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EMINENT DOMAIN - GEORGIA

Abramyan v. State

Supreme Court of Georgia - May 15, 2017 - S.E.2d - 2017 WL 2106256

Owners of taxicab operating certificates commonly referred to as taxi medallions in city that required such medallions brought action against state alleging that an amendment to statute governing taxicabs and vehicles for hire that permitted the operation of ride sharing services constituted a taking or inverse condemnation under the state constitution.

The Superior Court granted state's motion to dismiss. Medallion owners appealed.

The Supreme Court of Georgia held that amendment did not constitute a taking or inverse condemnation of any property right possessed by medallion owners.

Amendment to statute governing taxicabs and vehicles for hire, which permitted operation of ride sharing services and barred municipalities from adopting new ordinances requiring taxicabs to procure the operating certificates commonly referred to as taxi medallions, did not constitute a taking or inverse condemnation, under the eminent domain provisions of state constitution, of any property right possessed by owners of taxi medallions in city that had an existing ordinance requiring such medallions, even if it reduced the value of the medallions. Any property interest did not include an exclusive right to operate vehicles for hire or a right to a limited number of medallions.

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