

PACKET (A), "APPENDICES ONLY."

1. APPENDIX (A), FOR A COPY OF THE ILLINOIS SUPREME COURTS DENIAL OF PETITIONERS' PETITION FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL. (DATED: SEPTEMBER 27, 2017). PAGE (1).
2. APPENDIX (B), FOR A COPY OF THE ILLINOIS APPELLATE COURTS (1<sup>ST</sup> DIST.) SUMMARY ORDER DENYING PETITIONERS PETITION FOR LEAVE TO APPEAL. (DATED: JUNE 23, 2017). PAGES (1), (2) & (3).

PACKET (A), "APPENDICES ONLY."

APPENDIX (A), ONE PAGE.



# SUPREME COURT OF ILLINOIS

SUPREME COURT BUILDING  
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(217) 782-2035

Alvin Williams  
Reg. No. K-52063  
Pontiac Correctional Center  
P. O. Box 99  
Pontiac IL 61764

FIRST DISTRICT OFFICE  
160 North LaSalle Street, 20th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60601-3103  
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September 27, 2017

In re: People State of Illinois, respondent, v. Alvin Williams, petitioner.  
Leave to appeal, Appellate Court of Illinois, First District.  
122534

The Supreme Court today DENIED the Petition for Leave to Appeal in the above entitled cause.

The mandate of this Court will issue to the Appellate Court on 11/01/2017.

Very truly yours,

*Carolyn Taft Gosbell*

Clerk of the Supreme Court

APPENDIX (A)  
PAGE (1)

APPENDIX (B), (3) PAGES

(3 Pgs)

**NOTICE**

The text of this order may be changed or corrected prior to the time for filing of a Petition for Rehearing or the disposition of the same.

No. 1-15-1885

Order filed June 23, 2017

Fifth Division

RECORDED  
6/28/17  
C/O RHODES

IN THE  
APPELLATE COURT OF ILLINOIS  
FIRST DISTRICT

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|                                      |   |                       |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, | ) | Appeal from the       |
|                                      | ) | Circuit Court of      |
| Plaintiff-Appellee,                  | ) | Cook County.          |
|                                      | ) |                       |
| v.                                   | ) | No. 98 CR 29614       |
|                                      | ) |                       |
| ALVIN WILLIAMS,                      | ) | Honorable             |
|                                      | ) | Gregory Robert Ginex, |
| Defendant-Appellant.                 | ) | Judge, presiding.     |

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JUSTICE REYES delivered the judgment of the court.  
Presiding Justice Gordon and Justice Hall concurred in the judgment.

**SUMMARY ORDER**

¶ 1 Defendant Alvin Williams appeals from the order of the circuit court denying him leave to file his second successive petition for postconviction relief. See 725 ILCS 5/122-1 *et seq.* (West 2014).

¶ 2 Following a bench trial, defendant was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to 45 years in prison. On direct appeal, this court affirmed defendant's conviction and sentence.

*People v. Williams*, No. 1-00-2556 (2002) (unpublished order under Supreme Court Rule 23).

APPENDIX (B), PAGE (1).

¶ 3 Defendant filed a series of unsuccessful collateral challenges to his conviction. See *People v. Williams*, Nos. 1-03-1037 (2005) (unpublished order under Supreme Court Rule 23) (postconviction petition); *People v. Williams*, 394 Ill. App. 3d 236 (2009) (successive postconviction petition); *People v. Williams*, 2012 IL App (1st) 103022-U (petition for relief from judgment pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-1401 (West 2010)).

¶ 4 In 2015, defendant filed a motion for leave to file his second successive postconviction petition. The petition alleged that defendant was denied the effective assistance of counsel during plea negotiations and that, but for, the deficient representation he would have accepted a 35-year offer. Defendant also alleged that the lack of legal assistance during his first two postconviction petitions constituted cause for failure to raise the issue earlier. The circuit court denied defendant leave to file his petition, and defendant appealed.

¶ 5 The Office of the State Appellate Defender, who represents defendant on appeal has filed a motion for leave to withdraw as appellate counsel. A memorandum in support of the motion has been submitted, citing *Pennsylvania v. Finley*, 481 U.S. 551 (1987), in which counsel concludes that no issues of merit exist warranting argument on appeal. Copies of the motion and memorandum were sent to defendant and he was invited to respond.

¶ 6 Defendant has responded. Defendant's response argues, *inter alia*, that the Supreme Court's decision in *Lafler v. Cooper*, 556 U.S. 156 (2012) created a new rule of law and that his claim of ineffective assistance of counsel could not have been brought prior to learning of that case.

¶ 7 We have carefully reviewed the record in this case, the aforesaid memorandum, and defendant's response, and find no issues of arguable merit. Therefore, the motion of the State Appellate Defender for leave to withdraw as counsel is granted.

No. 1-15-1885

¶ 8 The judgment of the circuit court of Cook County is affirmed in accordance with Supreme Court Rule 23(c)(2) (eff. July 1, 2011).

¶ 9 Affirmed.

**Additional material  
from this filing is  
available in the  
Clerk's Office.**