

SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Kevin F. Karli, James W. Dobbs, Margaret E. Dobbs, Henry C. McQuaide, III, Chris H. Hoegemeyer, Kyle W. Hoegemeyer, William H. Hoegemeyer II, Sam Wigington, III, Justin T. Price, Robert Hugh Williams, Gwendolyn S. Williams, Stephanie R. Saculla, John Cody Saculla, Patrick Clarke, Kathryn E. Clarke, and Mary Catherine Davis, Independent Executrix of the Estate of Joe R. Davis v. Claude Wilson, Mary Claudene Brewer, Arleigh P. Helfer, Melany Rae Helfer-Hullett, Wendi Rene Hughes, Karen Sue Schaible, John Weldon Allums, Alvin Reese Helfer and Jason Reed Helfer

No. 25-1085 (Tex. May 8, 2026) · No. 25-1085 · Decided May 8, 2026

SUMMARY

The Supreme Court of Texas addressed an oil-and-gas dispute involving a deed that uses double fractions and the presumption discussed in *Van Dyke v. Navigator Group*. Without hearing oral argument, the court granted review, vacated the court of appeals’ judgment, and remanded for further proceedings in light of *Clifton v. Johnson*.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of Texas
JURISDICTION	Supreme Court of Texas
DECIDED	May 8, 2026
DOCKET	25-1085
DISPOSITION	vacated
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Petition for review from the Texas Court of Appeals for the Eighth District; the Supreme Court of Texas granted review without oral argument, vacated the court of appeals’ judgment, and remanded.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published and precedential; per curiam opinion of the Supreme Court of Texas.
PARTIES	Kevin F. Karli, James W. Dobbs, Margaret E. Dobbs, Henry C. McQuaide, III, Chris H. Hoegemeyer, Kyle W. Hoegemeyer, William

H. Hoegemeyer II, Sam Wigington, III, Justin T. Price, Robert Hugh Williams, Gwendolyn S. Williams, Stephanie R. Saculla, John Cody Saculla, Patrick Clarke, Kathryn E. Clarke, Mary Catherine Davis, Independent Executrix of the Estate of Joe R. Davis v. Claude Wilson, Mary Claudene Brewer, Arleigh P. Helfer, Melany Rae Helfer-Hullett, Wendi Rene Hughes, Karen Sue Schaible, John Weldon Allums, Alvin Reese Helfer, Jason Reed Helfer

TOPICS

oil and gas deeds mineral rights appellate procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

oil and gas real estate mineral rights appellate procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the court of appeals' judgment should be vacated and the case remanded for reconsideration in light of Clifton v. Johnson, given that the case involves a deed containing double fractions and the presumption discussed in Van Dyke v. Navigator Group.

HOLDINGS

1. The Supreme Court granted the petition for review, vacated the court of appeals' judgment, and remanded the case for further proceedings.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“As in similar cases, and without hearing oral argument, we grant the petition for review, vacate the judgment of the court of appeals, and remand the case to that court for further proceedings.” (2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The case concerns an oil-and-gas deed containing double fractions. The deed therefore implicates the presumption discussed in Van Dyke v. Navigator Group. The Supreme Court noted that the court of appeals did not have the benefit of the later decision in Clifton v. Johnson when it issued its decision.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The case reached the Supreme Court of Texas on a petition for review from the Eighth District Court of Appeals. Because the court of appeals decided the case before the Supreme Court issued Clifton v. Johnson, the Supreme Court granted review, vacated the judgment, and remanded for further proceedings.

DISPOSITION

vacated

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

The case is remanded to the Texas Court of Appeals for the Eighth District for further proceedings, including consideration of the intervening authority in *Clifton v. Johnson*.

CASES CITED

- *Van Dyke v. Navigator Group*, 668 S.W.3d 353 (Tex. 2023)
- *Clifton v. Johnson*, ___ S.W.3d ___, 2026 WL 705763 (Tex. Mar. 13, 2026)
- *Boren Descendants v. Fasken Oil & Ranch, Ltd.*, ___ S.W.3d ___, 2026 WL 1108688, at *3 (Tex. Apr. 24, 2026)

OPINION

Supreme Court of Texas ===== No. 25-1085 ===== Kevin F. Karli, James W. Dobbs, Margaret E. Dobbs, Henry C. McQuaide, III, Chris H. Hoegemeyer, Kyle W. Hoegemeyer, William H. Hoegemeyer II, Sam Wigington, III, Justin T. Price, Robert Hugh Williams, Gwendolyn S. Williams, Stephanie R. Saculla, John Cody Saculla, Patrick Clarke, Kathryn E. Clarke, and Mary Catherine Davis, Independent Executrix of the Estate of Joe R. Davis, Petitioners, v. Claude Wilson, Mary Claudene Brewer, Arleigh P. Helfer, Melany Rae Helfer-Hullett, Wendi Rene Hughes, Karen Sue Schaible, John Weldon Allums, Alvin Reese Helfer and Jason Reed Helfer, Respondents
===== On Petition for Review from
the Court of Appeals for the Eighth District of Texas
===== PER CURIAM This oil-and-gas case involves a deed that uses double fractions and thus implicates the presumption discussed in *Van Dyke v. Navigator Group*, 668 S.W.3d 353 (Tex.

2023). When the court of appeals issued its decision, it did not have the benefit of our opinion in *Clifton v. Johnson*, ___ S.W.3d ___, 2026 WL 705763 (Tex. Mar. 13, 2026). As in similar cases, and without hearing oral argument, we grant the petition for review, vacate the judgment of the court of appeals, and remand the case to that court for further proceedings.

See TEX. R. APP. P. 59.1, 60.2(f); *Boren Descendants v. Fasken Oil & Ranch, Ltd.*, ___ S.W.3d ___, 2026 WL 1108688, at *3 (Tex. Apr. 24, 2026). OPINION DELIVERED: May 8, 2026 2