

Bond Case Briefs

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Sanders v. Turn Key Health Clinics

Supreme Court of Oklahoma - March 11, 2025 - P.3d - 2025 WL 762203 - 2025 OK 19

Inmate's surviving spouse brought action against healthcare contractor at county detention facility for wrongful death. Contractor moved to dismiss for failure to state a claim.

The District Court, Creek County, granted motion with leave to amend. Spouse appealed. The Court of Civil Appeals reversed. Contractor's petition for certiorari was granted.

The Supreme Court held that:

- Order granting motion to dismiss with leave to amend did not become final and appealable when time to amend pleading expired;
- Recasting petition in error as original-jurisdiction petition for writ of prohibition without notice would not prejudice parties;
- Circumstances of case weighed in favor of recasting petition; and
- Contractor was state "employee" under Governmental Tort Claims Act (GTCA).