FILED SID J. WHITE

FEB 18 1993

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

CLERK, SUPREME COURT.

By-Chief Deputy Clerk

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Appellant,

vs.

Case No. 81,034

JOEY WASHINGTON,

Appellee.

PETITIONER'S REPLY BRIEF ON MERITS

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SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT

The summary is omitted due to brevity of argument.

ARGUMENT

ISSUE

WHETHER THE TRIAL COURT ERRED BY NOT MAKING A SPECIAL FINDING THAT THE CONVICTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPOSE A HABITUAL SENTENCE HAD NOT BEEN PARDONED OR SET ASIDE

In <u>Rucker v. State</u>, 18 Fla. L. Weekly S93 (Fla. Feb. 4, 1993), this Court held that the trial court was required to make a finding that the prior convictions had not been pardoned or set aside; pursuant to section 775.084(1)(a)(3), (4), Florida Statutes, but that the failure to make these findings was subject to a harmless error analysis. Washington does not now contend that this prior convictions have been pardoned or set aside. Since Washington has two prior felonies within the requisite period of time as proved by the State (R 158), the trial court's failure to make a finding that these convictions had not been pardoned or set aside was harmless beyond a reasonable doubt. *Id.* at 94.

CONCLUSION

Basedon the foregoing argument, this Court should reverse the decision of the First District Court of Appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

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