

ORDER OF DISMISSAL

Before the court is the petition for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in state custody filed by William Maverick Winslow ("petitioner"). Petitioner is a pretrial detainee who appears to complain that respondents, Dee Anderson, Sheriff of Tarrant County, and Ken Paxton, Attorney General of the State of Texas, are conspiring to hold him in custody. Plaintiff claims to be a special agent in the defense security service among other things. He alludes to having been held in the Wichita Falls State Hospital for treatment of mental illness. He appears to be seeking release from confinement based on some defense to the charges against him. The law is clear that "federal habeas corpus does not lie, absent 'special circumstances,' to adjudicate the merits of an affirmative defense to a state criminal charge prior to a judgment of conviction by a state court." Braden v. 30th Judicial Circuit Court of Ky., 410 U.S. 484, 489 (1973).

Additionally, the court should abstain from deciding matters best decided by the state court in the underlying proceeding. <u>See</u>

<u>Younger v. Harris</u>, 401 U.S. 37 (1971).

The court ORDERS that the petition be, and is hereby, dismissed pursuant to the authority of 28 U.S.C. §1915A.

SIGNED December 20, 2016.

JOHNY MCBRYDE

United States District Judge