



**ARIZONA SUPREME COURT
ORAL ARGUMENT CASE SUMMARY**



STATE OF ARIZONA v. WILLIAM CRAIG MILLER
CR-19-0061-PC

PARTIES:

Petitioner: State of Arizona

Respondent: William Craig Miller

FACTS:

A jury found William Miller guilty of five counts of first degree murder and other offenses. The jury returned verdicts for a death sentence on each count of first degree murder. The convictions and sentences were affirmed on appeal. *State v. Miller*, 234 Ariz. 31 (2013). In a post-conviction proceeding under Rule 32, Ariz. R. Crim. P., the superior court granted relief on a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel and ordered a new penalty phase trial.

ISSUES:

"Did the post-conviction court misapply *Strickland* by finding counsel constitutionally deficient for failing to identify a mis-worded RAJI that also went unnoticed by the entire capital defense bar and by finding prejudice without assessing whether the jury would have reached the same sentencing result in this quintuple murder case had it received an accurately worded instruction on the substantial impairment mitigating circumstance?"

This Summary was prepared by the Arizona Supreme Court Staff Attorneys' Office solely for educational purposes. It should not be considered official commentary by the Court or any member thereof or part of any brief, memorandum, or other pleading filed in this case.