



SUPREME COURT OF GEORGIA  
Case No. S15C0385

Atlanta, January 20, 2015

The Honorable Supreme Court met pursuant to adjournment.

The following order was passed.

**PATRICK WATSON v. THE STATE**

Court of Appeals Case No. A14A0742

The Supreme Court today granted the writ of certiorari in this case. All the Justices concur.

This case will be assigned to the April 2015 oral argument calendar automatically under Supreme Court Rule 50 (2), as amended September 13, 1996. Oral argument is mandatory in granted certiorari cases.

This Court is particularly concerned with the following issue or issues:

1. Did the Court of Appeals err by characterizing Watson's challenge to the meaning and application of OCGA § 16-6-22.1 as a constitutional challenge that had been waived on appeal rather than a question of statutory interpretation?
2. If Watson's challenge was not waived, is the State required under OCGA § 16-6-22.1 to show lack of consent in order to prove a sexual battery against an alleged victim under the age of 16?

Briefs should be submitted only on these points. See Supreme Court Rule 45.

**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA**

Clerk's Office, Atlanta

I certify that the above is a true extract from the minutes of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Witness my signature and the seal of said court hereto affixed the day and year last above written.

*Theresa A. Barnes*, Clerk