

The Burger Court Opinion Writing Database

United States v. Lorenzetti

467 U.S. 167 (1984)

Paul J. Wahlbeck, George Washington University
James F. Spriggs, II, Washington University in St. Louis
Forrest Maltzman, George Washington University



Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

RECEIVED
SUPREME COURT, U.S.
JUSTICE MARSHALL

CHAMBERS OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE

May 22, 1984

84 MAY 23 09:31

Re: 83-838 - United States v. Lorenzetti

Dear Harry:

I join.

Regards,



Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

RECEIVED
SUPREME COURT, U.S.
JUSTICE MARSHALL

84 MAY 17 09:38

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE WM. J. BRENNAN, JR.

May 17, 1984

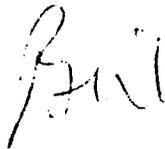
No. 83-838

United States v. Lorenzetti

Dear Harry,

I agree.

Sincerely,



Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

Supreme Court of the United States
RECEIVED
SUPREME COURT, U.S. 83-38
JUSTICE MARSHALL

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE BYRON R. WHITE

84 MAY 17 A9:38

May 17, 1984

Re: 83-838 - United States v. Lorenzetti

Dear Harry,

Please join me.

Sincerely yours,



Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

cpm

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE THURGOOD MARSHALL

May 17, 1984

Re: No. 83-838-United States v. Lorenzetti

Dear Harry:

Please join me.

Sincerely,

TM.

T.M.

Justice Blackmun

cc: The Conference

To: The Chief Justice
Justice Brennan
Justice White
Justice Marshall
Justice Powell
Justice Rehnquist
Justice Stevens
Justice O'Connor

From: Justice Blackmun

Circulated: MAY 16 1984

Recirculated: _____

~~HAS
Blackmun
pd~~

1st DRAFT

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 83-838

UNITED STATES, PETITIONER *v.*
PAUL B. LORENZETTI

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF
APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

[May —, 1984]

5/16
Join

JUSTICE BLACKMUN delivered the opinion of the Court.

The Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA), 5 U. S. C. §§8101 *et seq.*, provides a comprehensive system of compensation for federal employees who sustain work-related injuries. As part of that system, an employee who receives FECA payments is required to reimburse the United States for those payments, to a specified extent, when he obtains a damages award or settlement from a third party who is liable to the employee for his injuries. §8132. The question presented by this case is whether the United States may recover FECA payments for medical expenses and lost wages from an employee whose third-party tort recovery compensates him solely for noneconomic losses like pain and suffering.

I

The facts are clear. Respondent Paul B. Lorenzetti is a special agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. On Nov. 21, 1977, he was injured in an automobile accident in Philadelphia while on official business. Federal employees who are injured while engaged in the performance of their official duties are entitled under FECA to compensation for medical expenses, lost wages, and vocational rehabilitation. See §§8102-8107. Respondent's injuries were not serious enough to require vocational rehabilitation, but he eventually received, from the Federal Employees' Compensation Fund,

STYLISTIC CHANGES

and pp. 6+10

To: The Chief Justice
Justice Brennan
Justice White
Justice Marshall
Justice Powell
Justice Rehnquist
Justice Stevens
Justice O'Connor

From: Justice Blackmun

Circulated: _____

Recirculated: MAY 21 1984

2nd DRAFT

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 83-838

UNITED STATES, PETITIONER *v.*
PAUL B. LORENZETTI

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF
APPEALS FOR THE THIRD CIRCUIT

[May —, 1984]

JUSTICE BLACKMUN delivered the opinion of the Court.

The Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA), 5 U. S. C. §§8101 *et seq.*, provides a comprehensive system of compensation for federal employees who sustain work-related injuries. As part of that system, an employee who receives FECA payments is required to reimburse the United States for those payments, to a specified extent, when he obtains a damages award or settlement from a third party who is liable to the employee for his injuries. §8132. The question presented by this case is whether the United States may recover FECA payments for medical expenses and lost wages from an employee whose third-party tort recovery compensates him solely for noneconomic losses like pain and suffering.

I

The facts are clear. Respondent Paul B. Lorenzetti is a special agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. On Nov. 21, 1977, he was injured in an automobile accident in Philadelphia while on official business. Federal employees who are injured while engaged in the performance of their official duties are entitled under FECA to compensation for medical expenses, lost wages, and vocational rehabilitation. See §§8102-8107. Respondent's injuries were not serious enough to require vocational rehabilitation, but he eventually received, from the Federal Employees' Compensation Fund,

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE LEWIS F. POWELL, JR.

MAY 17 1984

May 17, 1984

83-838 United States v. Lorenzetti

Dear Harry:

Please join me.

Sincerely,



Justice Blackmun

lfp/ss

cc: The Conference

Reproduced from the Collections of the Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

RECEIVED
SUPREME COURT, U.S.
JUSTICE MARSHALL

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

84 MAY 18 09:32

May 17, 1984

Re: No. 83-838 United States v. Lorenzetti

Dear Harry:

Please join me.

Sincerely,

WM

Justice Blackmun

cc: The Conference

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE JOHN PAUL STEVENS

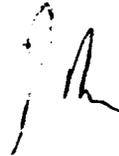
May 17, 1984

Re: 83-838 - United States v. Lorenzetti

Dear Harry:

Please join me.

Respectfully,



Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20543

CHAMBERS OF
JUSTICE SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR

May 16, 1984

No. 83-838 U. S. v. Lorenzetti

Dear Harry,

Please join me.

Sincerely,



Justice Blackmun

Copies to the Conference

94 MAY 15 1984

2025