

**11-465 JOHNSON V. WILLIAMS**

DECISION BELOW: 646 F.3d 626

LOWER COURT CASE NUMBER: 07-56127

**QUESTION PRESENTED:**

1. Whether a habeas petitioner's claim has been "adjudicated on the merits" for purposes of 28 U.S.C. § 2254(d) where the state court denied relief in an explained decision but did not expressly acknowledge a federal-law basis for the claim.

2. Whether, under § 2254, a federal habeas court (a) may grant relief on the ground that the petitioner had a Sixth Amendment right to retain a biased juror on the panel and (b) may reject a state court's finding of juror bias because it disagrees with the finding and the reasons stated for it, even where the finding was rationally supported by evidence in the state-court record.

LIMITED TO QUESTION 1 PRESENTED BY THE PETITION.

CERT. GRANTED 1/13/2012