

COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE TENTH APPELLATE DISTRICT OF TEXAS

Bradley Hunter Golden v. The State of Texas

No. 10-25-00390-CR (Tex. App.—Waco May 7, 2026) (mem.) · No. 10-25-00390-CR · Decided May 7, 2026

SUMMARY

The Tenth Court of Appeals of Texas reviewed Bradley Hunter Golden’s Anders appeal from his conviction for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and 15-year prison sentence. The court determined that the appeal was wholly frivolous, affirmed the trial court’s judgment, and granted appointed counsel’s motion to withdraw.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Court of Appeals for the Tenth Appellate District of Texas
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Lee Harris; Chief Justice Johnson; Justice Smith; Justice Harris
JURISDICTION	Court of Appeals for the Tenth Appellate District of Texas
DECIDED	May 7, 2026
DOCKET	10-25-00390-CR
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Golden appealed his conviction for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and 15-year prison sentence. Appointed appellate counsel filed a motion to withdraw accompanied by an Anders brief asserting that the appeal was frivolous.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	In an Anders appeal, the appellate court must conduct a full examination of the proceedings and determine whether the appeal is wholly frivolous, meaning that it lacks any basis in law or fact.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	nonprecedential
PARTIES	Bradley Hunter Golden v. The State of Texas

TOPICS

- appellate procedure
- right to counsel
- criminal procedure
- standard of review

PRACTICE AREAS

- criminal appellate procedure
- right to appointed counsel

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether appointed appellate counsel satisfied the duties required for an Anders brief and motion to withdraw.
2. Whether the appeal was wholly frivolous after the Court of Appeals' independent review of the entire record.
3. Whether counsel's motion to withdraw should be granted.

HOLDINGS

1. Appointed counsel performed the duties required of appointed counsel in an Anders appeal because the brief reflected a professional evaluation of the record for error and compliance with counsel's other duties.
2. The appeal was wholly frivolous, and the trial court's judgment was affirmed.
3. Counsel's motion to withdraw from representation of Golden was granted.

KEY QUOTATIONS

"In reviewing an Anders appeal, we must, "after a full examination of all the proceedings, ... decide whether the case is wholly frivolous."" (2)

"An appeal is "wholly frivolous" or "without merit" when it "lacks any basis in law or fact."" (2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Golden was convicted of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and sentenced to 15 years in prison. The opinion does not identify additional underlying facts because counsel filed an Anders brief and the court's review focused on whether the record presented any arguable basis for reversal.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The 19th District Court of McLennan County, Texas, convicted Golden of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and sentenced him to 15 years in prison. On appeal, appointed counsel filed an Anders brief and moved to withdraw. The Court of Appeals independently reviewed the entire record, determined that the appeal was wholly frivolous, affirmed the trial court's judgment, and granted counsel's motion to withdraw.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- Anders v. California, 386 U.S. 738, 87 S. Ct. 1396, 18 L. Ed. 2d 493 (1967)
- High v. State, 573 S.W.2d 807, 812 (Tex. Crim. App. 1978)
- Kelly v. State, 436 S.W.3d 313, 319-320 (Tex. Crim. App. 2014)
- In re Schulman, 252 S.W.3d 403, 407 (Tex. Crim. App. 2008)

- Penson v. Ohio, 488 U.S. 75, 80, 109 S. Ct. 346, 102 L. Ed. 2d 300 (1988)
- Stafford v. State, 813 S.W.2d 503, 509-11 (Tex. Crim. App. 1991)
- McCoy v. Court of Appeals, 486 U.S. 429, 439 n. 10, 108 S. Ct. 1895, 100 L. Ed. 2d 440 (1988)
- Bledsoe v. State, 178 S.W.3d 824, 826-27 (Tex. Crim. App. 2005)

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