Supreme Court of Florida

ORIGINAL

No. 77,936

STATE OF FLORIDA, Petitioner,

vs.

JOE NATHAN DUNCAN, JR., Respondent.

[February 20, 1992]

OVERTON, J.

v. State, 578 So. 2d 905 (Fla. 1st DCA 1991), in which the First District Court of Appeal reversed Duncan's sentencing as a habitual offender. The district court certified the following question as being of great public importance:

Whether section 775.084(1)(a)1, Florida Statutes (Supp. 1988), which defines habitual felony offenders as those who have "previously been

convicted of two or more felonies," requires that each of the felonies be committed after conviction for the immediately previous offense.

<u>Id.</u> at 906. 1

We answered this same certified question in the negative in our decision in <u>State v. Barnes</u>, No. 77,751 (Fla. Feb. 20, 1992). Accordingly, we quash the district court's decision reversing Duncan's sentencing as a habitual offender and remand this case for further proceedings consistent with our opinion in Barnes.

It is so ordered.

SHAW, C.J. and McDONALD, BARKETT, GRIMES, KOGAN and HARDING, JJ., concur.

NOT FINAL UNTIL TIME EXPIRES TO FILE REHEARING MOTION AND, IF FILED, DETERMINED.

 $^{^{1}}$ We have jurisdiction. Art. V, § 3(b)(4), Fla. Const.

Application for Review of the Decision of the District Court of Appeal - Certified Great Public Importance

First District - Case No. 90-2023 (Okaloosa County)

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