

# Key facts

Law



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**Key Facts Analysis** The legal system has the duty of resolving disputes in courts by applying the principles and rule of law to the facts brought before the courts of law. The dispute process involves application of law and the facts of the case. Facts of case maybe important than others since there are key facts that determine the outcome of a case. The key facts are necessary since they prove or disprove claims before the court. There are four steps used in determining the key facts in a client's case (Albright & Putman, 2013).

The first step is identifying each cause of action that is stipulated by the facts of the case. The second step is to determine the key elements of the cause of action that is raised by the facts of case. The third step is to outline all the facts of the case that are important to the elements of action raised in the second step. The fourth and final step is to outline which of the facts listed satisfy the key elements of the cause of action to be discussed in a court of law.

There are three steps used in indentifying the facts in a court opinion. The first step involves reading the entire case having in mind what was decided in regards to what facts of the case were. The second step is to read and analyze the holding of the case. This helps to understand how the court answered the legal questions raised on the facts of the case. The last step is analyzing the key facts used to make the holding of the case (Albright & Putman, 2013).

**Key Facts of United States v Alberto Antonio LEON et al No. 821771**

Police in Burbank initiated surveillance on Leon after receiving confidential information that they were selling cocaine and investigation earlier showed that he stored a stash of methaqualone in his house. After a search Leon was  
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indicted by a grand jury in California and charged with drug trafficking. The court granted a motion to suppress evidence arguing it was defective due to the warrant and lack of probable cause. On Appeal, the government argued that the police acted on good faith when using the defective warrant. The court of appeal affirmed trial court decision and declined the government argument of good faith.

Parties: United States of America the petitioner and Alberto Antonio Leon et al, who was the respondent.

The facts of the case: The Superior Court Judge that allowed the seizure of huge amounts of drugs in Leons residence . The warrant was found to be defective and was suppressed at the trial stage.

Prior Proceedings: The petitioner had appealed the matter of the Court of Appeal for the Ninth Circuit.

The issues before the court: Whether the evidence obtained from the defendant residence should be excluded due to a defective search warrant.

The holding of the case: The court held that a good faith mistake justifies exclusion to the exclusionary rule in the Fourth Amendment right.

Reasoning: The exclusionary rule was a judicial act not a constitutional right that safeguards the Fourth Amendment. It deters police from misconduct and abuse. However, a police who acts with a defective warrant in good faith cannot be held for misconduct. There lacks basis when evidence is suppressed when they relied in good faith using a defective search warrant.

Disposition: It was reversed by the court.

Opinion: If a court of law accepts such evidence its becomes a violation of the rule of law and violate the Fourth Amendment rights.

References

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Albright, J., & Putman, W. H. (2013). Legal research, analysis and writing.

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United States v Alberto Antonio LEON 468 U. S, 897, 104 S. Ct. 3405, 82 L,

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