

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

INDICATE FULL CAPTION:

DAVONTAE WHEELER,

Appellant,

vs.

THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Respondent.

No. 81374

**DOCKETING STATEMENT
CRIMINAL APPEALS**

(Including appeals from pretrial and post-conviction
rulings and other requests for post-conviction relief)

Electronically Filed
Jun 29 2020 10:34 a.m.
Elizabeth A. Brown
Clerk of the Supreme Court

GENERAL INFORMATION

Appellants must complete this docketing statement in compliance with NRAP 14(a). The purpose of the docketing statement is to assist the Supreme Court in screening jurisdiction, identifying issues on appeal, assessing presumptive assignment to the Court of Appeals under NRAP 17, scheduling cases for oral argument, classifying cases for expedited treatment and assignment to the Court of Appeals, and compiling statistical information.

WARNING

This statement must be completed fully, accurately and on time. NRAP 14(c). The Supreme Court may impose sanctions on counsel or appellant if it appears that the information provided is incomplete or inaccurate. *Id.* Failure to fill out the statement completely or to file it in a timely manner constitutes grounds for the imposition of sanctions.

1. Judicial District Eighth County Clark

Judge Michelle Leavitt District Ct. Case No. C-17-328587-3

2. If the defendant was given a sentence,

(a) what is the sentence?

144 months to life

(b) has the sentence been stayed pending appeal?

No.

(c) was defendant admitted to bail pending appeal?

No.

3. Was counsel in the district court appointed ☐ or retained ☒ ?

4. **Attorney filling this docketing statement:**

Attorney Sandra L. Stewart Telephone 702-526-1867

Firm Sandra L. Stewart, Attorney at Law

Address: 1361 Babbling Brook Court
Mesquite, NV 89034

Client(s) Davontae Wheeler

5. Is appellate counsel appointed ☒ or retained ☐ ?

If this is a joint statement by multiple appellants, add the names and addresses of other counsel on an additional sheet accompanied by a certification that they concur in the filing of this statement.

6. Attorney(s) representing respondent(s):

Attorney Steven B. Wolfson, Esq. Telephone 702-671-2700

Firm Clark County District Attorney

Address: 200 East Lewis Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Client(s) State of Nevada

Attorney _____ Telephone _____

Firm _____

Address:

Client(s) _____

(List additional counsel on separate sheet if necessary)

7. Nature of disposition below:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Judgment after bench trial | ☐ Grant of pretrial habeas |
| ☒ Judgment after jury verdict | ☐ Grant of motion to suppress evidence |
| ☐ Judgment upon guilty plea | ☐ Post-conviction habeas (NRS ch. 34) |
| ☐ Grant of pretrial motion to dismiss | ☐ grant ☐ denial |
| ☐ Parole/probation revocation | ☐ Other disposition (specify): |
| ☐ Motion for new trial | |
| ☐ grant ☐ denial | |
| ☐ Motion to withdraw guilty plea | |
| ☐ grant ☐ denial | |

8. Does this appeal raise issues concerning any of the following:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ death sentence | ☐ juvenile offender |
| ☒ life sentence | ☐ pretrial proceedings |

9. Expedited appeals: The court may decide to expedite the appellate process in this matter. Are you in favor of proceeding in such manner?

- ☐ Yes ☒ No

10. Pending and prior proceedings in this court. List the case name and docket number of all appeals or original proceedings presently or previously pending before this court which are related to this appeal (e.g., separate appeals by co-defendants, appeal after post-conviction proceedings):

None known.

11. Pending and prior proceedings in other courts. List the case name, number and court of all pending and prior proceedings in other courts that are related to this appeal (e.g., habeas corpus proceedings in state or federal court, bifurcated proceedings against co-defendants):

None known.

12. Nature of action. Briefly describe the nature of the action and the result below:

Conspiracy to commit robbery, and murder with use of a deadly weapon.

Alleged that Wheeler and three cohorts conspired to rob a man who fought back and was shot and killed by the assailants in his driveway. Wheeler was found guilty of conspiracy and murder but found not guilty of robbery.

13. Issues on appeal. State specifically all issues in this appeal (attach separate sheets as necessary):

1. Verdict not supported by the evidence.
2. Severance.
3. Bruton issues.
4. Brady discovery issues (Jail calls and informants)
5. Improper admission of irrelevant and highly prejudicial evidence.
6. Sentence violates Eighth Amendment against cruel and unusual punishment.
7. Suppression of evidence issues.
8. Batson jury issues.

Other issues which may be revealed when all transcripts have been received.

14. Constitutional issues: If the State is not a party and if this appeal challenges the constitutionality of a statute or municipal ordinance, have you notified the clerk of this court and the attorney general in accordance with NRAP 44 and NRS 30.130?

☒ N/A

☐ Yes

☐ No

If not, explain:

15. Assignment to the Court of Appeals or retention in the Supreme Court. Briefly set forth whether the matter is presumptively retained by the Supreme Court or assigned to the Court of Appeals under NRAP 17, and cite the subparagraph(s) of the Rule under which the matter falls. If appellant believes that the Supreme Court should retain the case despite its presumptive assignment to the Court of Appeals, identify the specific issue(s) or circumstance(s) that warrant retaining the case, and include an explanation of their importance or significance:

Case is presumptively retained by the Supreme Court because it involves convictions based on a jury verdict that involves Category A and B felonies. NRAP 17(b)(1)

16. Issues of first impression or of public interest. Does this appeal present a substantial legal issue of first impression in this jurisdiction or one affecting an important public interest?

First impression: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Public interest: ☐ Yes ☒ No

17. Length of trial. If this action proceeded to trial or evidentiary hearing in the district court, how many days did the trial or evidentiary hearing last?

8 days

18. Oral argument. Would you object to submission of this appeal for disposition without oral argument?

☐ Yes ☒ No

TIMELINESS OF NOTICE OF APPEAL

19. Date district court announced decision, sentence or order appealed from 02-24-20

20. Date of entry of written judgment or order appealed from 06-17-20

(a) If no written judgment or order was filed in the district court, explain the basis for seeking appellate review:

21. If this appeal is from an order granting or denying a petition for a writ of habeas corpus, indicate the date written notice of entry of judgment or order was served by the district court

(a) Was service by delivery ☐ or by mail ☐

22. If the time for filing the notice of appeal was tolled by a post judgment motion,

(a) Specify the type of motion, and the date of filing of the motion:

Arrest judgment _____ Date filed _____

New trial (newly discovered evidence) _____ Date filed _____

New trial (other grounds) _____ Date filed _____

(b) Date of entry of written order resolving motion _____

23. Date notice of appeal filed 06-18-20

24. Specify statute or rule governing the time limit for filing the notice of appeal, e.g., NRAP 4(b), NRS 34.560, NRS 34.575, NRS 177.015(2), or other

NRAP 4(b)

SUBSTANTIVE APPEALABILITY

25. Specify statute, rule or other authority that grants this court jurisdiction to review from:

NRS 177.015(1)(b) _____	NRS 34.560 _____
NRS 177.015(1)(c) _____	NRS 34.575(1) _____
NRS 177.015(2) _____	NRS 34.560(2) _____
NRS 177.015(3) <u>xxx</u> _____	Other (specify) _____
NRS 177.055 _____	

VERIFICATION

I certify that the information provided in this docketing statement is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Davontae Amarri Wheeler
Name of appellant

June 27, 2020
Date

Sandra L. Stewart
Name of counsel of record

Signature of counsel of record

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on the 27th day of June, 2020, I served a copy of this completed docketing statement upon all counsel of record:

- ☒ By ~~personally serving it upon him/her~~ e-filing, thereby providing a copy to
Steven B. Wolfson, Esq.
☐ By mailing it by first class mail with sufficient postage prepaid to the following address(es):

Dated this 27th day of June, 2020.


Signature
Sandra L. Stewart, Esq.