



Judge Thomas Malone



Judge Jacy Hurst



Judge Angela Coble

9 a.m. Tuesday, April 8
Fort Hays State University
Memorial Union, Black and Gold Room
600 Park Street
Hays

Appeal No. 126,818: *State of Kansas v. Manuel Medina-Castro*

Saline: (Criminal Appeal) A jury convicted Medina-Castro of one count of intentional second-degree murder. On appeal, he argues the instructions given to the jury did not accurately reflect the State's burden of proof. Medina-Castro believes the inaccurate instructions meant the jury was not required to find he acted with the intent to cause a death. In addition to finding fault with an instruction given, Medina-Castro believes the district court should have instructed the jury on other, less serious crimes.

Appeal No. 127,858: *State of Kansas v. Raven Dakota Abbott*

Saline: (Criminal Appeal) Police officers responded to a call about a domestic battery. When they arrived, they found Abbott walking away from the residence. Officers spoke with the person who called the police. Based on that information they claimed probable cause to arrest Abbott. A search after the arrest revealed drugs and drug paraphernalia. Abbott asked the district court to suppress the evidence found after the search, claiming the arrest violated K.S.A. 22-2401(c)(2), which regulates law enforcement's ability to arrest someone for committing a misdemeanor offense. The district court agreed, and the drug evidence was suppressed. On appeal, the State claims the arrest was justified by probable cause even if it technically violated the statute, meaning Abbott's Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures was not violated. The State asks the suppression be reversed.

About the Kansas Court of Appeals

The 14-member Kansas Court of Appeals is our state's intermediate appellate court. The court's jurisdiction, which is established by statute, includes criminal, civil, and administrative cases.

The Court of Appeals normally sits in three-judge panels and travels to locations throughout the state. Each panel reviews decisions from lower courts to evaluate whether mistakes were made that would require a new trial.

Panels read briefs submitted by the parties and examine a record of what happened in the lower court. If they think it would be helpful, the judges have the parties present oral arguments so they can ask questions. Some of these oral arguments are livestreamed on the court's YouTube channel. Even if they are not livestreamed, oral arguments are public proceedings.

After reviewing case materials, and possibly hearing oral argument, the judges research case law and statutes before writing decisions that explain how the panel reached its conclusion. All Court of Appeals decisions are subject to review by the Kansas Supreme Court.

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