION FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS CAUSE NO. F45892-B IN THE 18TH DISTRICT COURT FROM JOHNSON COUNTY

YEARY, J., filed a dissenting opinion in which SLAUGHTER, J., joined.

DISSENTING OPINION

Applicant was convicted of online solicitation of a minor in violation of former Section 33.021(b) of the Penal Code. Tex. Penal Code § 33.021(b). He was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in count one of this cause. Applicant filed this writ of habeas corpus contending that the statute under which he was convicted was found unconstitutional. *See* Tex. Code Crim. Proc. art. 11.07.

Today, the Court grants post-conviction relief based on *Ex parte Lo*, in which the Court held Subsection (b) of the former online solicitation of a minor statute to be unconstitutional. *See Ex parte Lo*, 424 S.W.3d 10 (Tex. Crim. App. 2013). But Applicant has not demonstrated that his conduct constituted protected speech such that the statute

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may be said to have operated unconstitutionally as applied to him. I therefore dissent from

the Court's order granting summary post-conviction habeas corpus relief for the reasons

stated in my dissenting opinions in Ex parte Fournier, 473 S.W.3d 789, 800–805 (Tex.

Crim. App. 2015) (Yeary, J., dissenting), and Ex parte Chavez, 542 S.W.3d 583, 584–85

(Tex. Crim. App. 2018) (Yeary, J., dissenting).

FILED:

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