

KENNEDY, J., concurring in judgment

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 02–1183

UNITED STATES, PETITIONER *v.* SAMUEL
FRANCIS PATANE

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF
APPEALS FOR THE TENTH CIRCUIT

[June 28, 2004]

JUSTICE KENNEDY, with whom JUSTICE O’CONNOR joins,
concurring in the judgment.

In *Oregon v. Elstad*, 470 U. S. 298 (1985), *New York v. Quarles*, 467 U. S. 649 (1984), and *Harris v. New York*, 401 U. S. 222 (1971), evidence obtained following an unwarned interrogation was held admissible. This result was based in large part on our recognition that the concerns underlying the *Miranda v. Arizona*, 384 U. S. 436 (1966), rule must be accommodated to other objectives of the criminal justice system. I agree with the plurality that *Dickerson v. United States*, 530 U. S. 428 (2000), did not undermine these precedents and, in fact, cited them in support. Here, it is sufficient to note that the Government presents an even stronger case for admitting the evidence obtained as the result of Patane’s unwarned statement. Admission of nontestimonial physical fruits (the Glock in this case), even more so than the postwarning statements to the police in *Elstad* and *Michigan v. Tucker*, 417 U. S. 433 (1974), does not run the risk of admitting into trial an accused’s coerced incriminating statements against himself. In light of the important probative value of reliable physical evidence, it is doubtful that exclusion can be justified by a deterrence rationale sensitive to both law enforcement interests and a suspect’s rights during an in-custody interrogation. Unlike the plurality, however, I

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find it unnecessary to decide whether the detective's failure to give Patane the full *Miranda* warnings should be characterized as a violation of the *Miranda* rule itself, or whether there is "[any]thing to deter" so long as the unwarned statements are not later introduced at trial. *Ante*, at 8–10.

With these observations, I concur in the judgment of the Court.