IN THE

Supreme Court of the United States

JUAN BRAVO-FERNANDEZ AND HECTOR MARTÍNEZ-MALDONADO,

Petitioners,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Respondent.

On Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

BRIEF FOR PETITIONERS

ABBE DAVID LOWELL CHRISTOPHER D. MAN CHADBOURNE & PARKE LLP 1200 New Hampshire Ave., NW Washington, DC 20036 (202) 974-5600

Counsel for Hector Martínez-Maldonado LISA S. BLATT
Counsel of Record
ANTHONY J. FRANZE
R. STANTON JONES
ELISABETH S. THEODORE
ARNOLD & PORTER LLP
601 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 942-5000
lisa.blatt@aporter.com

Counsel for Juan Bravo-Fernandez

June 10, 2016

WILSON-EPES PRINTING Co., Inc. - (202) 789-0096 - WASHINGTON, D. C. 20002



QUESTION PRESENTED

Whether, under *Ashe v. Swenson*, 397 U.S. 436 (1970), and *Yeager v. United States*, 557 U.S. 110 (2009), a vacated, unconstitutional conviction can strip an acquittal of its preclusive effect under the collateral estoppel prong of the Double Jeopardy Clause.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
QUESTION PRESENTED	i
TABLE OF AUTHORITIES	v
INTRODUCTION	1
OPINIONS BELOW	4
JURISDICTION	4
CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION INVOLVED	4
STATEMENT	5
SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT	11
ARGUMENT	15
I. A Jury's Acquittal Retains Preclusive Effect Under the Double Jeopardy Clause Regardless of an Inconsistent Vacated Conviction	15
A. Ashe Bars Re-Litigation of an Issue That an Acquittal Already Decided in the Defendant's Favor	15
B. Under <i>Yeager</i> , a Vacated Conviction Does Not Strip an Acquittal of Preclusive Effect	18
1. Yeager Holds That Hung Counts Are Irrelevant in the Ashe Analysis	19
2. Vacated Convictions Are Equally Irrelevant in the <i>Ashe</i> Analysis	20

(iii)



iv

TABLE OF CONTENTS—Continued

	Page
C. Powell Confirms That a Vacated Conviction Cannot Strip an Acquittal of Preclusive Effect	30
1. Powell Holds That One Valid Verdict Cannot Impugn Another Valid Verdict	31
2. A Fortiori, an Invalid Conviction Cannot Impugn a Valid Acquittal.	32
3. The Government Cannot Attribute Irrationality to Jury Acquittals	35
II. A Vacated, Unconstitutional Conviction Cannot Deprive a Defendant of an Otherwise Applicable Constitutional	
Right	38
III. The Decision Below Invites Prosecutorial Abuse	43
A. Overcharging and Overbroad Interpretations of Criminal Statutes Are Rampant	44
B. The Decision Below Exacerbates Government Overreaching	50
CONCLUSION	52



TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

CASES Pag	$\mathbf{e}(\mathbf{s})$
Alabama v. Smith, 490 U.S. 794 (1989)	27
Arizona v. Fulminante, 499 U.S. 279 (1991)	23
Ashe v. Swenson, 397 U.S. 436 (1970)pas	sim
Blockburger v. United States, 284 U.S. 299 (1932)	45
Bond v. United States, 134 S. Ct. 2077 (2014)	48
Boston Mun. Court v. Lydon, 466 U.S. 294 (1984)	26
Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83 (1963)	23
Bullington v. Missouri, 451 U.S. 430 (1981)22, 26, 39	, 41
Burks v. United States, 437 U.S. 1 (1978)	43
Butler v. Eaton, 141 U.S. 240 (1891)	39
Chambers v. United States, 555 U.S. 122 (2009)	48
Cleveland v. United States, 531 U.S. 12 (2000)	49
Dodrill v. Ludt, 764 F.2d 442 (6th Cir. 1985)	39



DOCKET

Explore Litigation Insights



Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time** alerts and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.

