

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

BRENDA LIDDELL

V.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI



NO. 2008-KA-0021-SCT

APPELLEE

APPELLANT

REPLY BRIEF OF THE APPELLANT

MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF INDIGENT APPEALS W. Daniel Hinchcliff, MS Bar Notest 301 North Lamar Street, Suite 210 Jackson, Mississippi 39201 Telephone: 601-576-4200

Counsel for Brenda Liddell

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Waldon v. State, 7749 So. 2d 262 (Miss. App. 1999)

REPLY ARGUMENT

ISSUE NO. 1: INEFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE ISSUE

The State has essentially failed to address the substance of the Appellant's argument. The focus of Appellant's argument was three "sin of commission' by defense counsel in this trial. First, counsel provided the underlying predicate to the voice identification made by Agent Hawkins, an affirmative act that buttressed the State's case. His knowledge of Liddel's voice came from previous drug transactions. Second, evidence of other drugs sales by this defendant to the confidential informant was elicited by defense counsel. No rebuttal nor recitation of authority by the State appears in the State's brief specifically concerning these two assertions. The third "sin of commission" was the defense stipulation to the co-defendant's conviction. While the State's brief attempts to downplay such an action with some law, the case cited is so distinguishable from the case at bar as to be functionally irrelevant. The State cites Waldon v. State, 7749 So. 2d 262 (Miss. App. 1999). In that case the defense stipulated to admissible evidence, not inadmissible evidence. This trial strategy was discussed with the client. Nothing in this record indicates that Liddell was so advised. Finally, in *Waldon*, the admission by stipulation of certain expert testimony clearly served a defense trial strategy, as pointed out in that case, to minimize the impact of negative admissible evidence, not to admit highly prejudicial and inadmissible evidence.

A physician, upon entering the practice of medicine takes an oath to no only treat the patient to the best of their ability but also, to do no harm. The standard for attorney's should require no less.

> Respectfully submitted, MISSISSIPPI OFFICE OF INDIGENT APPEALS

BY

MISSISSIPPI BAR NO

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, W. Daniel Hinchcliff, Counsel for Brenda Liddell, do hereby certify that I have this day

caused to be mailed via United States Postal Service, First Class postage prepaid, a true and correct

copy of the above and foregoing **REPLY BRIEF OF THE APPELLANT** to the following:

Honorable Albert B. Smith, III Circuit Court Judge Post Office Box 787 Cleveland, MS 38732

Honorable Laurence Y. Mellen District Attorney, District 11 Post Office Box 848 Cleveland, MS 38732

Honorable Jim Hood Attorney General Post Office Box 220 Jackson, MS 39205-0220

This the 14th day of <u>august</u>, 2008.

W. Daniel Hinckcliff COUNSEL FOR APPELLANT

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