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PAROLE

PAROLE DECISIONS

3051 PC PAROLE - DOES NOT APPLY TO LWOP's

Early parole hearings for youthful LIFERS -- PC 3051 -- does not apply to youthful LWOP'ers. HELD: this does NOT violate Equal Protection. Legislature could have a rational basis for making such a distinction.

HARDIN

P. v. ()

CAL

6:

CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

DUE PROCESS / EQUAL PROTECTION

EQUAL PROTECTION - 3051 PC PAROLE - LWOP DEF'S

Early parole hearings for youthful LIFERS -- PC 3051 -- does not apply to youthful LWOP'ers. HELD: this does NOT violate Equal Protection. Legislature could have a rational basis for making such a distinction.

HARDIN

P. v. ()

CAL 3/4/2024

INSTRUCTIONS/ELEMENTS

3/4/2024

THEFT / FRAUD CRIMES

AUTO - VIN TAMPERING - 10802 VC

Notwithstanding the wording of the statute, VC 10802 can be violated by tampering with a single VIN number.

KILLIAN

P. v. ()

2/20/2024

INSTRUCTIONS/ELEMENTS

THEFT / FRAUD CRIMES

AUTO - VIN TAMPERING - 10802 VC

Buyers as well as sellers can violate VC 10802 (tampering with VIN's). This case: buyer knew car was stolen. Buyer tampered with VIN after he took possession.

P. v. ()

KILLIAN

2/20/2024

cd

MISC ODDS & ENDS

ODDS & ENDS

GOV OFFICIAL REMOVAL - 3060 GOVT

Elected official RESIGNS in middle of Gov 3060 trial to remove them from office. HELD: trial may continue. It is NOT moot. Trial has additional consequence of removing official's right to vote.

SMITH

P. v. ()

3/15/2024

DOUBLE JEOPARDY

DISMISSAL (1385) AFTER TWO HUNG JURIES / RE-FILE

After two hung juries, court dismisses under PC 1385 saying there is not enough evidence to convict. Years later, improved DNA tech strengthens case. DDA refiles. HELD: Dismissal was NOT for LEGAL insufficiency of the evidence (which requires all inferences to go to the People)

WOODWARD

P. v. SUP CT

3/14/2024

6:

5:

MOTIONS

6:

MOTIONS cd

WITHDRAW PLEA / STRIKE PRIOR

1473.7 PC - DELAYED IMMIGRATION MOTIONS - ADMIT TO V/P

Def's became deportable only after he was given an additional 90 days custody on a v/p (which he admitted) HELD: the decision to admit to the v/p w/ 90 additional days is a decision that def can seek to undo under PC 1473.7

CARRILLO

P. v. ()

3/15/2024

5.

MOTIONS

WITHDRAW PLEA / STRIKE PRIOR

1473.7 PC - DELAYED IMMIGRATION MOTIONS - POST TRIAL

Opinion discusses issues raised by a PC 1473.7 motion to vacate a jury trial verdict. -- this case, def failed to show prejudice by decision to go to trial.

CARRILLO

P. v. ()

3/15/2024

D. P. / SPEC. CIRC.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

GANG MURDER - HOW AFFECTED BY AB 333

AB 333 does NOT directly amend GANG-Spec Circ - PC 190.2. BUT, when 190.2 refers to PC 186.22, it refers to the POST-AB 333 version of 186.22. --aid/abetter need only intend to help the killer kill while the killer intends to further GANG purposes.

ROJAS

P. v. ()

3/27/2024

5.

PETITIONS TO RESENTENCE

PETITIONS TO

1172.6 PC - GENERAL - APPLICABILITY OF 170.6 CCP

Def files PC 1172.6 petition. HELD: IF the trial judge (or the judge that took the guilty plea) are available, the petition MUST go to them. AND, the def may NOT use a CCP 170.6 on that judge as it would be UNTIMELY as to them. 1172.6 is not a new case. It is continuation of old case.

GOMEZ

P. v. SUP CT

3/15/2024

4.3

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MOTIONS

170.6

TIMELINESS - 1172.6 PETITION BEFORE ORIGINAL JUDGE

Def files PC 1172.6 petition. HELD: IF the trial judge (or the judge that took the guilty plea) are available, the petition MUST go to them. AND, the def may NOT use a CCP 170.6 on that judge as it would be UNTIMELY as to them. 1172.6 is not a new case. It is continuation of old case.

GOMEZ

P. v. SUP CT

3/15/2024

4:3

INSTRUCTIONS/ELEMENTS

ADULT SEX CRIMES

RAPE - RESISTANCE OVERCOME BY DRUGS/ALCOHOL

Reasonable jury could find that while V was able to walk, and talk, she was still too intoxicated to be able to exercise judgment about consenting to sex. Defs conviction for rape by intoxication stands. PC 261(a)(3)

LEWIS

P. v. ()

3/7/2024

MOTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS/ELEMENTS

HOMICIDE

FELONY 187 - POST SB 1437 - AID CRIME vs AID KILLING

Post changes in felony murder -- An aid/better need not do an ACT that aids the killing. It is enough if the aid/abetter does an ACT that aids the underlying felony WHILE having the INTENT to kill.

MORRIS

3/22/2024

QUASH SUBPEONAS

SUB DT - SUBDT'S BY DDA MUST MEET SAME STANDARD AS DEF SUBDT's

DDA SubDT's def's "C-File" from CDCR for upcoming PC 1172.75 resentencing. Def moves to guash. HELD: (1) the "facebook" factors that apply to defense SubDT's apply equally to DDA SubDT's. (2) C-files contain lots of different stuff.

Upon objection, each type of stuff is evalated separately.

LUNSTED

4:3

4:2

3:

def v. SUP CT

3/1/2024

4:2

JUVENILE

4:3

JUVENILE

UNFITNESS

AB 2361 - CLEAR AND CONVINCING

Effective 1/1/2023, AB 2361 raised DDA's burden of proof on juvi unfitness hearing (W&I 707) to Clear and Convincing. Eff. 1/1/2024 SB 545 mandated eval of ALL factors --- But, it does NOT mandate that any one factor be given greater weight than other factors.

MIGUEL R.

In Re ()

3/1/2024

UNFITNESS

SB 545 - EVALUATE ALL FACTORS - NONE TRUMP THE OTHERS

Effective 1/1/2023, AB 2361 raised DDA's burden of proof on juvi unfitness hearing (W&I 707) to Clear and Convincing. Eff. 1/1/2024 SB 545 mandated eval of ALL factors --- But, it does NOT mandate that any one factor be given greater weight than other factors.

MIGUEL R.

In Re ()

3/1/2024

4:2

EVIDENCE

HEARSAY

UNAVAILABILITY - DUE DILIGENCE - LATE START IN SEARCHING

Yes, the DDA tried very hard to find missing witness. BUT, they knew witness was missing for years (during COVID delay) and did not START looking until two weeks before trial. Therefore, no DUE DILIGENCE. (facts suggested an earlier search would have been successful)

AYALA

P. v. ()

3/29/2024

4:1

PETITIONS TO RESENTENCE

PETITIONS TO

1172.6 PC - HEARING - WHAT CONSTITUTES AN "EVID" HRG

In def's presence, both sides submitted the PC 1172.6 issues to the court based on the record of conviction alone. After def lost, he appeals claiming he had no evidentiary hearing. HELD: Yes he did.

McCLELLAND

P. v. ()

4:1

JUVENILE

3/27/2024

MENTAL HEARINGS

1026

MISC - SETTING MAX HOSPITAL CONFINEMENT TIME

Def is found NGI for felony assault. Def also has strikes. Therefore, the max limit on def's NGI hospitalization is LIFE.

BARNER

P. v. ()

MISC - JUVENILE

RECORDS - SEALING OF - 786 W&I

Automatic sealing of juvi record under W&I 786 is NOT precluded by ANY subsequent wardship. Only wardships based on conduct involving moral turpitude.

In Re () J. S.

3:

3/12/2024

3/5/2024

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STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION

STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION

RULE - RULES OF GRAMMAR - PUNCTUATION - SCOPE OF "OR"

DCA turns to legislative history when the punctuation of the statute makes it ambiguous how much of the sentence is included by the word "or".

J. S. In Re () 3.

3/5/2024

PETITIONS TO RESENTENCE

PETITIONS TO

1172.75 PC - 667.5 PRIORS - FULL RESENTENCE - PROP 36 OPTIONS

2007: gets 36-to-life for 3-strikes plus some 667.5(b) priors. 2022: new PC 1172.75 sentence is 25-to-life. Court refused to use Prop 36 to strike a strike. UPHELD: 1172.75 does NOT modify Prop 36's two-year window for def's to seek relief. (AG conceded issue)

SANTOS

AUTOS / CONTAINERS

P. v. ()

3/14/2024

SEARCH & SEIZURE

3:

SEARCH & SEIZURE

AUTOS / CONTAINERS

DETAIN - AUTO - DURATION - QUESTIONS ABOUT UNRELATED ISSUES

During traffic stop, officer asks unrelated questions of def WHILE officer was waiting for a Records Check to be completed. Therefore the questioning did NOT prolong the stop.

FELIX 2.8 P. v. ()

3/7/2024

DETAIN - AUTO - DURATION - REASONS TO PROLONG

During traffic stop, officer learns def does NOT own the vehicle his is driving. It is reasonable to prolong the stop long enough to have DISPATCH call the registered owner to confirm def had permission to drive.

FELIX 2.8 P. v. ()

3/7/2024

SEARCH & SEIZURE

DEFENDANT'S STATEMENTS

MIRANDA

POST INVOKE - DEF TALKING TO CELLMATE - UNDERCOVER COP

Def arrested, Mirandized, invokes, goes to jail. (Before counsel is appointed) undercover cop is placed in cell with def and informally asks def "what are you in for". HELD this is entirely NON-coercive questioning. It does NOT violate MIRANDA.

FELIX

P. v. ()

3/7/2024

DETAIN/ARREST/PAT-DOWN

CONSENSUAL CONTACT v DETENTION - STOPPING NEAR PARKED CAR

At midnight, officer pulls up next to parked car so close that the driver could not exit car from driver's side door. Officer then gets out with flashlight to look inside. HELD: reasonable driver would NOT have thought he was free to drive away. HELD: this is a detention.

JACKSON

P. v. ()

3/15/2024

2:8

2:2

PETITIONS TO RESENTENCE

PETITIONS TO

1172.6 PC - HEARING - LAW CHANGES SINCE CRIME THAT HURT DEF

At time of def's original crime, KIDNAPPING was not on list of felony-murder felonies. At the time of def's PC 1172.6 petition, it was. 1172.6 says to reevaulate def's case under CURRENT LAW. HELD: this is NOT ex post facto. 1172.6 is act of lenity. Def has to ask for relief on 1172.6's terms

HILL

P. v. ()

3/25/2024

2:2

1:5

2:8

PETITIONS TO RESENTENCE

PETITIONS TO

1172.6 PC - HEARING - MAJOR PARTIC, RECK INDIFF - AGE, SUFF EVID Def's PC 1172.6 petition properly denied because def was a major participant

acting with reckless indifference to life.

HILL P. v. ()

MOTIONS

1385

ENHANCEMENTS - 1385(c) - WHAT IS NOT AN ENHANCEMENT

Def charged with ATT 187. Additional jury finding of PreMed and Delib are NOT enhancements. It invokes an alternative sentence. Therefore, PC 1385(c) does NOT apply.

SERRANO

P. v. ()

3/28/2024

PETITIONS TO RESENTENCE

3/25/2024

PETITIONS TO

1172.6 PC - HEARING - EVID - FACT SUMMARY FROM APPELLATE OPINION SB 775 expressly prohibits PC 1172.6 courts from making factual findings based

on the Statement of facts in earlier appellate opinions in Def's case.

BEAUDREAUX

P. v. ()

1:4

3/28/2024

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PETITIONS TO RESENTENCE

PETITIONS TO

1172.6 PC - SUMMARY DENIALS - DEF ACTUAL KILLER

Def's 2009 jury expressly found def to be the actual killer. That finding cannot be revisited by a PC 1172.6 petition. Summary Dismissal is appropriate.

BEAUDREAUX

P. v. ()

INSTRUCTIONS/ELEMENTS

ENHANCEMENTS

GANG - 186.22 PC - ORGANIZATION, LEVEL OF

Even after AB 333, PC 186.22 does NOT require a qualifying GANG to have a formal organizational structure. In INFORMAL organizational structure still suffices.

FARLEY

WRITS

P. v. SUP CT

3/5/2024

APPELLATE ISSUES

3/28/2024

POST GUILTY PLEA

POST GUILTY PLEA - CERTIF OF PC - NEED FOR

Def pled No Contest and then appeals failure of court to SUA SPONTE refer him to Mental Health Diversion. --- Appeal DISMISSED for def's failure to obtain a Certif of Probable Cause. --- This issue did Not arise after his plea.

ROBINSON

P. v. ()

3/1/2024

APPELLATE ISSUES

HABEAS - DEATH PENALTY DEF'S - APPEALABILITY

D.P. def's Habeas is denied. PC 1509.1 permits def to seek a Certificate of Appealability (COA). DCA grants COA on some, but not all issues raised in Habeas. HELD: (1) no strict Timeliness rules for COA requests. (2) a "substantial" claim is one where reasonable minds could disagree

SEUMANU

1:4

1:4

In Re ()

3/11/2024

dd PETITIONS TO RESENTENCE

1:4

1:4

APPELLATE ISSUES

WRITS

HABEAS - DEATH PENALTY DEF'S - APPEALABILITY

D.P. def's Habeas is denied. PC 1509.1 permits def to seek a Certificate of Appealability (COA). DCA grants COA on some, but not all issues raised in Habeas. HELD: (1) the Constitutionality of PC 1509.1 can be raised as an issue in a COA request.

SEUMANU

In Re ()

3/11/2024

PETITIONS TO

1172.75 PC - 667.5 PRIORS - FULL RESENTENCE - DDA STUCK W/ PLEA

2018: def enters plea bargain that included two PC 667.5(b) priors. HELD: def entitled to FULL resentencing hearing under PC 1172.75. AND, DDA does NOT have the option of withdrawing Plea Bargain after the hearing.

MONTGOMERY

P. v. ()

1:3

3/15/2024