

COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND DISTRICT OF TEXAS AT FORT WORTH

Duane Reid v. The State of Texas

2015 WL 5634251 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth Sept. 24, 2015) · No. 02-14-00376-CR · Decided November 2, 2015

SUMMARY

This document is Duane Reid’s Petition for Discretionary Review filed in the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. Reid challenges the Second Court of Appeals’ determination that he forfeited his Sixth Amendment confrontation complaint by failing to object to the admission and consideration of a presentence investigation report at punishment. The document includes the appellate court’s memorandum opinion affirming the trial court’s eight-year sentence for felony theft.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Court of Appeals for the Second District of Texas at Fort Worth
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Lee Ann Dauphinot; Livingston, C.J.; Lee Ann Dauphinot, J.; Gardner, J.
JURISDICTION	Texas
DECIDED	November 2, 2015
DOCKET	02-14-00376-CR
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appeal from a judgment following an open guilty plea to theft and a bench-assessed sentence of eight years' confinement. The appellant challenged the trial court's consideration of a presentence investigation report at punishment under the Sixth Amendment's Confrontation Clause.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Error-preservation review under Texas Rule of Appellate Procedure 33.1(a); an appellate court should not address the merits of an issue not preserved in the trial court.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unpublished and not designated for publication; nonprecedential under the source's designation.
PARTIES	Duane Reid v. The State of Texas

TOPICS

preservation of error

appellate procedure

criminal procedure

sixth amendment

evidence

PRACTICE AREAS

criminal appellate procedure

criminal procedure

constitutional criminal procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Reid preserved for appellate review his Sixth Amendment Confrontation Clause complaint concerning the trial court's admission and consideration of the presentence investigation report at punishment.

HOLDINGS

1. Reid forfeited his Sixth Amendment confrontation complaint because he did not timely object to the admission of the presentence investigation report or otherwise complain in the trial court that the court considered it in assessing punishment.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The Sixth Amendment right to confrontation, among other constitutional rights, may be forfeited by the failure to object.” (at 2)

“Because Appellant did not object or otherwise complain in the trial court of the admission of the PSI or of the trial court’s considering the PSI in assessing punishment, he has not preserved this complaint for review.” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Reid entered an open guilty plea to theft and waived a jury, leaving punishment for the trial court. The court ordered and admitted a presentence investigation report, without objection, and one State witness also testified at punishment. The trial court sentenced Reid to eight years' confinement, and Reid later challenged the use of the PSI under the Sixth Amendment.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Reid pleaded guilty to theft, waived a jury, and requested that the trial court assess punishment. The trial court admitted the presentence investigation report without objection and sentenced Reid to eight years' confinement. After his motion for new trial was overruled by operation of law, Reid appealed; the court of appeals held that his confrontation complaint was not preserved and affirmed.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- Everitt v. State, 407 S.W.3d 259, 262-63 (Tex. Crim. App. 2013)

- Sanchez v. State, 418 S.W.3d 302, 306 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2013, pet. ref'd)
- Ford v. State, 305 S.W.3d 530, 532 (Tex. Crim. App. 2009)
- Reyes v. State, 361 S.W.3d 222, 229 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2012, pet. ref'd)

OPINION

Reid, Duane

PER CURIAM.

PD-1390-15 PD-1390-15

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

AUSTIN, TEXAS

Transmitted 10/30/2015 10:20:10 AM Accepted 11/2/2015 12:26:55 PM

ABEL ACOSTA

NO. _____

CLERK

IN THE

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

OF TEXAS

DUANE REID

Petitioner v.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

Respondent Petition is in Cause No. 17125 from the 271st Criminal District Court of Wise County, Texas, and Cause No. 02-14-00376-CR in the Court of Appeals for the Second District of Texas

PETITION FOR DISCRETIONARY REVIEW

Abe Factor

TBN: 06768500

Factor, Campbell & Collins Attorneys at Law 5719 Airport Freeway Phone: (817) 222-3333 Fax: (817) 222-3330 Email: lawfactor@yahoo.com Attorney for Petitioner Duane Reid November 2, 2015

IDENTITY OF PARTIES AND COUNSEL

The following is a complete list of all parties to the trial court's final judgment, as well as the names and addresses of all trial and appellate counsel. Trial Court Judge: Hon. John Fostel
Petitioner: Duane Reid Petitioner's Trial Counsel: Terry Barlow

TBN: 01758300

Dunham Law Firm 1110 E. Weatherford Street Fort Worth, Texas 76102 Petitioner's Counsel Abe Factor on Appeal: TBN: 06768500 Factor, Campbell & Collins Attorneys at Law 5719 Airport Freeway Fort Worth, Texas 76117 Appellee: The State of Texas Appellee's Trial Counsel: Jay Lapham

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13 L. Ed. 2d 923 (1965). 6 Reid v. State, 02-14-00376-CR, 2015 WL 5634251 (Tex.
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STATEMENT REGARDING ORAL ARGUMENT

Because Petitioner does not believe that oral argument will materially assist the Court in its evaluation of matters raised by this pleading, Petitioner respectfully waives oral argument.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On March 27, 2013, Petitioner Duane Reid (“Mr. Reid” or “Petitioner”) was indicted for the third degree felony offense of theft, alleged to have occurred on August 16, 2012. (C.R. 6); see T EX. P ENAL C ODE A NN. § 31.03(e)(5) (West Supp. 2014). On August 12, 2014, Mr. Reid entered an open plea of guilty to the charged offense. (C.R. 37-43). The trial court continued the proceedings pending the preparation of a Presentence Investigation Report (“PSI”), until September 4, 2014. (II R.R. passim). On that date, the trial court sentenced Mr. Reid to eight (8) years incarceration in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. (C.R. 44; II R.R. 36). A timely Motion for New Trial and Motion in Arrest of Judgment was filed on September 16, 2014, which was overruled by operation of law. (C.R. 48). A Timely Notice of Appeal was filed on September 16, 2014. (C.R. 47).

STATEMENT OF PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The opinion by the Second Court of Appeals affirming 1 Petitioner’s conviction was handed down on September 24, 2015. Reid v. State, 02-14-00376-CR, 2015 WL 5634251 (Tex. App.–Fort Worth, September 24, 2015, no. pet. h.) (mem. op., not designated for publication). A timely Motion to Extend Time to File Petition for Discretionary Review was granted, thus, this Petition for Discretionary review is timely.

GROUND FOR REVIEW

GROUND FOR REVIEW ONE

I. The court of appeals erred in holding that Petitioner had forfeited his complaint that his right to confrontation was violated when the trial court considered the PSI at punishment.

REASONS FOR REVIEW

1. The decision by the Second Court of Appeals has decided an important question of state law in a way that comports with the applicable decisions of the Court of Criminal Appeals, but this Court is invited revisit and overrule or modify those decisions. 2

ARGUMENT

GROUND FOR REVIEW ONE (Restated) I. The court of appeals erred in holding that Petitioner had forfeited his complaint that his right to confrontation was violated when the trial court considered the PSI at punishment.1 A. Facts At the punishment hearing held on September 29, 2014, the trial court admitted into evidence the PSI prepared by the Wise County Community

Supervision and Corrections Department. (II R.R. 5; III R.R. St. Ex. 1). Additionally, the trial court stated on the record that it had “considered all matter relevant to this case.” (II R.R. 36). At no time did trial counsel for Mr. Reid raise an objection to the matters included in the PSI. Based on the evidence set forth in the PSI, the trial court denied Mr. Reid’s request for probation and sentenced him to eight (8) year incarceration. (C.R. 44; II R.R. 36). B. Opinion Below The Opinion of the Second Court of Appeals failed to address 1 Undersigned counsel is aware that this Court has directly held adverse to Petitioner’s argument on this point. See *Stringer v. State*, 309 S.W.3d 42 (Tex. Crim. App. 2010); *Smith v. State*, 227 S.W.3d 753 (Tex. Crim. App. 2007). The argument for a change or reversal in the law is presented here for further review. 3 Petitioner’s substantive complaint, but merely held that his complaint had not been preserved in the trial court. *Reid*, 2015 WL 5634251 at *1 (citing *Reyes v. State*, 361 S.W.3d 222, 229 (Tex. App.–Fort Worth 2012, pet. ref’d)). C. Preservation of Error This Court has held that under circumstances where the law is well-settled to the point where any objection in the trial court would be futile, the claim will not be considered forfeited for later review. *Ex parte Hathorn*, 296 S.W.3d 570, 572 (Tex. Crim. App. 2009) (citing *Black v. State*, 816 S.W.2d 350 (Tex. Crim. App. 1991)) (“Given the settled state of the case law at the time of appellant’s trial, we refuse to fault him or his attorney for failing to object. . . .Under the established precedent, the trial judge would have been correct in overruling the objection. . . .”); See also *Ex parte Turner*, 542 S.W.2d 187, 189 (Tex. Crim. App. 1976) (“[I]t would be unreasonable to expect the petitioner to anticipate the future decision of the United States Supreme Court,” [and held that there was no intentional waiver for failing] “to object upon a ground not yet established as a defect of constitutional magnitude.” (citing *Ex parte Casarez*, 508 S.W.2d 620 (Tex. Crim. App. 1974))). 4 In *Smith v. State*, 227 S.W.3d 753 (Tex. Crim. App. 2007), and later in *Stringer v. State*, 309 S.W.3d 42 (Tex. Crim. App. 2010), this Court held that extraneous misconduct evidence could be considered at punishment if included in a PSI even where it was not shown beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant had committed the misconduct, *Smith*, 227 S.W.3d at 763, and the Confrontation Clause protections articulated in *Crawford v. Washington*² do not apply at a non-capital sentencing to a PSI used by the judge in determining the punishment. *Stringer*, 309 S.W.3d at 48. Thus, any objection at trial would necessarily been overruled by the trial court. *Id.*; *Smith*, 227 S.W.3d at 763. Since any objection would have been futile, the Second Court of Appeals should have held that Mr. Reid’s complaint had been preserved for appeal. *Hathorn*, 296 S.W.3d at 572. D. Confrontation Clause Principles The Confrontation Clause of the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides that, “[i]n all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right. . .to be confronted with the witnesses against him.” U.S. C ONST. amend. VI. This procedural guarantee 2 *Crawford v. Washington*, 541 U.S. 36, 124 S. Ct. 1354, 158 L. Ed. 2d 177 (2004).

5 applies to both federal and state prosecutions. *Pointer v. Texas*, 380 U.S. 400, 403, 85 S. Ct. 1065, 1067–68, 13 L. Ed. 2d 923 (1965); *De La Paz v. State*, 273 S.W.3d 671, 680 (Tex. Crim.

App. 2008). Consistent with the Confrontation Clause guarantee, a testimonial hearsay statement may be admitted in evidence against a defendant “only where the declarant is unavailable, and only where the defendant has had a prior opportunity to cross-examine.” *Crawford v. Washington*, 541 U.S. 36, 68, 124 S. Ct. 1354, 1373–74, 158 L. Ed. 2d 177 (2004); see *De La Paz*, 273 S.W.3d at 680. “[T]he Crawford rule reflects the Framers’ preferred mechanism (cross-examination) for ensuring that inaccurate out-of-court testimonial statements are not used to convict an accused.” *Whorton v. Bockting*, 549 U.S. 406, 418, 127 S. Ct. 1173, 1182, 167 L. Ed. 2d 1 (2007); *De La Paz*, 273 S.W.3d at 680. “Generally, speaking, a hearsay statement is ‘testimonial’ when the surrounding circumstances objectively indicate that the primary purpose of the interview or interrogation is to establish or prove past events potentially relevant to later criminal prosecution.” *De La Paz*, 273 S.W.3d at 680. Whether a statement is testimonial is a question of law. *Id.*; see also *Langham v. State*, 305 S.W.3d 568, 576 (Tex. Crim. App. 2010). 6 Virtually all statements in a PSI that reflect negatively on the defendant will constitute “testimonial” statements for Confrontation Clause purposes. They are gathered by a state employee, a supervision officer. T EX. C RIM. P ROC. C ODE A NN. § 42.12(9)(a) (West Supp. 2014). They are for the express purpose of use in a probation or sentencing determination concerning the defendant. T EX. C RIM. P ROC. C ODE A NN. § 37.07(3)(d) (West Supp. 2014). They are not street-corner “nontestimonial” statements but instead are statements that a reasonable declarant would recognize, or would have been expressly told, were for use in a probation or sentencing decision concerning the defendant. See, e.g., *Davis v. Washington*, 547 U.S. 813, 821–24, 126 S. Ct. 2266, 2273–74, 165 L. Ed. 2d 224 (2006). By statute, a PSI is an ex parte communication providing hearsay evidence to the trial court, denying a defendant the right to confront witnesses against him in open court. See T EX. C RIM. P ROC. C ODE A NN §§ 37.07(3)(d), 42.12(9). The PSI statute not only violates the Confrontation Clause; its ex parte nature undermines our system of public trials. Nothing in our law prevents the State’s offering a PSI into evidence through a sponsoring witness. Nothing prevents the State’s offering a 7 defendant’s criminal history through a sponsoring witness. A jury assessing punishment does not require a PSI. A jury hears witnesses and examines evidence in open court to determine the appropriate sentence. In a jury trial, a jury must be instructed that they may not consider extraneous offenses or acts of misconduct unless they believe beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant committed those acts and offenses. *Huizar v. State*, 12 S.W.3d 479, 484 (Tex. Crim. App. 2000). The State, then, bears a burden of proof beyond a reasonable doubt when it seeks to prove extraneous offenses at the punishment phase of a jury trial. T EX. C RIM. P ROC. C ODE A NN. §37.07(3)(a) (West Supp. 2014). The State should not be relieved of its burden of proof merely because the trial judge assesses punishment. Additionally, the protections of the Confrontation Clause apply to the punishment phase of trial. *Rousseau v. State*, 171 S.W.3d 871, 880–81 (Tex. Crim. App. 2005). In addressing reports admitted at the punishment phase, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals held in *Rousseau v. State*, The Sixth Amendment’s Confrontation Clause provides that, “[i]n all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the 8

right. . .to be confronted with the witnesses against him.” This procedural guarantee is applicable in both federal and state prosecutions and bars the admission of testimonial statements of a witness who does not appear at trial unless he is unavailable to testify and the defendant had a prior opportunity to cross-examine him. Generally speaking, a statement is “testimonial” if it is a solemn declaration made for the purpose of establishing some fact. The reports in question contained testimonial statements which were inadmissible under the Confrontation Clause, because the State did not show that the declarants were unavailable to testify and appellant never had an opportunity to cross-examine any of them. Indeed, the statements in the reports amounted to unsworn, ex parte affidavits of government employees and were the very type of evidence the Clause was intended to prohibit. The trial court erred in admitting those portions of the reports that contained the testimonial statements. *Id.* E. Application Here, though no witnesses testified at punishment regarding the compilation and contents of the PSI, the PSI compiled by the probation officer was admitted into evidence. (III R.R. St. Ex. 1). The information included in the PSI is clearly testimonial, in that much of it is composed of out-of court statements meant to be used against Mr. Reid at his trial on punishment. See *Davis v. Washington*, 547 U.S. at 821–24, 126 S.Ct. at 2273–74. Much of the information is detrimental to Mr. Reid. (III R.R. St. Ex. 1). The admission of such testimonial statements violates the Sixth Amendment right possessed by all criminal defendants to confront the witnesses against them. U.S. CONST. AMEND. VI; *Crawford v. Washington*, 541 U.S. at 68, 124 S.Ct. at 1373–74. The trial court erred by admitting the PSI in violation of the Sixth Amendment. D. Harm Analysis *Crawford* error is constitutional error subject to a harm analysis under Rule 44.2(a) of the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure. TEX. R. APP. P. 44.2(a); *McNac v. State*, 215 S.W.3d 420, 421 (Tex. Crim. App. 2007). Mr. Reid’s sentence must be reversed unless it can be found beyond a reasonable doubt that the error did not contribute to his punishment. *Wall v. State*, 184 S.W.3d 730, 745-46 (Tex. Crim. App. 2006). This Court has established four factors to be considered in analyzing harm from *Crawford* error: (1) the importance of the hearsay statements to the State’s case; (2) whether the hearsay evidence was cumulative of other evidence; (3) the presence or absence of evidence corroborating or contradicting the hearsay testimony on material points; (4) the overall strength of the State’s case. *Davis v. State*, 203 S.W.3d 845, 852 (Tex. Crim. App. 2006). The only evidence presented by the state at punishment was the PSI and the testimony of Soren Anderson, a co-defendant on the instant 10 offense. The trial court ultimately denied Mr. Reid’s request for probation and sentenced him to prison. Moreover the State emphasized the extraneous acts of misconduct presented in the PSI in its closing argument to the trial court. (II R.R. 35-36). It is impossible to conclude that the error did not contribute to the conviction or punishment; thus, Mr. Reid was harmed by its admission, and the judgment of the trial court on punishment should have been reversed by the Second Court of Appeals. See TEX. R. APP. P. 44.2(a).

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Petitioner respectfully prays that this Court grant

discretionary review and allow each party to fully brief and argue the issues before the Court of Criminal Appeals, and that upon reviewing the judgment entered below, that this Court reverse the opinion of the Second Court of Appeals. Respectfully submitted, /s/Abe Factor Abe Factor

TBN: 06768500

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I hereby certify that the word count for the portion of this filing covered by Rule 9.4(i)(1) of the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure is 2,034. /s/Abe Factor Abe Factor

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing instrument has been furnished to counsel for the State's Prosecuting Attorney and the Tarrant County District Attorney by a manner compliant with the Texas Rules of Appellate Procedure, on this 30th day of October , 2015. /s/Abe Factor Abe Factor 12

APPENDIX

1. Opinion of the Second Court of Appeals

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COURT OF APPEALS

SECOND DISTRICT OF TEXAS

FORT WORTH

NO. 02-14-00376-CR

DUANE REID APPELLANT

V.

THE STATE OF TEXAS STATE

FROM THE 271ST DISTRICT COURT OF WISE COUNTY

TRIAL COURT NO. CR17125

MEMORANDUM OPINION 1

Appellant Duane Reid entered an open plea of guilty to the offense of theft in August 2014. He waived a jury and asked the trial court to assess punishment. The trial court ordered a pre-sentence investigation report ("PSI") 1 See Tex. R. App. P. 47.4. and postponed the punishment hearing to September 2014. 2 The State introduced the completed PSI, and the trial court admitted it without objection; one witness for the State also testified. The trial court sentenced Appellant to eight years' confinement. Appellant subsequently filed a motion for new trial, which was overruled by operation of law. He did not complain of the PSI in his motion for new trial. Confrontation Appellant brings a single point on appeal, arguing that the trial court denied him his Sixth Amendment right to confrontation when the trial court considered the PSI at punishment. But Appellant did not object to the PSI's admission. To preserve a complaint for our review, a party

must have presented to the trial court a timely request, objection, or motion that states the specific grounds for the desired ruling if they are not apparent from the context of the request, objection, or motion. 3 Further, the trial court must have ruled on the request, objection, or motion, either expressly or implicitly, or the complaining party must have objected to the trial court's refusal to rule. 4 A reviewing court should not 2 See Tex. Code Crim. Proc. Ann. art. 42.12, § 9(a) (West Supp. 2014) (discussing the PSI requirements). 3 Tex. R. App. P. 33.1(a)(1); *Everitt v. State*, 407 S.W.3d 259, 262–63 (Tex. Crim. App. 2013); *Sanchez v. State*, 418 S.W.3d 302, 306 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2013, pet. ref'd). 4 Tex. R. App. P. 33.1(a)(2); *Everitt*, 407 S.W.3d at 263. 2 address the merits of an issue that has not been preserved for appeal. 5 The Sixth Amendment right to confrontation, among other constitutional rights, may be forfeited by the failure to object. 6 Because Appellant did not object or otherwise complain in the trial court of the admission of the PSI or of the trial court's considering the PSI in assessing punishment, he has not preserved this complaint for review. We overrule Appellant's sole point and affirm the trial court's judgment. /s/

Lee Ann Dauphinot

LEE ANN DAUPHINOT

JUSTICE

PANEL: LIVINGSTON, C.J.; DAUPHINOT and GARDNER, JJ.

DO NOT PUBLISH

Tex. R. App. P. 47.2(b) DELIVERED: September 24, 2015 5 *Ford v. State*, 305 S.W.3d 530, 532 (Tex. Crim. App. 2009). 6 See *Reyes v. State*, 361 S.W.3d 222, 229 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2012, pet. ref'd). 3