

Statement of STEVENS, J.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

JUAN VELAZQUEZ *v.* ARIZONA

ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE SUPREME
COURT OF ARIZONA

No. 07–8946. Decided April 21, 2008

The petition for a writ of certiorari is denied.

Statement of JUSTICE STEVENS respecting the denial of
the petition for certiorari.

While I agree with the Court’s decision to deny certiorari in this case, it is appropriate to emphasize, as I have in the past, see, *e.g.*, *Knight v. Florida*, 528 U. S. 990 (1999) (opinion respecting denial of certiorari); *Singleton v. Commissioner*, 439 U. S. 940, 942 (1978) (same), that the denial of certiorari expresses no opinion on the merits of the underlying claim.