



(Docket No. 132015)

MALIK CEDRICK BRIGHT, Appellee, v. JEFFREY YENCHKO, in His Official Capacity
as Chief of the Firearms Services Bureau of the Illinois State Police, Appellant.

Opinion filed May 21, 2026.

Justice Cunningham delivered the judgment of the court, with opinion.

Malik Bright brought a second amendment challenge to the Illinois State Police suspending his Firearm Owners Identification (FOID) card while he was facing felony charges. The state's attorney dismissed Bright's felony charge, and shortly thereafter, Bright filed an administrative appeal and had his FOID card reinstated. But in between the dismissal of his charges and his FOID card restoration, Bright filed a complaint against the Illinois State Police seeking restoration of his FOID card, fees and costs, and a bar against suspending his FOID card based on a criminal charge in the future. The circuit court found the provision authorizing the suspension of Bright's FOID card to be facially unconstitutional.

Appeal was direct to the supreme court, and the court held that Bright's challenge to the statute was moot. Bright brought his challenge as an as-applied challenge in his complaint and never sought leave to amend his complaint to broaden its scope to apply to all people affected. The trial court erred in broadening the complaint and reaching constitutional issues not necessary to deciding the case. Further, Bright's complaint was now moot. His FOID card had been reinstated pursuant to his administrative appeal, and so the trial court was no longer able to afford him relief. The supreme court further found his as-applied challenge to his own suspension did not involve an issue of a public nature.