

becomes bad through the subsequent invalidation of the statute under which the arrest or search was made, the Court has held that evidence obtained thereby is nonetheless admissible.⁴⁶⁸ In other cases, a grand jury witness was required to answer questions even though the questions were based on evidence obtained from an unlawful search and seizure,⁴⁶⁹ and federal tax authorities were permitted in a civil proceeding to use evidence that had been unconstitutionally seized from a defendant by state authorities.⁴⁷⁰

The most severe curtailment of the rule came in 1984 with the adoption of a “good faith” exception. In *United States v. Leon*,⁴⁷¹ the Court created an exception for evidence obtained as a result of officers’ objective, good-faith reliance on a warrant, later found to be defective, issued by a detached and neutral magistrate. Justice White’s opinion for the Court could find little benefit in applying the exclusionary rule where there has been good-faith reliance on an invalid warrant. Thus, there was nothing to offset the “substantial social costs exacted by the [rule].”⁴⁷² “The exclusionary rule is designed to deter police misconduct rather than to punish the errors of judges and magistrates,” and in any event the Court considered it unlikely that the rule could have much deterrent effect on the actions of truly neutral magistrates.⁴⁷³ Moreover, the Court thought that the rule should not be applied “to deter objectively reasonable law enforcement activity,” and that “[p]enalizing the officer for the magistrate’s error . . . cannot logically contribute to the deterrence of

century. *Id.* at 599. Justice Kennedy wrote a concurring opinion emphasizing that “the continued operation of the exclusionary rule . . . is not in doubt.” *Id.* at 603. In dissent, Justice Breyer asserted that the majority’s decision “weakens, perhaps destroys, much of the practical value of the Constitution’s knock-and-announce protection.” *Id.* at 605.

⁴⁶⁸ *Michigan v. DeFillippo*, 443 U.S. 31 (1979) (statute creating substantive criminal offense). Statutes that authorize unconstitutional searches and seizures but which have not yet been voided at the time of the search or seizure may not create this effect, however, *Torres v. Puerto Rico*, 442 U.S. 465 (1979); *Ybarra v. Illinois*, 444 U.S. 85 (1979). This aspect of *Torres* and *Ybarra* was to a large degree nullified by *Illinois v. Krull*, 480 U.S. 340 (1987), rejecting a distinction between substantive and procedural statutes and holding the exclusionary rule inapplicable in the case of a police officer’s objectively reasonable reliance on a statute later held to violate the Fourth Amendment. Similarly, the exclusionary rule does not require suppression of evidence that was seized incident to an arrest that was the result of a clerical error by a court clerk. *Arizona v. Evans*, 514 U.S. 1 (1995).

⁴⁶⁹ *United States v. Calandra*, 414 U.S. 338 (1974).

⁴⁷⁰ *United States v. Janis*, 428 U.S. 433 (1976). Similarly, the rule is inapplicable in civil proceedings for deportation of aliens. *INS v. Lopez-Mendoza*, 468 U.S. 1032 (1984).

⁴⁷¹ 468 U.S. 897 (1984). The same objectively reasonable “good-faith” rule now applies in determining whether officers obtaining warrants are entitled to qualified immunity from suit. *Malley v. Briggs*, 475 U.S. 335 (1986).

⁴⁷² 468 U.S. at 907.

⁴⁷³ 468 U.S. at 916–17.