

Meador v. State

After being charged with a felony, the defendant made bond. At the beginning of a subsequent hearing, the defendant was not present when the case was called, but arrived three to five minutes late. The court revoked the bond and imposed a new, higher bond, which the defendant was unable to obtain.

The defendant filed an application for writ of habeas corpus, asking for the original bond to be reinstated. The trial court refused. The defendant then sought review in the court of appeals. In determining that “good and sufficient cause” for the bond revocation had not been demonstrated, the court noted that the State had not shown that the defendant’s name had been distinctly called at the courthouse door and that the defendant failed to appear within a reasonable time thereafter. Noting that once a bail bond is set, the bond may not be revoked except upon good cause, the court emphasized that the purpose of providing bond was to insure appearance of the defendant and not to punish or oppress. Finding no valid authority for the new bond, the court reinstated the original bond.