

SIJPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

CASE NO: SC-9937

LLOYD M. JONES,

Petitioner,

vs.

THE STATE OF FLORIDA,

Respondent.

FILED
DEBBIE CALUSSEAU
MAR 20 2000
CLERK, SUPREME COURT
BY _____

ON APPLICATION FOR DISCRETIONARY REVIEW

REPLY BRIEF OF PETITIONER

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STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND FACTS

Petitioner adopts the statement of the case and facts on page 5 of his initial brief.

SUMMARY OF THE ARGUMENT

Petitioner agrees with the respondents ~~that~~ he is entitled to a resentencing pursuant to this court's decision in State v. Thompson, 25 Fla. 2. Weekly §1 (Fla. December 22, 1999). As the respondents conceded in their response petitioner was sentenced as a violent career criminal for crimes that are in the window period of the unconstitutional statute.

Petitioner argues that a trial court's finding that some action or inaction by defense counsel ~~was~~ tactical is generally inappropriate without an evidentiary hearing. Accordingly, petitioner should be granted an evidentiary hearing on his claim of counsel's failure to call two witnesses who could have provided exculpatory evidence at trial.

ARGUMENT

PETITIONER AGREES WITH THE RESPONDENT THAT HE IS ENTITLED TO A RESENTENCING PURSUANT TO THIS COURT'S DECISION IN STATE V. THOMPSON, 25 FLA. 1. WEEKLY S I. (FLA. DECEMBER 22, 1999)

This court's recent decision in State v. Thompson, 25 Fla. 1, Weekly (Fla. December 22, 1999), mandates that petitioner be resentenced as the respondents correctly concedes.

This court should reject the Fourth DCA's conflict in Salters v. State, 731 So. 2d 826 (Fla. 4th DCA 1999) attempt to close the window period in State v. Thompson, 25 Fla. 1. weekly S I. (Fla. December 22, 1999). As such, this court should continue to follow its holding in State v. Johnson, 616 So.2d 1, 2 (Fla. 1993) that Thompson relies upon, i.e., from October 1, 1995 to May 24, 1997.

Petitioner is entitled to be resentenced under the **valid laws in effect.**

ARGUMENT

PETITIONER ARGUES THAT A TRIAL COURT'S
FINDINGS THAT SOME ACTION OR INACTION
BY DEFENSE COUNSEL WAS TACTICAL IS
GENERALLY TNAPPROPRIATE WITHOUT AN
EVIDENTIARY HEARING

Petitioner relies upon Flores v. State, 662 So.2d 1350 (Fla. 2d DCA 1995) for the proposition that ineffective assistance of counsel claims merited *evidentiary hearing. The decision to call or not to call particular witness is only a tactical judgement. However, the question whether Johnny Morill statement would constitute in-admissible hearsay, at least needs to be resolved at an evidentiary hearing. See McMillian v State, 717 So.2d 102 (Fla. 4 DCA 1998); Anthony v State, 660 So. 2d 374, 376 (Fla. 4 DCA 1995).*

Petitioner renew and hold to his claim that he did not receive effective assistance of counsel consistent with the sixth amendment and Strickland purposes.

CONCLUSION

The petitioner's case should be remanded to the trial court for resentencing in light of the first issue raised herein, and an evidentiary hearing should be held to determine the second issue of ineffective assistance of counsel raised herein.

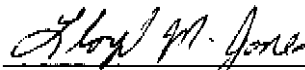
Respectfully submitted,

/s/

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I Hereby Certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing reply brief has been furnished to Mark Rosenblatt, Assistant Attorney General of Dept. of Legal Affairs, 444 Brickell Ave., ste 950, Miami, Florida 33131 on this 13 day of March, 2000.

/s/ 

Lloyd M. Jones