

ORIGINAL

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

ROBERT L. HILLMAN#698-409
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APPELLANT,

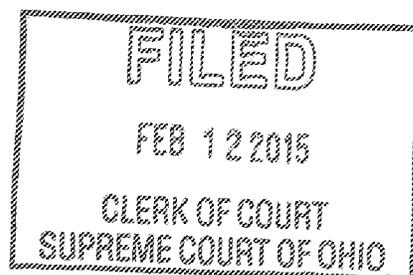
SUPREME COURT NO. 15-0123

ON APPEAL FROM THE FRANKLIN
COUNTY TENTH DISTRICT APPEALS
COURT. NO. 14AP-252 AND
14AP-253

-VS-

STATE OF OHIO
FRANKLIN COUNTY PROSECUTORS
OFFICE
373 SOUTH HIGH STREET
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

APPELLEE.



THIS IS THE TIMELY RESUBMITTED MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
JURISDICTION BY APPELLANT ROBERT L. HILLMAN ACTING IN PRO SE.
AGAIN A MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION, EN BANC HEARING, AND CERTIFY
A CONFLICT IS PENDING IN THE APPELLATE COURT.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY

Robert L Hillman
APPELLANT PRO SE,

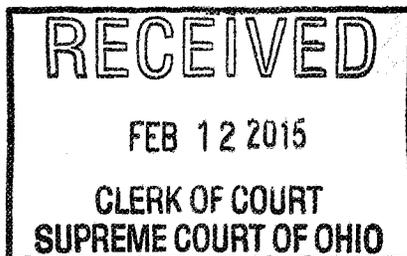


TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGES

EXPLANATION OF WHY THIS CASE IS A CASE OF
PUBLIC OR GREAT GENERAL INTEREST AND
INVOLVES A SUBSTANTIAL CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION..... 1

STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND FACTS..... 2

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION OF LAW

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 1

APPELLANT'S RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF
THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES
CONSTITUTIONS WERE VIOLATED WHEN THE TRIAL COURT ALLOWED THE
JURY TO CONVICT, AND THAN THE COURT SENTENCED APPELLANT ON THE
CHARGE OF ATTEMPTED BURGLARY IN A SHAM LEGAL PROCESS WITHOUT
HAVING PROPERLY ACQUIRED SUBJECT-MATTER JURISDICTION..... 4

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 2

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED THE APPELLANT A FAIR TRIAL WHICH COULD
RENDER RELIABLE RESULTS IN VIOLATION OF APPELLANT'S 5TH AND 14TH
AMENDMENT RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW
WHERE THE TRIAL COURT ALLOWED MRS. TINTERA TO TESTIFY, AS HER
TESTIMONY WAS IRRELEVANT ON ANY ISSUE CONCERNING THE APPELLANT'S
IDENTITY, INNOCENCE OR GUILT IN VIOLATION ALSO OF EVIDENCE RULE
901..... 5

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 3

THE APPELLANT'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL
PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE UNITED STATES 5TH AND 14TH AMEND-
MENTS WERE VIOLATED WHEN THE JURY WAS GIVEN INSUFFICIENT JURY
INSTRUCTIONS ON THE ISSUE OF OTHER BAD ACTS, CAUSING A DEFECTIVE
VERDICT, AND JURY NULLIFICATION..... 6

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 4

APPELLANT'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL
PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 8TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE
UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WERE VIOLATED WHERE THERE WAS STATE

TABLE OF CONTENTS CONTINUED

PAGES

WITNESS MISCONDUCT BY POLICE OFFICER DAVID LARRISON THAT PREVENTED APPELLANT FROM HAVING A FAIR TRIAL, AND THE JURY FROM PROPERLY FUNCTIONING, AND FOR FAILING TO PRESERVE FAVORABLE EVIDENCE.....7

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 5

APPELLANT WAS DENIED DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND SECTION 16 ARTICLE 1 OF THE OHIO CONSTITUTION WHERE THE PROSECUTOR KNOWINGLY USED FALSE TESTIMONY TO GAIN A CONVICTION BY HIS KEY WITNESS, AND (2) WHEN HE ARGUED FACTS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE EVIDENCE. ALSO HE VIOLATED THE BRADY DOCTRINE..... 8

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 6

APPELLANT RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WERE VIOLATED WHERE BOTH APPELLANT'S CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES ARE CONTRARY TO LAW, WHEN THE STATE FAILED TO PROVE IDENTITY, TRESPASS, OR MODUS OPERANDI, THUS WAS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE SUFFICIENCY OF EVIDENCE, AND WAS AGAINST THE MANIFEST WEIGHT OF EVIDENCE..... 9

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 7

APPELLANT WAS DENIED DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WHEN HE WAS PREVENTED FROM HAVING A FAIR TRIAL WITH REASONABLE RESULTS DUE TO INEFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF TRIAL COUNSEL DURING THE PRE-TRIAL, INVESTIGATIVE, AND ADVISORY STAGES OF THE PROCEEDINGS VIOLATING THE 6TH AMENDMENT..... 10

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 8

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT HIS 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENT RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WHERE THE COURT INTERFERED WITH APPELLANT'S ABILITY TO CONDUCT VOIR DEAR AND IMPANEL A IMPARTIAL JURY..... 11

PROPOSITON OF LAW NUMBER 9

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION

TABLE OF CONTENTS CONTINUED

PAGES

OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES
CONSTITUTIONS WHERE THE COURT REFUSED TO GRANT APPELLANT A CON-
TINUANCE IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR TRIAL AND LOCATE HIS WITNESSES...12

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 10

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION
OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES
CONSTITUTIONS WHEREIN THE COURT MIS-JOINED INDICTMENTS, AND MIS-
APPLIED THE OTHER BAD ACTS DOCTRINE STANDARD TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES
IN THIS CASE.....13

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 11

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION
OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES
CONSTITUTIONS WHEN IT SENTENCED APPELLANT SEPARATELY ON THE ALLIED
OFFENSES OF THEFT, AND RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY VIOLATING SECTION
2941.25 AND THE DOUBLE JEOPARDY CLAUSE OF THE 8TH AMENDMENT..... 14

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 12

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION
OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES
CONSTITUTIONS WHERE THE COURT CONCLUDED THAT APPELLANTS CONDUCT
WAS ONE COURSE OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT, AND ONE SCHEME FOR PURPOSE OF
JOINING THE INDICTMENTS BUT, REFUSED TO MERGE THE SENTENCES..... 15

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 13

THE TRIAL COURT VIOLATED APPELLANT'S RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND
EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW WHEN IT DID NOT CONDUCT A PROPER PRE-
TRIAL SUPPRESSION HEARING PREVENTING APPELLANT FROM EXAMINING
WITNESSES..... 15

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 14

THE APPELLATE COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECT-
ION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATE
CONSTITUTIONS WHERE THE TENTH DISTRICT VIOLATED THE DOCTRINE OF

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER 15

THE APPELLATE COURT DENIED APPELLANT PROCEDURAL DUE PROCESS AS WELL AS EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDE THE 1ST,5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WHERE THE APPELLATE COURT REFUSED TO STRIKE THE APPELLEE'S BRIEF WHICH INTERJECTED INTO THE APPEALS PROCESS MATTERS WHICH WERE NOT APART OF THE TRIAL COURT RECORDS, IN A ATTEMPT TO CORRUPT THE OUTCOME OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND REFUSED TO FIND APPELLEE IN CONTEMPT WITHOUT A HEARING ON THE ALLEGATIONS.....

CONCLUSION..... (EXCLUDED DUE TO SPACE)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE..... 16

EXPLANATION OF WHY THIS CASE IS A CASE OF
PUBLIC OR GREAT GENERAL INTEREST AND
INVOLVES A SUBSTANTIAL CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION.

THIS CASE INVOLVES A SUBSTANTIAL CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION WHICH
CENTERS AROUND HOW FAR CAN THE STATE BE ALLOWED TO STRETCH CIRCUM-
STANTIAL EVIDENCE AND INFERENCES IN A CRIMINAL CASE BEFORE IT COM-
PLETLY DESTORYS THE CONCEPT SO DEEPLY ROOTED IN OUR SOCIETY UNDER
THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS THAT A DEFENDANT MUST BE PROVEN GUILTY
OF THE CRIME CHARGED BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT. **IN THIS CASE THE
STATE OPENLY ADMITS THAT THEY COULD NOT PRODUCE A WITNESS TO SAY
THAT APPELLANT WENT INSIDE ANY RESIDENCE IN A BURGLARY CONVICTION.
A CONVICTION THAT HAD NO FINGERPRINTS, FOOTPRINTS, OR ANY OTHER FORM
OF IDENTITIFYING APPELLANT AS BEING THE SUSPECT. THE STATE HAS SAID
THEY DO NOT HAVE TO PROVE APPELLANT WENT INSIDE THE RESIDENCE, BE-
CAUSE SAID ELEMENT COULD BE PROVEN BY CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE. OHIO
HAS ALLOWED CASE LAWS TO SUPERCEDE THE STATUTORY RIGHTS OF ITS CITIZEN
IN CRIMINAL CASES AND DEFILE THE LEGISLATURES INTENT. R.C. 2911.12
CLEARLY SETS FORTH THE ELEMENTS OF BURGLARY WHICH MUST BE PROVEN AS:

- 1) BY MEANS OF FORCE, STEALTH, OR DECEPTION
- 2) TRESPASS
- 3) IN AN OCCUPIED STRUCTURE OR IN A SEPARATE SECURED OR SEPARATE
OCCUPIED PORTION OF AN OCCUPIED STRUCTURE.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION BECOMES HOW CAN THE STATE PROVE BURGLARY
WHER THERE IS NO WITNESS, OR DIRECT EVIDENCE. TRUE APPELLANT WAS IN
POSSESSION OF THE STOLEN PROPERTY, YEY APPELLANT TOLD POLICE THAT
HE BOUGHT IT FROM A FRIEND, AND WOULD TAKE POLICE TO THAT PERSON HE
BOUGHT IT FROM. THE QUESTION PRESENTED HERE IS DID THE TRIAL COURT
ELIMINATE THE RECIEVING STOLEN PROPERTY STATUTE DUE TO APPELLANT'S
PAST RECORD, OR RACE WHEN CLEARLY THEY PRESENTED NINE WITNESSES AND
NONE COULD SAY APPELLANT DID ANYTHING ILLEGAL AS FAR AS BURGLARY.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND FACTS

ON OCTOBER 21, 2013 APPELLANT AN EMPLOYED COLLEGE STUDENT ATTENDING COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY WAS ARRESTED BY COLUMBUS POLICE AT 451 EAST TOWN STREET, AN APARTMENT COMPLEX LOCATED NEAR THE DOWNTOWN AREA. A 911 PHONE CALL MADE BY MR. DUNN, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE FARBER HOUSING APARTMENTS STATED THAT WHILE WORKING ON A PROJECT HE JUST SO HAPPENED TO LOOK AROUND, AND NOTICE A BIKE GO BY THE GARAGE WINDOW. THINKING THIS TO BE STRANGE, HE STOPPED WHAT HE WAS DOING, WENT OUTSIDE LOOKING FOR THE BIKE. HE NOTICED ONCE OUTSIDE THAT THE BIKE WAS LEANED UP AGAINST THE WALL UNDERNEATH A WINDOW. MR. DUNN CALLED THE COLUMBUS POLICE, AND ACCORDING TO POLICE THEY ARRIVED WITHIN TEN MINUTES. THE APPELLANT WAS ARRESTED WHILE WALKING TOWARDS THE EXIT DOOR OF THE APARTMENT. APPELLANT TOLD POLICE THAT HIS FRIEND TOMMY HAD JUST HANDED HIM THE PROPERTY OUT OF AN APARTMENT NUMBER 106, WHICH WAS SUPPOSE TO BE TOMMY'S AUNTS APARTMENT, AND FLED AFTER NOTICING THE POLICE. ALL THE PROPERTY WAS RECOVERED AND GIVEN BACK TO THE OWNER WITHOUT PRINTS BEING TAKEN. ON NOVEMBER 13, 2013 APPELLANT WAS AGAIN ARRESTED, THIS TIME A 911 CALL WAS MADE BY A MRS. TINTERA CLAIMING THAT SOMEONE HAD JUST ATTEMPTED TO BREAK INTO HER RESIDENCE. BASED UPON A VAGUE CLOTHING DESCRIPTION, APPELLANT WAS STOPPED BY POLICE WHEREBY APPELLANT WAS DISCOVERED TO HAVE STOLEN PROPERTY FROM TWO BURGLARIES ALLEGED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE THAT NIGHT.

APPELLANT INFORMED THE POLICE THAT HE BOUGHT THE ITEMS FROM A FRIEND NAME SLIM AND, EVEN OFFERED TO TAKE THE POLICE TO SLIMS HOUSE RIGHT DOWN THE STREET TO CONFRONT HIM ABOUT THE SITUATION. THE POLICE DECLINED THE APPELLANT'S OFFER, AND CHARGED APPELLANT WITH (2) COUNTS OF BURGLARY. WITHOUT ANYONE EVER SAYING THAT HE HAD IN FACT COMMITTED ANY CRIME, NO AFFIDAVIT/OR COMPLAINT WAS FILED FOR ATTEMPT BURGLARY.

RETURNED TO THE OWNERS.

APPELLANT WENT TO A JURY TRIAL WHICH BEGAN FEBUARY 18, 2014 AND CON-
CLUDED FEBUARY 20, 2014 AFTER ALL THE STATE WITNESSES TESTIFYING
THAT (1) they could not identify appellant as the suspect, AND (2)
THAT THERE WAS NO FINGERPRINTS FOUND. APPELLANT WAS FOUND GUILTY
ON ALL SIX COUNTS CONTAINED IN THE TWO INDICTMENTS, AND ON FEBUARY
25, 2014 APPELLANT WAS SENTENCED TO SERVE 18 YEARS TOTAL IN THE
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, SEE SENTENCING ENTRY.

STATEMENT OF THE FACTS

ON OCTOBER 21, 2013 APPELLANT WAS ARRESTED, APPELLANT WAS AN
EMPLOYED COLEGE STUDENT AT COLUMBUS STATES AND WAS HANDED STOLEN
PROPERTY OUT OF A DOOR BY A FRIEND NAME TOMMY, TO WHOM TOLD APPELLANT
BELONGED TO HIS AUNT.

ON OCTOBER 31, 2013 APPELLANT WAS RELEASED FROM THE FRANKLIN COUNTY
WORKHOUSE AFTER ARRANGEMENT WHERE HE PLED NOT GUILTY.

ON NOVEMEBER 13, 2013 APPELLANT WAS ARRESTED AGAIN FOR BUYING ANOTHER
LAPTOP, AND THE REST OF THE FACTS ARE BROUGHT BY WAY OF THIS BRIEF'S
ASSIGNMENTS OF ERRORS.

APPELLANT HAS ALTHROUGHOUT ADMITTED TO RECIEVING STOLEN PROPERTY IN
CASE NUMBER 13CR-6206 NOVEMBER 13, 2013.

ON APRIL 21, 2014 THIS COURT DENIED APPELLANT HIS SIXTH AND FOURTEEN-
TH AMENDMENT RIGHTS TO EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF APPELLATE COUNSEL ON
DIRECT APPEAL. ON DECEMBER 30, 2014 THE TENTH DISTRICT APPELLATE COURT
AFFIRMED THE TRIAL COURTS DECISION. LEADING TO THIS APPEAL TO THE OHIO
SUPREME COURT. THIS IS ALSO UNDER RECONSIDERATION IN THE TENTH DISTRICT
ALONG WITH A REQUEST FOR A EN BANC HEARING, AND CERTIFY A CONFLICT.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER ONE

APPELLANT'S RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WERE VIOLATED WHEN THE TRIAL COURT ALLOWED THE JURY TO CONVICT, AND THEN THE COURT SENTENCED APPELLANT ON THE CHARGE OF ATTEMPTED BURGLARY IN A SHAM LEGAL PROCESS WITHOUT HAVING PROPERLY ACQUIRED SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION.

APPELLANT SUBMITS THAT THE STATE OF OHIO IN INDICTMENT NUMBER 13CR-6206 WHICH CONTAINS THE OFFENSE OF ATTEMPTED BURGLARY COMMITTED PLAIN PROCEDURAL, PREJUDICIAL ERROR WHEN IT PLACED HIM ON TRIAL FOR ATTEMPT BURGLARY WITHOUT HAVING ACQUIRED PROPER SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION IN VIOLATION OF CRIM. R. 3 AND R.C. 2935.09, 2935.10, AND 2921.52 (4) (B)(2). ON NOVEMBER 13, 2013 THE ALLEGED VICTIM MS. TINTERA NEVER WAS GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE ANY TYPE OF IDENTIFICATION OF THE APPELLANT AS BEING THE SUSPECT WHO ATTEMPTED TO BREAK INTO HER HOME, NOR DID SHE FILE A AFFIDAVIT OR A COMPLAINT WITH THE COLUMBUS POLICE. SEE (TR 145 AND TR. 155) APPELLANT'S RIGHTS TO THE CONFRONTATION CLAUSE OF THE SIXTH AMENDMENT WAS VIOLATED. DANNER-VS-MOTELY 488 F.3d 372, AT 377 (6TH CIR 2006) QUOTING U.S. AMEND VI. ALSO SEE NEIL-VS-BIGGERS (1972) 409 U.S. 188 Id. AT 200.

IN THIS CASE THE COLUMBUS POLICE TESTIFIED THEY COULD NOT SAY IF THE APPELLANT HAD COMMITTED THE CRIME, THEREFORE THE STATE COULD NOT PICK UP CHARGES ON BEHALF OF THE VICTIM AND SWEAR OUT A AFFIDAVIT, AND UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES THE PROSECUTOR COULD NOT FILE A CRIMINAL COMPLAINT WITHOUT AN AFFIDAVIT FROM THE VICTIM. SEE R.C. 2935.09 AND (TR 155 AT LINE 21) CRIMINAL RULE 2931.03 WHICH STATES THAT ALL FELONY CASES THE COMMON PLEAS COURT HAS ORIGINAL JURISDICTION IS ONLY AFTER JURISDICTION IS INVOKED BY A PROPERLY FILED AFFIDAVIT AND COMPLAINT. CRIMINAL RULE 1(C) OHIO CONST.ART.IV, 5(B). R.C. 4(A)(1) EVERY STATUTE CONTAINS THAT UPON AFFIDAVIT AND OR COMPLAINT DOES THE COMMON PLEAS COURT OBTAIN JURISDICTION OVER THE SUBJECT MATTER. ACCORDING TO R.C RULE 5(A) A DEFENDANT MUST APPEAR BEFORE A JUDGE AND ALLOWED TO SEE THE COMPLAINT.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER TWO

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED THE APPELLANT A FAIR TRIAL WHICH COULD RENDER RELIABLE RESULTS IN VIOLATION OF APPELLANT'S 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENT RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW WHERE THE TRIAL COURT ALLOWED MRS. TINTERA TO TESTIFY, AS HER TESTIMONY WAS IRRELEVANT ON ANY ISSUE CONCERNING THE APPELLANT'S IDENTITY, INNOCENCE OR GUILT IN VIOLATION OF EVIDENCE RULE 901.

APPELLANT SUBMITS, MRS. TINTERA'S TESTIMONY VIOLATED EVIDENCE RULE 901 AND THAT SAID TESTIMONY SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ALLOWED AS IT WAS IRRELEVANT TO ANY ISSUE THAT WAS BEFORE THE COURT. MRS. TINTERA TESTIFIED THAT A SUSPECT, NOT THE APPELLANT ON NOVEMBER 13, 2013 ATTEMPTED TO BREAK INTO HER HOME, THAT SHE CALLED THE COLUMBUS POLICE IRONICALLY EVEN AFTER APPELLANT WAS IN THE CUSTODY OF POLICE SHE WAS NEVER GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE ANY TYPE OF IDENTIFICATION OF THE APPELLANT AS BEING THE SUSPECT (TR. 150) NOR DID SHE FILE A AFFIDAVIT OR COMPLAINT WITH THE POLICE WHO ALSO TESTIFIED THEY DID NOT SEE ANYTHING. MS. TINTERA WAS THE SOLE-EYEWITNESS TO THE CRIME, AND COULD NOT TESTIFY THAT APPELLANT WAS THE PERSON WHO COMMITTED THE CRIME. THE STATE WAS ALLOWED TO USE THIS WITNESSES TESTIMONY AS A ACCUMULATIVE AFFECT ON THE JURY WHICH PREJUDICED THE DEFENSE. NO EVIDENCE EXISTED THAT APPELLANT HAD DONE ANYTHING ESPECIALLY IN REFERENCE TO THE BURGLARY CHARGES. EVIDENCE RULE 901 STATES:

- (A) GENERAL PROVISION. THE REQUIREMENT OF SUTHENTICATION OR IDENTIFICATION AS A CONDITION PRECEDENT TO ADMISSIBILITY IS SATIFIED BY EVIDENCE SUFFICIENT TO SUPPORT A FINDING THAT THE MATTER IN QUESTION IS WHAT IT'S PROONENT CLAIMS.
- (1) TESTIMONY OF WITNESS WITH KNOWLEDGE THAT A MATTER IS WHAT IT IS CLAIMED TO BE.
- (4) DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTIC AND THE LIKE. APPEARANCE, CONTENTS, SUBSTANCE, INTERNAL PATTERNS, OR OTHER DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTIC, TAKEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH CIRCUMSTANCES.

IN THE CASE AT BAR THE ALLEGED VICTIM TESTIFIED APPELLANT MATCHED THE GENERAL DISCRPTION BUT COULD NOT BE SURE (TR 145) WAS INADMISSIBLE.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER THREE

THE APPELLANTS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS WERE VIOLATED WHEN THE JURY WAS GIVEN INSUFFICIENT INSTRUCTIONS ON THE ISSUE OF OTHER BAD ACTS, RESULTING IN A DEFECTIVE VERDICT, OR JURY NULLIFICATION.

THE TRIAL COURT ERRED IN ITS INSTRUCTIONS TO THE JURY ON THE OTHER BAD ACTS DOCTRINE OVER THE OBJECTIONS TIMELY MADE BY APPELLANT. R.C. 404 (B) AND 2945.59 ALSO SEE 404 (A) YOU HAVE TO SUBSTANTIALLY PROVE THE DEFENDANT COMMITTED THE OTHER CRIMES SIMILAR. IN WILKINSON 64 OHIO ST.308 AT 314 (1985) SPECIFICALLY THE RULE EXCLUDES EVIDENCE OF SPECIFIC BAD ACTS USED TO CIRCUMSTANTIALLY PROVE A PERSON HAS A PROPENSITY TO COMMIT ACTS OF THAT SORT. PROPENSITY EVIDENCE, WHETHER OF A PERSONS GENERAL CHARACTER OR EXAMPLE OF SPECIFIC BAD ACTS IS ORDINARILY EXCLUDED BECAUSE OF THE LIKELIHOOD THE JURY MAY MISUSE IT.

IN THIS CASE THE COURT ALLOWED THE STATE TO USE THE DOCTRINE TO PROVE APPELLANTS IDENTITY AS BEING THE SUSPECT. HOWEVER, THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE INTRODUCED BY THE STATE SHOWING ANY MODUS OPERANDI. THE STATE DID NOT ATTEMPT TO COMPARE ONE CRIMINAL OFFENSE WITH ANOTHER, OR SUBSTANTIALLY PROVE APPELLANT HAD COMMITTED ANY OF THE CRIMES BY WHICH SET A PATTERN. THE TRIAL COURT ASKED THE STATE WHETHER THERE WAS A "MO" IN THESE CASES (TR 9-10) THE STATE RESPONDED NO, YOUR HONOR, THERE IS NO "MO" NO SIGNATURE, THESE ARE JUST YOUR REGULAR RUN-OF-THE-MILL RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES. STATE-VS-ANDERSON, 2006-OHIO-4618 AT HN11.

THE STATE WAS PREJUDICIALLY ALLOWED TO USE THE OTHER BAD ACTS IN A MANNER WHICH PREVENTED APPELLANT FROM HAVING A ADEQUATE DEFENSE, AND PREJUDICED THE JURY AGAINST APPELLANT. APPELLANT COULD HAVE TAKEN THE STAND IN ONE INDICTEMENT WHERE THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE PRODUCED HAD THIS DOCTRINE NOT BEEN MISAPPLIED AND INVOKED THE FIFTH ON THE OTHER. SEE ALOSA 14 F.3d 693, 694-95 (1ST CIR 1994) AT 695.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER FOUR

APPELLANT'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WERE VIOLATED WHERE THERE WAS STATE WITNESS MISCONDUCT BY POLICE OFFICER DAVID LARRISON THAT PREVENTED APPELLANT FROM HAVING A FAIR TRIAL, AND THE JURY FROM PROPERLY FUNCTIONING, AND FOR FAILING TO PRESERVE FAVORABLE EVIDENCE.

APPELLANT SUBMITS THAT NO CONVICTION MAY BE OBTAINED OR SUSTAINED BY THE KNOWING, AND WILLFUL USE OF FALSE TESTIMONY KNOWN TO BE SUCH BY PROSECUTOR. MOONEY-VS-HOLOHAN (1935) 294 U.S. 103 AT HN1, AND NAPUE-VS-ILLINOIS (1959) 360 U.S. 264, AND STATE-VS-STATEN 14 OHIO APP.3d 78 AT HN1 AND HN2.

IN THIS CASE OFFICER LARRISON DELIBERATELY GAVE FALSE TESTIMONY IN AN ATTEMPT TO CORRUPT THE OUTCOME OF THE TRIAL, AS HE TESTIFIED THAT ON OCTOBER 21, 2013 AT 451 EAST TOWN ST, A MAN NAME ERIC DUNN CALLED 911 STATING HE WITNESSED A MALE BLACK CLIMB THROUGH A WINDOW (TR 268) THAT WHEN MR. DUNN SAW APPELLANT HE IMMEDIATELY RESPONED TO POLICE THATS HIM, THATS HIM (TR 102) MR. DUNN TESTIFIED THAT HE DID NOT SEE WHO WAS RIDING THE BIKE USED TO CLIMB INTO THE WINDOW (TR 83) OR THAT APPELLANT WAS THE ONE WHO CLIMBED IN THE WINDOW (TR 85), OR THAT APPELLANT WAS THE ONE WHO CLIMBED IN THE WINDOW (TR 85). SUCH TESTIMONY WHICH WAS UNDOUBTABLY FALSE CAUSED MATERIAL PREJUDICE, AND PREVENTED THE JURY FROM PROPERLY FUNCTIONING. TANZI-VS-NEW YORY C.R. CO (1951) 155 OHIO ST.149 153, AND WARD SUGAR-VS-COLLINS (NO.87546 (8TH DIST, CUYAHOGA COUNTY, 2006-OHIO-5589 AT HN2. THIS WITNESS TOLD THE JURY APPELLANT WAS A FELON (TR 102) AND APPELLANT NEVER EVEN TOOK THE STAND ON HIS OWN BEHALF. IN UNITED STATES-VS-AQURS (1976) 427 U.S. 97, 107 SUPRA IT STATES: THAT THE PROSECUTOR, AS AN AGENT OF THE STATE HAS A CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY TO ASSURE A DEFENDANT A FAIR TRIAL. CONSISTENT WITH THIS NOTION IS THE OBLIGATION OF THE PROSECUTOR TO REFRAIN FROM KNOWINGLY USING PERJURIED TESTIMONY, AND TO CORRECT TESTIMONY HE KNOWS TO BE FALSE WHICH MISLEADS THE JURY.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER FIVE

APPELLANT WAS DENIED DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS AND SECTION 16 ARTICLE 1 OF THE OHIO CONSTITUTION WHERE THE PROSECUTOR KNOWINGLY USED FALSE TESTIMONY TO GAIN A CONVICTION BY HIS KEY WITNESS, AND (2) WHEN HE ARGUED FACTS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE EVIDENCE. ALSO HE VIOLATED THE BRADY DOCTRINE.

THIS PROPOSITION OF LAW IS BASICALLY THE SAME AS PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER FOUR, IN THAT IT ALLEGES THE PROSECUTION KNOWINGLY USED THE FALSE TESTIMONY FROM DAVID LARRISON IN ORDER TO GAIN A CONVICTION. APPELLANT WILL RESUBMIT THAT HE RELIES UPON NAPUE-VS-ILLINOIS (1959) 360 U.S. 264... STATE-VS-STATEN 14 OHIO APP.3d 78 AT HN1,..AND MOONEY-VS-HOLOHAN (1935) 294 U.S. 103 AT HN1 IN THIS CASE OFFICER LARRISON TESTIFIED BEFORE THE JURY THAT ERIC DUNN WHO CALLED THE 911 OPERATOR OCTOBER 21, 2013 TOLD THE OPERATOR THAT HE WITNESSED A MALE BLACK CLIMB INTO A WINDOW (TR 268) OFFICER LARRISON ALSO TESTIFIED THAT WHEN MR. DUNN OPENED THE DOOR TO THE COMPLEX AND SAW THE APPELLANT HE IMMEDIATELY STATED "THATS HIM" THATS" HIM" (TR 101) WAS A LIE BECAUSE TWO WITNESSES PRIOR TO HIS TESTIMONY MR. DUNN TESTIFIED THAT HE NEVER SAW WHO CLIMBED IN THE WINDOW (TR 85) HE SIMPLY HEARD A LOUD NOISE, AN CALLED POLICE. TO REALLY SHOW OFFICER LARRISON COMITTED PERJURY, HE LATER TESTIFIED WHEN ASKED ON CROSS-EXAMINATION IF SOMEONE ELSE COULD HAVE CLIMBED INTO THE WINDOW AND HE SAID YES (TR 123) IF MR. DUNN TOLD HIM THAT HE SAW APPELLANT CLIMB THROUGH THE WINDOW AS HIM CLAIMED ON (TR 123) IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO HAVE DONE IT. THIS OFFICER ALSO LIED WHEN HE SAID HE FOUND THE BURGLARIZED APARTMENT ON HIS OWN BY COUNTING DOWN DOORS FROM WHERE HE FELT THE BIKE WAS LOCATED UNDER THE WINDOW (TR 124). THIS TESTIMONY CAN BE PROVEN UNTRUE BY THE POLICE REPORT WRITTEN BY OFFICER FRANCES. AND THE 911 CALL TAPE. THESE STATEMENTS WERE KNOWN TO BE FALSE BECAUSE THEY WERE NEVER ARGUED TO THE JURY DURING OPEN OR CLOSING ARGUMENTS, WHICH THE PROSECUTOR WOULD HAVE IF THEY WERE TRUE.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER SIX

APPELLANT'S RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WERE VIOLATED WHERE BOTH APPELLANT'S CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES ARE CONTRARY TO LAW, WHEN THE STATE FAILED TO PROVE IDENTITY, THE TRESPASS, OR MODUS OPERANDI, THUS WAS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE EVIDENCE, AND WAS AGAINST THE MANIFEST WEIGHT OF THE EVIDENCE.

AN APPELLATE COURTS ROLE IS TO EXAMINE THE EVIDENCE ADMITTED AT TRIAL WHETHER THE EVIDENCE IS LEGALLY SUFFICIENT IS AGAIN A QUESTION OF LAW (NOT FACT). THE LAW IS FOUND WITHIN THE STATUTE, AND NOT VARIOUS COURTS REDEFINING THE STATUTE THROUGH CASE LAW. IN THESE CASES THE APPELLANT WAS CHARGED WITH BURGLARIES, AND ATTEMPTED BURGLARY. THE STATE OF OHIO PRESENTED NINE WITNESSES, ALL NINE TESTIFIED THAT THEY COULD NOT SAY APPELLANT COMMITTED THE CRIMES. WITH NO EYEWITNESS TO THE CRIMES, NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE, APPELLANT WAS CONVICTED BASED UPON THEORIES PROVIDED THE JURY DURING OPENING AND CLOSING ARGUMENTS. MERE POSSESSION DOES NOT PROVE TRESPASS ELEMENT, AND OPENING AND CLOSING ARGUMENTS ARE NOT EVIDENCE. IN A CRIMINAL PROSECUTION THE PROSECUTION HAS TWO DISTINCT DUTIES, ONE OF PERSUASION, THE OTHER OF PRODUCTION. IN HOLLAND-VS-UNITED STATES (1954) 348 U.S. 121 AT P.140, 75 S.CT 127 AT PAGE 137. THAT COURT STATED: CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE MAY IN SOME CASES POINT TO A WHOLLY INCORRECT RESULT. IN STATE-VS-LOTT 555 NE.2d 293 AT HN10, THERE WAS EVIDENCE LINKING LOTT TO THE VICTIM'S HOME. (HERE) APPELLANT WAS NOT IDENTIFIED BY ANYONE. NO FINGERPRINTS FOUND, APPELLANT WAS FOUND SIMPLY WITH THE STOLEN PROPERTY. HE TOLD POLICE HE BOUGHT THE PROPERTY, WHO HE BOUGHT IT FROM, AND OFFERED TO TAKE THE POLICE TO THE PERSON (TR 32) ONLY WHERE THERE IS UNEXPLAINED POSSESSION OF STOLEN PROPERTY CAN THE INFERENCE BE DRAWN DEFENDANT STOLED IT. SEE STATE-VS-JANUARY, 2010-OHIO-2837 AT HN3.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER SEVEN

APPELLANT WAS DENIED DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 6TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WHEN HE WAS PREVENTED FROM HAVING A FAIR TRIAL WITH REASONABLE RESULT DUE TO INEFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF TRIAL COUNSEL DURING THE PRE-TRIAL INVESTIGATIVE, AND ADVISORY STAGES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

APPELLANT SUBMITS THAT HE WAS DENIED EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF TRIAL COUNSEL GURANTEED BY THE SIXTH AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE PRE-TRIAL INVESTIGATIVE STAGES DUE TO COUNSEL'S DELIBERATE FAILURE TO INVESTIGATE DEFENSE AND STATE WITNESSES THAT WERE AVAILABLE TO HIS CLIENT, AND FOR FAILING TO FILE ANY TYPE OF MEANINGFUL PRE-TRIAL MOTION SUCH AS MOTIONS TO SUPPRESS, ONE FOR A EYEWITNESS EXPERT, AND SUCH CAUSED APPELLANT MATERIAL PREJUDICE AS DEFENDANT WAS NOT BEING ALLOWED TO USE THE FRANKLIN COUNTY JAIL LAW LIBRARY AND WAS COMPLETELY DEPENDED UPON COURT-APPOINTED COUNSEL TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS, LOCATE WITNESSES AND HAVE THEM SUBPOEAED. COUNSEL LEFT APPELLANT (7) DAYS BEFORE TRIAL IN A HELPLESS SITUATION, AND THAN QUIT AS STAND-BY COUNSEL (8) MINUTES BEFORE THE JURY TRIAL STARTED, REPLACED WITH NEW STAND-BY, WHICH APPELLANT NEVER SPOKE WITH, AND DID NOT KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE CASE. (TR.51--53). THE VERY PURPOSE OF THE SIXTH AMENDMENT RIGHT TO COUNSEL IS TO ENSURE A DEFENDANT HAS THE ASSISTANCE NECESSARY TO JUSTIFY RELIANCE ON THE OUTCOME OF THE PROCEEDING, ACTUAL OR CONSTRUCTIVE DENIAL OF COUNSEL IS LEGALLY PRESUMED TO RESULT IN PREJUDICE. UNITED STATE-VS-CRONIC ANTE AT 659 FOR EXAMPLE, THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT HELD IN KIMMELMAN-VS-MORRISON, 477 U.S. 365, 386 (1977) INEFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF COUNSEL RELATES TO PRE-TRIAL INVESTIGATION AND IN FAILING TO FILE A MOTION TO SUPPRESS EVIDENCE CAN ITSELF REQUIRE RELIEF, EVEN IF THE TRIAL IS OTHERWISE BASICALLY FAIR, AND COUNSE'S PREFORMANCE IS OTHERWISE UNOBJECTABLE. **IN MY CASE COUNSEL ADMITTED THAT HE DONE NOTHING FOR APPELLANT, AND SUCH ADMISSION SUPPORT THE APPELLANT'S CLAIMS. SEE WAKE-VS-BARKER, Ky 514 S.W. 2d 692 (1974) AT 696.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER EIGHT

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT HIS 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENT RIGHTS UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW WHERE THE COURT INTERFERED WITH APPELLANT'S ABILITY TO CONDUCT VOIR DEAR AND IMPANEL A IMPARTIAL JURY.

APPELLANT SUBMITS THAT THE TRIAL COURT DENIED HIM PROCEDURAL DUE PROCESS WHEN IT REPEATEDLY INTERFERED WITH HIM ASKING THE JURY QUESTIONS DURING VOIR DIRE, IN ATTEMPT TO IMPANEL A IMPARTIAL JURY. THE PURPOSE OF THE EXAMINATION OF PROSPECTIVE JUROR UPON VOIR DIRE IS TO DETERMINE WHETHER HE HAS BOTH THE STATUTORY QUALIFICATION OF A JUROR AND IS FREE FROM BIAS OR PREJUDICE FOR OR AGAINST EITHER LITIGATE, SEE LLOYD-VS-WILLIS 2004-OHIO-427 AT HN3 CITING PAVILONIS-VS-VALENTINE (1929) 120 OHIO ST. 157 PARAGRAPH ONE OF THE SYLLABUS. THE QUESTIONS SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED ONLY TO THOSE SUBJECTS WHICH CONSTITUTE GROUNDS FOR THE SUSTAINING OF A CHALLENGE FOR CAUSE: BUT, IF THE QUESTIONING EXTENDS BEYOND SUCH SUBJECT, IT MUST BE CONDUCTED IN GOOD FAITH WITH THE GOAL OF OBTAINING A FAIR AND IMPARTIAL JURY. *** IN THIS CASE THE TRIAL COURT REPEATEDLY INTERFERED WITH APPELLANT WHO WAS REPRESENTING HIMSELF AT TRIAL, TO THE POINT THAT APPELLANT SIMPLY GREW FRUSTRATED AND GAVE UP ON HIS ATTEMPT TO ASK ANY QUESTIONS TO THE PROSPECTIVE JURORS AT ALL.

TO PROVE THIS POINT THE APPELLANT RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THIS COURT TO ORDER THE VOIR DIRE PORTIONS OF THE TRIAL TRANSCRIPTS IN WHICH COURT-APPOINTED APPELLATE COUNSEL FOR THE DIRECT APPEAL REFUSED TO DO. APPELLANT COUNSEL WAS FORCED UPON APPELLANT EVEN AFTER APPELLANT INFORMED THE COURT THAT NO ATTORNEY HAD HIS CONSENT TO REPRESENT HIM FOR THAT REASON, TO INFRINGE UPON APPELLANT'S RIGHTS TO MEANINGFUL REVIEW OF HIS CLAIMS. THE INTERFERENCE BY THE TRIAL COURT IN THIS CASE VIOLATED APPELLANTS RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER NINE

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS
EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND
14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTIONS WHERE
THE COURT REFUSED TO GRANT APPELLANT A CONTINUANCE
IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR TRIAL AND LOCATE HIS
WITNESSES.

IN THIS CASE SELF-REPRESENTING DEFENDANT'S APPOINTED COUNSEL WAS
ALLOWED TO WITHDRAW FROM THE CASE (7) DAYS BEFORE TRIAL AS LEAD COUNSEL
AND WHEN THEN TOLD HE WOULD BE STAND-BY COUNSEL TO DEFENDANT DUE TO
SERIOUS CONFLICTS OF INTEREST WHICH HAD DEVELOPED BETWEEN CLIENT AND
ATTORNEY OVER THE LACK OF ANY PRE-TRIAL INVESTIGATIONS BEING CONDUCTED
COUNSEL'S DELIBERATE FAILURE TO FILE ANY PRE-TRIAL MOTIONS ON APPELLANTS
BEHALF. ON THE DAY OF TRIAL THE COURT THAN ALLOWED STAND-BY COUNSEL TO
WITHDRAW FROM SAID POSITION (8) MINUTES BEFORE THE JURY TRIAL BEGAN,
AND REPLACED HIM WITH A COURT APPOINTED STAND-BY COUNSEL WHO KNEW NOTHING
ABOUT THE CASE. APPELLANT INFORMED THE COURT THAT HE WAS NOT READY TO GO
TO TRIAL UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES (TR.42-48) APPELLANT HAD NEVER BEEN
GIVEN A CONTINUANCE, AND REQUESTED HIS FIRST CONTINUANCE TO OBTAIN THE
LOCATION OF HIS WITNESSES, IN WHICH HE HAD TO RELY UPON COURT APPOINTED
COUNSEL'S TO CONTACT, ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT OF THE FACT THAT THE FRANKLIN
COUNTY WORKHOUSE WAS NOT ALLOWING HIM ACCESS TO THE LEGAL LIBRARY THERE.
DEFENDANT COULD NOT REQUEST A CONTINUANCE BEFORE THE DAY OF TRIAL (HE
HAD TO DO THAT IN PERSON) DEFENDANT COULD NOT SUBPOENA WITNESSES ON HIS
OWN SEE STATE-VS-UNGER (1981) 67 OHIO ST.2d 65, 423 NE.2d 1078 PARAGRAPH
ONE OF THE SYLLABUS CITED IN STATE-VS-ALLEN 118 OHIO APP.3d 846, 694 NE.
2d 145 (1997) APPELLANT EVEN TOLD THE COURT THAT HE HADN'T EVEN HAD THE
CHANCE TO LOOK OVER THE DISCOVERY PACKET IN INDICTMENT NUMBER 13CR-6648
(TR 48) THE RIGHT TO HAVE WITNESSES IS A FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENT OF DUE PRO-
CESS OF LAW, AND IN PLAIN TERMS IS THE RIGHT TO PRESENT A DEFENSE. SEE
WASHINGTON-VS-TEXAS (1967) 388 U.S. 14, 18 L.Ed.2d 1019 87 S.CT 1920.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER TEN

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WHEREIN THE COURT MISJOINED INDICTMENTS, AND MISAPPLIED THE OTHER BAD ACTS DOCTRINE STANDARD TO THE CIRCUMCIRCUMSTANCES IN THIS CASE.

APPELLANT STATES THAT THE COURT MISAPPLIED THE JOINER OF OFFENSES DOCTRINE, AND MISAPPLIED THE OTHER BAD ACTS DOCTRINE WHEN IT ALLOWED THE STATES TO PRESENT OTHER BAD ACTS EVIDENCE OVER HIS OBJECTIONS, WHEN SAID EVIDENCE WAS TO BE USED TO ESTABLISH APPELLANT'S IDENTITY AS THE SUSPECT. IN CASES WHERE THERE WAS ARE NO EYEWITNESSES TO ANY OF THE CRIMES. THIS COULD BE DONE ONLY BY SHOWING A CERTAIN MODUS OPERANDI, TO WHICH THE STATE ADMITTED DID NOT EXIST (TR 10) THE PROSECUTOR WAS ASKED IF THERE WAS A "MO" TO THESE CRIMES, AND THE PROSECUTOR RESPONDED NO, THERE IS NO "MO" ARE SIGNATURE TO THESE CRIMES YOUR HONOR THESE ARE JUST YOUR REGULAR RUN OF THE MILL RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES. EVIDENCE RULE 404 (B) COULD NOT BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE TO PROVE MODUS OPERANDI. SEE STATE-VS-GOINES 111 OHIO APP.3d 840 DEALING WITH INSUFFICIENT SIMILARITIES WHICH CAN'T ACT AS A BEHAVIORAL FINGERPRINT. SEE JAMISON, 49 OHIO ST.3d AT 187, 552 NE.2d 180. THESE CRIMES WERE NEITHER SAME OR SIMILAR, NOR A CONTINUATION OF ANY CRIMINAL SCHEME OR DESIGN. THE PURPOSE OF JOINING THE INDICTMENT WAS SIMPLY TO CAUSE DEFENDANT UNDUE PREJUDICE, BY ACCUMULATING CHARGES. STATE-VS-BASEN (1989) OHIO APP. LEXIS 541. PURSUANT TO R.C. 2929.04 (A)(5) THE LAW IS THE STATE MUST ESTABLISH SOME FACTUAL LINK BETWEEN THE CRIME WITH WHICH DEFENDANT IS CHARGED, AND THE OTHER CRIME THAT ARE ALLEGED TO MAKE UP THE COURSE OF CONDUCT. IN ORDER TO FIND THAT (4) OFFENSES CONSTITUTE A SINGLE COURSE OF CONDUCT UNDER 2929.04 (A)(5) THE TRIER OF FACT MUST DISCERN SOME CONNECTION, COMMON SCHEME OR SOME PATTERN OR PSYCHOLOGICAL THREAD THAT TIES THE OFFENSES TOGETHER. SEE STATE-VS-KIDD (1997) OHIO APP. LEXIS 2992 AT HN12.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER ELEVEN

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WHEN IT SENTENCED APPELLANT SEPARATELY ON THE ALLIED OFFENSES OF THEFT AND RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY, VIOLATING R.C. SECTION 2941.25 AND THE SAME ACT OR TRANSACTION DOCTRINE.

IN THE CASE AT ABR APPELLANT WAS THE VICTIM OF THE COURTS ABUSE OF DISCRETION WHERE HE WAS TRIED AND CONVICTED OVER HIS OBJECTIONS TO THE CHARGES OF THEFT AND RECEIVING OF THE SAME PROPERTY BEING GIVEN TO THE JURY TO DELIBERATE ON, AS SAID ALLIED OFFENSES, NOT ONLY SERVED TO CONFUSE THE JURY BUT, WAS DESIGNED TO HAVE A ACCUMULATIVE EFFECT AGAINST APPELLANT. NONETHELESS, THE TRIAL COURT ERRED WHEN IT SENTENCED APPELLANT ON BOTH THEFT AND RECEIVING OF THE SAME PROPERTY. SEE STATE-VS-COATS 1999 OHIO APP. LEXIS 1424 AT HN7 (TENTH DIST) AND THE CASE OF YARBROUGH 104 OHIO ST.3d 1, 2004-OHIO-6087 AT PAGE 102. IN STATE-VS-WILSON 145 OHIO APP.3d 374 AT HN8, THAT COURT STATED THAT:

"ALTHOUGH RECEIVING IS TECHNICALLY NOT A INCLUDED OFFESE OF THEFT IT IS, UNDER R.C. 2941.25 AN ALLIED OFFENSE OF SIMILAR IMPORT, AN ACCUSED MAY BE TRIED FOR BOTH BUT, MAY BE CONVICTED AND SENTENCED FOR ONLY ONE. THE CHOICE IS GIVEN TO THE PROSECUTION TO PURSUE ONE OFFENSE OR THE OTHER, AND IT IS PLAINLY THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT THE ELECTION MAY BE OF EITHER OFFENSE. Id AT 244 OHIO ST.2d 380, 344 NE.2d AT 137.

CLEARLY IN THIS CASE APPELLANT'S SENTENCES DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE PRINCIPLE AGAINST DOUBLE PUNISHMENT, AND MUST BE RESENTENCED. FURTHER THE STATE FAILED TO PROVE THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY STOLEN SEE STATE-VS-REESE 165 OHIO APP.3d 21, 31, 2005-OHIO-7075. THIS VIOLATES R.C. 2913.51 AND THE CONCEPT THAT EVERY ESSENTIAL ELEMENT MUST BE PROVEN BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT FOUND IN RE WINSHIP. THE PROSECUTOR MUST PROVE NOT JUST THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY AT THE TIME OF IT'S PURCHASE, BUT MUST PROVE IT'S REPLACEMENT VALUE AT FAIR MARKET VALUE. SEE STATE-VS-JONES (OHIO APP.5th DIST. NO.2002AP-05-0041 THEREFORE THE JURY VERDICT IS AGAINST THE MANIFEST WEIGHT.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER TWELVE

THE TRIAL COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS WHERE THE COURT CONCLUDED THAT APPELLANTS CONDUCT WAS THAT OF ONE COURSE OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT, AND ONE SCHEME AND DESIGN FOR PURPOSE OF JOINING THE INDICTMENTS, AND USING THE OTHER BAD ACTS DOCTRINE, BUT REFUSING TO MERGE THE SENTENCES UNDER THE SAME ACT/TRANSACTION DOCTRINE, OR UNDER 2941.25

IF THE TRIAL COURT CONCLUDES THAT THREE OR MORE CRIMINAL OFFENSES WERE COMMITTED AS ONE COURSE OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT THEY SHOULD BE TREATED AS A VIOLATION OF R.C. 2923.31 (C) AND (E) AND MERGED FOR SENTENCING.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER THIRTEEN

THE TRIAL COURT VIOLATED APPELLANTS RIGHTS TO PROCEDURAL DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW WHEN IT DID NOT CONDUCT A PROPER PRE-TRIAL SUPPRESSION HEARING WHICH PREVENTED APPELLANT FROM EXAMINING STATE WITNESSES PRIOR TO TRIAL TO TEST THE STATES PROBABLE CAUSE, PRIOR IDENTIFICATION, AND THE TESTIMONY WHICH MIGHT OCCUR FROM SAID UNRELIABLE IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURE.

IN THIS CASE THERE WAS NO EYEWITNESS, NO FINGERPRINTS OR ANYTHING LINKING APPELLANT TO THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF TRESPASS FOUND IN R.C. 2911.12. A PROPERLY HELD SUPPRESSION HEARING WOULD HAVE DISMISSED SEVERAL CHARGES HAD APPELLANT HAD THE CHANCE TO EXAMINE THE STATES WITNESSES, WHO ALL TESTIFIED THAT THEY NEVER SAW WHO COMMITTED THE ACTUAL CRIME AGAINST THEM.

PROPOSITION OF LAW NUMBER FOURTEEN

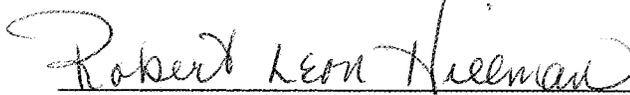
THE APPELLATE COURT DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE 5TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES WHERE THE TENTH DISTRICT VIOLATED THE DOCTRINE OF STARED DECISIS.

THE TENTH DISTRICT APPELLATE COURT RULED COMPLETELY DIFFERENT IN APPELLANTS CASE THAN IT DID IN MANY OTHER CASES ON THE SAME ISSUES, AND ALLOWED THE CASE LAWS TO SUPERCEDE THE STATUTORY RIGHTS OF THE APPELLANT TO BE FOUND GUILTY BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT OF ALL THE ELEMENTS WHICH FORMS THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE, AND ALLOWED APPELLEE TO INTERJECT PERSONAL EVIDENCE NOT APART OF THE TRIAL COURT RECORDS.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT A TRUE COPY OF THE FOREGOING MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF JURISDICTION WAS RESUBMITTED BY APPELLANT, AND SENT TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY PROSECUTORS OFFICE LOCATED AT 373 SOUTH HIGH STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215 BY REGULAR UNITED STATES MAIL SERVICE, ON THIS 9th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2015.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY



APPELLANT ACTING IN PRO SE

ROBERT L. HILLMAN #698-409
CHILLICOTHE CORRECTIONAL INST
POST OFFICE BOX 5500
CHILLICOTHE, OHIO 45601

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF OHIO
TENTH APPELLATE DISTRICT

State of Ohio,	:	
	:	
Plaintiff-Appellee,	:	No. 14AP-252
	:	(C.P.C. No. 13CR-11-6206) and
v.	:	No. 14AP-253
	:	(C.P.C. No. 13CR-12-6648)
Robert L. Hillman,	:	
	:	(REGULAR CALENDAR)
Defendant-Appellant.	:	

D E C I S I O N

Rendered on December 30, 2014

Ron O'Brien, Prosecuting Attorney, and *Kimberly M. Bond*,
for appellee.

Robert L. Hillman, pro se.

APPEALS from the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas

DORRIAN, J.

{¶ 1} Defendant-appellant, Robert L. Hillman, pro se, appeals the February 25, 2014 judgment of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas convicting him of burglary, attempted burglary, theft, and receiving stolen property, following a jury trial. For the reasons that follow, we affirm the judgment of the trial court.

I. Facts and Procedural History

{¶ 2} Appellant's alleged crimes arose out of separate incidents on two different dates. On October 21, 2013, Eric Dunn, a maintenance director for a property rental company, was working at an apartment building located at 451 East Town Street in downtown Columbus, Ohio. While working that morning, Dunn noticed a bicycle leaning against the building directly beneath an open window leading into one of the apartments. Having previously heard a suspicious noise coming from the apartment near the open

Franklin County Ohio Court of Appeals Clerk of Courts- 2014 Dec 30 2:04 PM-14AP000252

window, Dunn called the police, believing that someone had broken into the property. Columbus Police Officers Shawn Pagniano and David Larrison responded to the call. Officer Pagniano monitored the open window while Dunn opened the secured entrance to the building for Officer Larrison. During this time, no one entered or exited the building through the window.

{¶ 3} Upon entering the building, Dunn and Officer Larrison discovered a man, whom both identified at trial as appellant, alone in a common hallway outside the apartments. Officer Larrison noticed that appellant was carrying a colorfully decorated laptop computer and detained appellant. In addition to the laptop, appellant was also found to be in possession of cables, cell phones, a pair of gloves, and a knife. After detaining appellant, Officer Larrison walked down the hallway and discovered a backpack, which was full of movie and video game discs, next to an apartment door. Officer Larrison checked the door of the apartment located next to where he found the backpack and discovered that the door was unlocked. After announcing his presence and receiving no reply, Officer Larrison entered the apartment, noticed that the window was open, and ascertained that the open window was the same one that Dunn noticed was open and was being monitored by Officer Pagniano. Officer Larrison found no one in the apartment or in the common hallway inside the building.

{¶ 4} The tenant of the apartment was identified as Molly Schneider. Schneider testified at trial that, when she departed for work on the morning of October 21, 2013, she had locked the door to her apartment and left her kitchen window slightly open. Schneider stated that the items found in appellant's possession had been in her apartment when she left and that, among the items recovered from appellant, were a laptop worth between \$1,200 to \$1,400, an iPod worth \$100, and an iPhone worth \$400. Schneider stated that she did not know appellant and that he did not have permission to enter her home or to take her property.

{¶ 5} On November 13, 2013 at approximately 2 a.m., Hillary Tintera was at her next door neighbor's residence at 1975 Indianola Avenue in Columbus, Ohio, near The Ohio State University ("OSU") campus, when she noticed a man standing at the front door of the residence. At trial, Tintera testified that she saw through the glass door that the man had his hand on the door and was looking inside while attempting to gain access to

the residence. When the man noticed her, he walked away from the door. Realizing that she left her home next door unlocked, Tintera exited her neighbor's residence through the back door and ran to her home's back door. Once inside, she locked the back door and ran to the front door. As she locked the front door, she saw the same man with his hand on the door knob attempting to open the door. Tintera called the police and provided a description of the man and his path of travel. At trial, Tintera testified that she was not sure if appellant was the man she saw attempting to open the door to her home, but stated that he fit the description of the man she saw that night. Tintera testified that appellant would not have had permission to enter her house or take her property.

{¶ 6} On the same date at approximately 2:15 a.m., Columbus Police Officer Jeffrey Hall was working in the OSU campus area as a plainclothes patrol officer when he received a report of a prowler in the area. The report described the man as a black male wearing a black hoodie with beige or tan pants and carrying a backpack and green bag. While Officer Hall was driving an unmarked car in the area, he saw a man matching the prowler's description, whom Officer Hall identified at trial as appellant. After observing appellant jaywalk directly in front of his car, the plainclothes officer parked his vehicle and followed appellant. The plainclothes officer observed appellant as he walked through yards between houses and peered into the window of a house. After appellant was detained by other officers, Officer Hall returned to the house where he had observed appellant looking into a window. Outside that house, Officer Hall discovered the green bag that he had earlier observed appellant carrying. Officer Hall testified that the bag was full of frozen food.

{¶ 7} On November 13, 2013, Officer Rees was also assigned to the area surrounding the OSU campus when he heard that Officer Hall saw a person matching the description of the suspect. Officer Rees arrived at the area where Officer Hall reported seeing the suspect and began searching for Officer Hall. As he was looking for the suspect and Officer Hall, Officer Rees observed a man matching the prowler's description emerge from between two houses. Officer Rees testified that he approached the man, whom Officer Rees identified at trial as appellant, at which point the man became startled and, according to the officer, stated something similar to "I haven't done anything." (Tr. 197.) Officer Rees stopped appellant, who was wearing a backpack at the time of the stop, and

questioned appellant about his activity and purpose. Officer Rees testified that appellant's backpack contained a laptop, an Xbox, video games, controllers, and power cords. Officer Rees noticed that the words "Bryan Takayama 2010" were written on the outside of the Xbox, and, based upon this information, was able to ascertain the identity of the owner of the Xbox, who confirmed to Officer Rees that his Xbox was missing. (Tr. 200.) Further investigation revealed that Kristin Kotalo owned the laptop discovered in the backpack in appellant's possession.

{¶ 8} Bryan Takayama testified at trial that, on November 13, 2013 at approximately 4:30 a.m., he was in bed at his home on Iuka Avenue near OSU when he received a call from a police officer who inquired as to the whereabouts of his Xbox. Takayama went downstairs to check on his possessions and discovered that his Xbox, two controllers, five video games, and power cords were missing. Takayama testified that he could not recall whether or not his doors were locked that evening when he went to bed, but he found that his back door was unlocked when he went downstairs to check his property. Takayama also discovered that a significant quantity of frozen food was missing from his freezer. Takayama stated that appellant did not have permission to be inside his home or to take his property.

{¶ 9} Kristin Kotalo testified at trial that she lived on East 18th Avenue near the OSU campus. On November 13, 2013 at approximately 3 a.m., Kotalo was contacted by police, who inquired if she was missing her laptop. Kotalo discovered that her laptop, which had been in her home on her living room table when she went to bed, was missing. When the police arrived at her residence, Kotalo identified her laptop, which was marked with a distinctive sticker, among the possessions shown by police. Kotalo could not recall whether or not her doors were locked that evening before she went to bed, but she stated that the officers who checked her house found no signs of forced entry. Kotalo testified that appellant did not have permission to be in her home or to take her property.

{¶ 10} On November 21, 2013, a Franklin County Grand Jury indicted appellant on one count of attempted burglary in violation of R.C. 2923.02 and 2911.12, a felony of the third degree, and two counts of burglary in violation of R.C. 2911.12, both felonies of the second degree. On December 19, 2013, a Franklin County Grand Jury indicted appellant on one count of burglary in violation of R.C. 2911.12, a felony of the second degree, one

count of theft in violation of R.C. 2913.02, a felony of the fifth degree, and one count of receiving stolen property in violation of R.C. 2913.51, a felony of the fifth degree. On February 10, 2014, the trial court granted appellant's motion to discharge his trial counsel and proceed pro se with assistance of advisory counsel.

{¶ 11} On February 20, 2014, a jury found appellant guilty of all counts. On February 25, 2014, the trial court sentenced appellant, merging the theft count with the receiving stolen property count. The court imposed a sentence of six years for each of the three counts of burglary, to be served consecutively to each other for a total of eighteen years, and a total of three years as to all other counts, to be served concurrently with the sentences for the counts of burglary. Appellant timely appealed.

{¶ 12} On July 18, 2014, appellant filed a motion to discharge his appellate counsel which was granted on July 21, 2014. Appellant was granted an extension of time to file a supplemental brief, which he filed pro se on July 30, 2014. Plaintiff-appellee, State of Ohio ("the state"), filed responses to appellant's merit brief and his supplemental brief.

II. Assignments of Error

{¶ 13} Appellant appeals, assigning the following three errors in his original merit brief and an additional eight errors in his supplemental brief for our review:

Appellant's first brief:

[I.] THE TRIAL COURT ERRED TO THE PREJUDICE OF DEFENDANT AND ABUSED ITS DISCRETION WHEN IT DENIED HIM THE RIGHT TO CALL AN ALIBI WITNESS FOR HIS DEFENSE.

[II.] THE APPELLANT'S INDICTMENTS FOR BURGLARY AND RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN JOINED TOGETHER AS COMPRISING PART OF A COMMON SCHEME OR PLAN.

[III.] THE APPELLANT'S CONVICTIONS FOR BURGLARY AND RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY WERE AGAINST THE MANIFEST WEIGHT OF THE EVIDENCE.

Appellant's Supplemental Brief:

[I.] APPELLANT CONTENDS THAT HIS RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS, AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE FIFTH, SIXTH, AND FOURTEENTH

Franklin County Ohio Court of Appeals Clerk of Courts- 2014 Dec 30 2:04 PM-14AP000252

AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS [SIC] WERE DELIBERTATELY VIOLATED WHEN THE TRIAL COURT ALLOWED THE JURY TO CONVICT, AND THAN [SIC] THE COURT SENTENCED THE APPELLANT ON THE CHARGE OF ATTEMPTED BURGLARY IN A SHAM LEGAL PROCESS WITHOUT HAVING ACQUIRED SUBJECT-MATTER JURISDICTION AND (2) ALLOWING MRS. TINTERA TO TESTIFY, AS HER TESTIMONY WAS IRRELEVANT ON ANY ISSUE THAT WAS BEFORE THE COURT, AND THE COURT (3) GAVE INSUFFICIENT JURY INSTRUCTIONS ON THE ISSUE OF OTHER BAD ACTS CRIM RULE 52 (B), CAUSING A DEFECTIVE VERDICT.

[II.] APPELLANT CONTENDS THAT THIS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS, AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES [CONSTITUTION] WAS VIOLATED WHEN THERE WAS STATE WITNESS MISCONDUCT BY POLICE OFFICER, DAVID LARRISON THAT PREVENTED APPELLANT FROM HAVING A FAIR TRIAL, AND THE JURY FROM PROPERLY FUNCTIONING, AND FAILED TO PRESERVE EVID [SIC].

[III.] APPELLANT CONTENDS THAT HE WAS DENIED DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE FIFTH, AND THE FOURETEENTH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS [SIC], AND SECTION 16, ARTICLE 1 OF THE OHIO CONSTITUTION WHERE PROSECUTORIAL MISCONDUCT PREVENTED APPELLANT FROM HAVING A FAIR TRIAL, AS THE PROSECUTOR (1) KNOWINGLY USED FALSE TESTIMONY TO GAIN THE CONVICTIONS, AND (2) ARGUED FACTS NOT SUPPORTED BY THE EVIDENCE.

[IV.] THE APPELLANT CONTENDS THAT HIS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE FIFTH, AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES [CONSTITUTION] WERE VIOLATED WHEN APPELLANT'S CONVICTIONS AND SENTENCES ARE BOTH CONTRARY TO LAW, AND AGAINST THE MANIFEST WEIGHT OF THE EVIDENCE, THEY FAILED TO PROVE IDENTITY, AND TRESPASS.

[V.] APPELLANT CONTENDS THAT HIS FIFTH AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT RIGHTS UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS [SIC] WERE VIOLATED WHEN THE STATE CONVICTED AND SENTENCED APPELLANT OF CRIMES NOT SUPPORTED BY THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE EVIDENCE, THEY FAILED TO PROVE IDENTITY, TRESPASS, AND MODUS OPERANDI.

[VI.] APPELLANT CONTENDS THAT HE WAS DENIED DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW UNDER THE FIFTH AND SIXTH, AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTIONS [SIC] AND SECTION 10 ARTICLE 1 OF THE OHIO CONSTITUTION, WHEN HE WAS PREVENTED FROM HAVING A FAIR TRIAL WITH REASONABLE, AND RELIABLE RESULTS DUE TO INEFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF TRIAL COUNSEL DURING THE PRE-TRIAL INVESTIGATIVE, AND ADVISORY STAGES OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

[VII.] APPELLANT CONTENDS THAT THE TRIAL COURT ABUSED IT'S [SIC] DISCRETION AND DENIED APPELLANT DUE PROCESS, AND EQUABL [SIC] PROTECTION OF LAW UNDER THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION WHEN THE JUDGE FAILED TO ACT IMPARTIAL. (2) DENIED APPELLANT'S REQUEST FOR A SHORT CONTINUANCE IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR TRIAL AND OBTAIN DEFENSE WITNESSES. (3) FOR MISJOINING INDICTMENTS. (4) FAILING TO RULE IN FAVOR OF APPELLANT'S THREE REQUEST[S] FOR CRIMINAL RULE 29 ACQUITTALS. (5) FOR GIVING FLAWED JURY INSTRUCTIONS WHICH PREJUDICED THE APPELLANT, AND FOR FAILNG TO MERGE SENTENCES AFTER HAVING RULED THAT THE CRIMES WERE ONE SCHEME, AND ONE COURSE OF CRIMINAL CONDUCT ALLIED OFFENSES, WHICH VIOLATED R.C. 2941.25, AND (7) DENYING APPELLANT THE COMPULSORY PROCESS, MAKING REISSUABLE ERRORS, AND HANDING DOWN A DETERRENT PUNNISHMENT.

[VIII.] APPELLANT CONTENDS THAT HE WAS DENIED DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW IN VIOLATION OF THE 5TH, 8TH AND 14TH AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES, CONSTITUTIONS [SIC] AND OHIO STATUTORY LAWS WHEN

APPELLANT WAS PLACED IN PRISON UPON A SENTENCE WHICH WAS IMPOSED CONTRARY TO LAW, AS SAID SENTENCE DID NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS MANDATED BY R.C. 2929.14 (C)(4).

For ease of discussion, where applicable, appellant's assignments of error will be addressed together.

III. Subject-Matter Jurisdiction

{¶ 14} We first address appellant's argument raised in his first supplemental assignment of error, which contends that the trial court lacks subject-matter jurisdiction over these cases. Because this is a criminal matter and the incidents in question occurred in the county in which the trial court is situated, we find no merit in appellant's assertions regarding subject-matter jurisdiction. *See* R.C. 2931.03 (defining jurisdiction of the courts of common pleas). Therefore, insofar as appellant's first supplemental assignment of error asserts error with respect to the subject-matter jurisdiction of the trial court, the first supplemental assignment of error is overruled as to the issue of subject-matter jurisdiction.

IV. Request for Continuances

{¶ 15} In his first assignment of error and the second part of his seventh supplemental assignment of error, appellant asserts generally that the trial court erred by denying his request for a continuance. He asserts specifically that the court erred by denying his request for a continuance made on the day of trial because appellant sought to call an alibi witness.

{¶ 16} We review a trial court's decision to deny a request for a continuance for abuse of discretion. *Hamad v. Hamad*, 10th Dist. No. 12AP-617, 2013-Ohio-2212, ¶ 13, citing *Young v. Young*, 10th Dist. No. 11AP-1148, 2012-Ohio-4377, ¶ 6. "[A]buse of discretion connotes more than an error of law or judgment; it implies that the trial court's attitude is unreasonable, arbitrary or unconscionable." *Blakemore v. Blakemore*, 5 Ohio St.3d 217, 219 (1983).

{¶ 17} When examining a trial court's denial of a motion for a continuance, a reviewing court "must weigh any potential prejudice to the defendant against a court's right to control its own docket and the public's interest in the efficient dispatch of justice."

State v. Woods, 10th Dist. No. 09AP-667, 2010-Ohio-1586, ¶ 24, citing *State v. Unger*, 67 Ohio St.2d 65, 67 (1981). Factors to consider when reviewing a motion for a continuance include, but are not limited to, the following: " 'the length of delay requested; whether other continuances have been requested and received; the inconvenience to litigants, witnesses, opposing counsel and the court; whether the requested delay is for legitimate reasons or whether it is dilatory, purposeful, or contrived; whether the defendant contributed to the circumstance which gives rise to the request for a continuance; and other relevant factors, depending on the unique facts of each case.' " *Woods* at ¶ 24, quoting *Unger* at 67-68.

{¶ 18} Appellant contends that the trial court abused its discretion by refusing to grant his request for a continuance because he sought to call an alibi witness. Although appellant concedes that his disclosure of the existence of an alibi witness was not timely under Crim.R. 12.1, he nevertheless contends that the trial court should have granted him a continuance because he was acting pro se and had difficulties conducting legal research that might have revealed the need to comply with Crim.R. 12.1. The state responds that, even if appellant's witness were to testify as he expected, she would not have provided an alibi but, rather, only corroborated the fact that he was at the scene of the burglary just before the burglary took place. However, even if the witness could be construed as an alibi witness, the state contends that the trial court acted within its discretion in denying appellant's request since it was being utilized as a tactic to delay trial.

{¶ 19} Crim.R. 12.1 provides as follows:

Whenever a defendant in a criminal case proposes to offer testimony to establish an alibi on his behalf, he shall, not less than seven days before trial, file and serve upon the prosecuting attorney a notice in writing of his intention to claim alibi. The notice shall include specific information as to the place at which the defendant claims to have been at the time of the alleged offense. If the defendant fails to file such written notice, the court may exclude evidence offered by the defendant for the purpose of proving such alibi, unless the court determines that in the interest of justice such evidence should be admitted.

We have previously stated that the defense of alibi "means that the defendant claims he was at some place other than the scene of the crime at the time the crime was taking place, and hence could not have been involved in the offense." *State v. Carter*, 10th Dist. No. 03AP-778, 2005-Ohio-291, ¶ 49, citing *State v. Payne*, 104 Ohio App. 410 (10th Dist.1957). "Black's Law Dictionary defines an alibi as 'a defense based on the physical impossibility of a defendant's guilt by placing the defendant in a location other than the scene of the crime at the "relevant time."'" *Carter* at ¶ 49, quoting *Black's Law Dictionary* (7 Ed.Rev.1999) 72.

{¶ 20} To determine whether the trial court abused its discretion in applying Crim.R. 12.1 to exclude evidence of alibi, a reviewing court must consider the following factors: (1) whether the newly asserted alibi evidence prejudices the prosecution's case; (2) whether there was a demonstrable and excusable showing of mere negligence; or (3) whether there was good cause shown. *State v. Smith*, 17 Ohio St.3d 98, 104 (1985). "Stated alternatively, when the alibi evidence does not surprise or otherwise prejudice the prosecution's case, and when it is apparent that the defense acted in good faith, the exclusion of alibi evidence can constitute an abuse of discretion." *State v. Clinkscale*, 10th Dist. No. 98AP-1586 (Dec. 23, 1999). The notice requirement for an alibi defense serves to "protect the prosecution from false and fraudulent claims of alibi, often presented by the accused so near the date of the trial as to make it nearly impossible for the prosecution to ascertain any facts as to the credibility of the witnesses called by the accused." *Clinkscale*, citing *State v. Thayer*, 124 Ohio St. 1, 4 (1931). *See also Williams v. Florida*, 399 U.S. 78 (1970).

{¶ 21} In *Smith*, the Supreme Court of Ohio examined the application of Crim.R. 12.1. After the state had rested, and with no prior notice, the defendant's counsel announced his intention to call his client and other alibi witnesses to establish that the defendant was somewhere else at the time of the offense. Because defense counsel had not filed a notice of alibi pursuant to Crim.R. 12.1, nor informed the prosecution of the intended use of the alibi defense, the trial court ruled that the defendant would be permitted to testify as to his alibi but could not call any alibi witnesses. Because the state would have suffered prejudice had the evidence been allowed at trial and because there was "some indicia of proof that the alibi evidence was withheld from the prosecution in

bad faith as a planned trial tactic," the Supreme Court found that the trial court did not abuse its discretion in excluding the alibi evidence. *Smith* at 1134.

{¶ 22} Here, the transcript reflects the following discussion regarding the potential testimony of the witness sought by appellant:

THE COURT: And she - - you would expect her to testify as to what?

[APPELLANT]: That I never had a bicycle. I was talking to her in the back of the apartment while this other person, whoever, was riding up, climbing through a window.

THE COURT: So basically it is an alibi witness. You're saying she can testify that you were somewhere else when this happened.

[APPELLANT]: Right, at the same time that this maintenance man is saying that he seen somebody ride up on a bicycle, I was talking to her. I didn't have a bicycle.

(Tr. 46.) Thus, based on appellant's assertions regarding the potential testimony to be offered by this witness, the trial court concluded, and appellant agreed, that appellant sought to introduce the witness's testimony to prove an alibi.

{¶ 23} Several factors demonstrate that appellant's request for a continuance to present alibi testimony operated as a tactic to delay the proceedings. First, at the February 10, 2014 oral hearing in which the trial court reviewed appellant's request to represent himself, appellant made no mention of an alibi witness or the need to continue the trial date to subpoena additional witnesses. Additionally, appellant did not move for a continuance, nor did he attempt to alert the court to the need to subpoena an additional witness during the hearing on the morning of February 18, 2014, at which the trial court ruled on the state's motion for joinder of the indictments and addressed appellant's motions in limine. Instead, appellant waited until the afternoon session on February 18, 2014 until immediately before the jury was selected to inform the court that he required a continuance to subpoena an additional witness. Thus, it is a reasonable inference that appellant's failure to inform the court regarding the existence of the alleged alibi witness until such time was an intentional tactic to delay the proceedings. Additionally, the trial court found that the granting of the continuance would have imposed a substantial

burden on the court as it had cleared its business for the trial. Therefore, we cannot say that the trial court abused its discretion in refusing to grant appellant's request for a continuance.

{¶ 24} Further, here, as in *Smith*, the state was unaware of the identity of the alleged alibi witness and, therefore, had no motive or opportunity to question the witness prior to the day of trial when appellant disclosed the existence of the alleged alibi witness. *Id.* at 104. As a result, the state had no opportunity or motive to question the witness or to investigate facts. Even if the continuance had been granted, the state would have suffered prejudice as it was prepared for trial, having subpoenaed and made its witnesses available to testify. *See State v. Stevens*, 2d Dist. No. 16509 (Apr. 3, 1998) (where defendant waited until first day of trial to file notice of alibi, trial court did not abuse its discretion in excluding alibi testimony), *declined to review in* 82 Ohio St.3d 1474. Additionally, appellant failed to show good cause for why this witness, whose existence was known to him, was not disclosed until moments before the case was to proceed to trial.

{¶ 25} Accordingly, we overrule appellant's first assignment of error and the second part of his seventh supplemental assignment of error.

V. Joinder

{¶ 26} In his second assignment of error and the third part of his seventh supplemental assignment of error, appellant asserts that the November 21 and December 19, 2013 indictments should not have been joined. Relatedly, in the third and final part of his first supplemental assignment of error and the fifth part of his seventh supplemental assignment of error, appellant asserts that the trial court erred in instructing the jury regarding other bad acts. Appellant contends that the charges for burglary, attempted burglary, theft, and receiving stolen property are neither the same or similar, and joinder and other bad acts do not constitute a common scheme or design. The state responds that appellant failed to renew his objection to joinder at the close of the state's case or at the conclusion of all the evidence, and, therefore, the plain-error standard applies. The state also contends that appellant does not meet his burden of showing prejudice as a result of joinder and that, even if appellant could demonstrate prejudice, such showing could be rebutted by the state's showing that the evidence of the

other crimes would be admissible under Evid.R. 404(B) or by showing that the evidence of each crime is simple and direct.

{¶ 27} Because appellant did not renew his objection to joinder of the charged offenses at the close of the presentation of the state's evidence or at the close of the presentation of all evidence, he has waived all but plain error. *State v. Wilson*, 10th Dist. No. 10AP-251, 2011-Ohio-430, ¶ 12, citing *State v. Williams*, 10th Dist. No. 02AP-730, 2003-Ohio-5204, ¶ 29. "Under the plain error test, a reviewing court must consider whether, 'but for the existence of the error, the result of the trial would have been otherwise.'" *Wilson* at ¶ 12, quoting *State v. Wiles*, 59 Ohio St.3d 71, 86 (1991).

{¶ 28} Under Crim.R. 13, a trial court may order two or more indictments to be tried together "if the offenses or the defendants could have been joined in a single indictment or information." Pursuant to Crim.R. 8(A), two or more offenses may be charged in the same indictment if they are of "the same or similar character, or are based on the same act or transaction, or are based on two or more acts or transactions connected together or constituting parts of a common scheme or plan, or are part of a course of criminal conduct." "The law favors joining multiple offenses in a single trial under Crim.R. 8(A) if the offenses charged 'are of the same or similar character.'" *State v. Lott*, 51 Ohio St.3d 160 (1990), quoting *State v. Torres*, 66 Ohio St.2d 340 (1981). "Nonetheless, an accused may move to sever counts of an indictment on the grounds that he or she will be prejudiced by the joinder of multiple offenses." *Wilson* at ¶ 13, citing *State v. LaMar*, 95 Ohio St.3d 181, 2002-Ohio-2128, ¶ 49.

{¶ 29} To prevail on a motion to sever, a defendant " 'must furnish the trial court with sufficient information so that it can weigh the considerations favoring joinder against the defendant's right to a fair trial.'" *Wilson* at ¶ 14, quoting *Lott* at 163. Absent an abuse of discretion, a reviewing court will not reverse a trial court's decision to deny severance. *Wilson* at ¶ 14, citing *Lott* at 163.

{¶ 30} However, even if the defendant establishes prejudice resulting from the joinder, the state may rebut the showing of prejudice in two ways. First, the state can demonstrate that evidence of one offense would be admissible at a separate trial of the other offense under Evid.R. 404(B). *Wilson* at ¶ 15, citing *State v. Tipton*, 10th Dist. No. 04AP-1314, 2006-Ohio-2066, ¶ 27; *State v. Brinkley*, 105 Ohio St.3d 231, 2005-Ohio-

1507, ¶ 30. Evid.R. 404(B) recognizes that evidence of other crimes may be admissible if the evidence pertains to "motive, opportunity, intent, preparation, plan, knowledge, identity, or absence of mistake or accident." Second, the state can demonstrate that evidence of the offenses joined at trial is simple and direct, so that a jury is capable of segregating the proof required for each offense. *Wilson* at ¶ 15; *Brinkley* at ¶ 30. "These two tests are disjunctive, so that the satisfaction of one negates a defendant's claim of prejudice without having to consider the other test." *Wilson* at ¶ 15, citing *State v. Gravelly*, 10th Dist. No. 09AP-440, 2010-Ohio-3379, ¶ 38.

{¶ 31} Here, appellant contends that evidence of the separate incidents would not be admissible as "other-acts" evidence under Evid.R. 404(B). Appellant states that the October 21 burglary did not "establish the requisite 'scheme, plan or system,' much less 'the immediate background' forming the 'foundation' for the subsequent November 13 burglary which occurred in a wholly different location, different date and different time of day as that of the earlier burglary." (Appellant's Merit Brief, 12.) In response, the state argues that evidence of the separate burglaries would have been admissible under Evid.R. 404(B) to prove identity.

{¶ 32} "For other-acts evidence to be admissible to prove identity, the 'other-acts evidence must be related to and share common features with the crime in question.' " *State v. Massey*, 10th Dist. No. 99AP-1355 (Nov. 28, 2000), quoting *State v. Lowe*, 69 Ohio St.3d 527 (1994), paragraph one of the syllabus. Evidence of other acts is admissible to prove identity if there is "substantial proof that the alleged other acts were committed by the defendant." *Lowe* at 530. See also *State v. Parnell*, 10th Dist. No. 11AP-257, 2011-Ohio-6564, ¶ 31.

{¶ 33} In *Massey*, the defendant asserted that the trial court erred by joining four separate indictments containing thirteen charges arising from four separate incidents for trial. Specifically, the defendant contended that the joinder allowed the jury to hear inadmissible "other-acts" evidence from the separate cases. In response, the prosecution argued that the other-acts evidence was admissible under Evid.R. 404(B) to prove identity. We concluded that the other-acts evidence would have been admissible even if the cases had been tried separately because (1) all of the cases shared a "temporal, modal, and situational relationship"; (2) the victim in each case was a business and the method of

accomplishing the crime was comparable; (3) witnesses to three of the crimes identified the defendant as the perpetrator, and property from two of the crimes was recovered from the defendant's possession; and (4) the jury was given a limiting instruction on the use of the other-acts evidence. *Id.*

{¶ 34} First, we note that, as in *Massey*, appellant has failed to specifically point to any evidence of actual prejudice arising from the trial court's joinder of his indictments. A defendant asserting prejudice as a result of joinder "may not prevail by presuming prejudice based on the number of counts." *Id.* Because appellant has "failed to suggest how he likely would have been acquitted on some counts had the * * * incidents been tried separately," we need not consider whether the trial court abused its discretion in granting the state's motion to join the indictments. *Id.*

{¶ 35} Nevertheless, in the interest of justice, we will consider whether the state could rebut a showing of prejudice by demonstrating that evidence of the other crimes would be admissible even if the indictments were severed. As in *Massey*, the charged offenses here share a "temporal, modal, and situational relationship." *Id.* The incidents in question took place within weeks of one another, a period of time shorter than the charged offenses in *Massey*. Additionally, the victims in each case were residents of homes or apartments, and the method of accomplishing the crimes was comparable; namely, the entry or attempted entry into unsecured dwellings. *See Wilson* at ¶ 21 (finding that the evidence demonstrated that "the crimes followed a similar pattern and were geographically linked such that the evidence of any one of the robberies would have been admissible at the trial of each of the others under Evid.R. 404(B) to establish appellant's identity"); *Massey*. Finally, the victims of each of the burglaries identified property recovered from appellant as belonging to them.

{¶ 36} The trial court also issued the following charge to the jury regarding the other acts evidence admitted at trial:

Evidence was admitted of another act which may have been committed by the Defendant. You are to consider this evidence on the issue of identity. If you believe that the Defendant committed the other act, you may consider evidence of scheme, plan or system as you decide whether the acts alleged in the indictment, if committed, were committed by the Defendant rather than some other person.

Let me caution you that the evidence of scheme, plan or system is only one of the things you are to consider in determining identity. The State must prove identity beyond a reasonable doubt. If you find that the Defendant committed the other act, you may not presume that he committed the acts charged. You may, however, consider the other act along with all other evidence in deciding whether the State has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the Defendant rather than some other person committed the offenses charged.

(Tr. 300-01.) Appellant argues without supporting his argument that this instruction was in error because it failed to instruct the jury as to the importance of considering each count and evidence applicable to each count separately. We note that the trial court instructed the jury on each offense and that the instructions include the admonition that "[i]f you find that the Defendant committed the other act, you may not presume that he committed the acts charged." (Tr. 301.)

{¶ 37} Furthermore, the Ohio Jury Instructions for other acts evidence read as follows:

Evidence was received about the commission of (crime[s]) (wrong[s]) (act[s]) other than the offense(s) with which the defendant is charged in this trial. That evidence was received only for a limited purpose. It was not received, and you may not consider it, to prove the character of the defendant in order to show that he acted in (conformity) (accordance) with that character. If you find that the evidence of other (crime[s]) (wrong[s]) (act[s]) is true and that the defendant committed (it) (them), you may consider that evidence only for the purpose of deciding whether it proves

* * *

(a) the absence of (mistake) (accident)

(or)

(b) the defendant's (motive) (opportunity) (intent or purpose) (preparation) (plan) to commit the offense charged in this trial,

(or)

Franklin County Ohio Court of Appeals Clerk of Courts- 2014 Dec 30 2:04 PM-14AP000252

(c) knowledge of circumstances surrounding the offense charged in this trial,

(or)

(d) the identity of the person who committed the offense in this trial

(or)

(e) (*describe other purposes*).

That evidence cannot be considered for any other purpose.

(Emphasis sic.) *Ohio Jury Instructions*, CR Section 401.25. Here, as we earlier noted, the trial court instructed that, "[i]f you find that the Defendant committed the other act, you may not presume that he committed the acts charged." (Tr. 301.) This instruction and the outline provided in the *Ohio Jury Instructions* serve a similar, limiting purpose, and the trial court's instruction may be considered to contain an even stronger admonition against the presumption of guilt arising out of the admission of other-acts evidence by requiring the jurors to consider the other acts and the charged offenses separately. Therefore, given the foregoing and considering that appellant fails to support his arguments, we cannot find that the trial court's other-acts instruction constituted an abuse of discretion. *State v. Smith*, 10th Dist. No. 01AP-848, 2002-Ohio-1479, citing *Jenkins v. Clark*, 7 Ohio App.3d 93, 100 (2d Dist.1982) ("It is well established that a trial court has broad discretion in instructing the jury.").

{¶ 38} We further find that the trial court specifically instructed the jury that it was to consider the other-acts evidence that was admitted for the purpose of determining identity, one of the enumerated exceptions to the general prohibition on other-acts evidence. See *State v. Broom*, 40 Ohio St.3d 277, 281 (1988) (noting that the jury "was given a carefully drafted limiting instruction to explain that the evidence concerning those two incidents was admitted only for the purpose of considering whether those acts tended to show intent, motive, scheme, plan or system" for the charged crimes); *Massey*. As a result, we conclude that the state could rebut a showing of prejudice resulting from joinder of the indictments because the evidence of the other crimes would be admissible under Evid.R. 404(B) to prove identity even if the indictments were severed.

{¶ 39} Although the satisfaction of the other-acts test would ordinarily end the analysis, we nonetheless further find that the state can rebut a showing of prejudice because the evidence of the offenses joined at trial was simple and direct, thus precluding juror confusion resulting from joinder. "Evidence is 'simple and direct' if the jury is capable of segregating the proof required for each offense." *Wilson* at ¶ 23, citing *State v. Cameron*, 10th Dist. No. 09AP-56, 2009-Ohio-6479, ¶ 35.

{¶ 40} Here, the separate incidents in the two indictments involved a simple set of facts and a limited number of witnesses whose testimony was straightforward. Additionally, as noted above, the trial court instructed the jurors regarding the admissibility and limited purpose of other-acts evidence. *See Wilson* at ¶ 24-25 (noting that a "jury is presumed to follow the instructions of the court"). As a result, because the evidence was simple and direct, the possibility of jury confusion was extremely remote such that any claim of prejudice arising from joinder would be negated. *See State v. Bass*, 10th Dist. No. 12AP-622, 2013-Ohio-4503, ¶ 21-24; *Wilson* at ¶ 23-25.

{¶ 41} In conclusion, we find no error in the trial court's decision to join the two indictments for trial and we find no abuse of discretion in the trial court's jury instructions relating to other-acts evidence. Accordingly, we overrule appellant's second assignment of error, the third and final part of his first supplemental assignment of error, and the third and fifth parts of his seventh supplemental assignment of error.

VI. Sufficiency and Manifest Weight

{¶ 42} It is difficult to decipher some of appellant's arguments. Indeed, several of his assignments of error are phrased in such a way as to allege error in the admission of evidence, police misconduct, prosecutorial misconduct, and judicial bias. Nevertheless, after careful review, we find that appellant's third assignment of error, the second part of his first supplemental assignment of error, his second supplemental assignment of error, his third supplemental assignment of error, his fourth supplemental assignment of error, his fifth supplemental assignment of error, and the fourth part of his seventh supplemental assignment of error essentially assert that his convictions were against the manifest weight of the evidence and not supported by the sufficiency of the evidence.

{¶ 43} We first review appellant's claim that his convictions were insufficiently supported by the evidence. Sufficiency of evidence is a "legal standard that tests whether

the evidence introduced at trial is legally sufficient to support a verdict." *State v. Cassell*, 10th Dist. No. 08AP-1093, 2010-Ohio-1881, ¶ 36, citing *State v. Thompkins*, 78 Ohio St.3d 380, 386 (1997). When judging the sufficiency of the evidence to support a criminal conviction, an appellate court must decide if, "after viewing the evidence in a light most favorable to the prosecution, any rational trier of fact could have found the essential elements of the crime proven beyond a reasonable doubt." *State v. Jenks*, 61 Ohio St.3d 259 (1991), paragraph two of the syllabus. Where the evidence, "if believed, would convince the average mind of the defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt," it is sufficient to sustain a conviction. *Id.* at 273.

{¶ 44} Appellant's only argument regarding the sufficiency of the evidence reduces to the contention that nothing in the record established that appellant entered the homes of the victims of this case. Appellant argues that the act of trespassing into the residence is an essential element of the crime of burglary, and, as a matter of law, his convictions cannot stand since there was no evidence of such at trial. Although we agree that trespass is an element of the offense of burglary, appellant's argument fails to appreciate that convictions can be sustained based on circumstantial evidence. *See State v. Jewett*, 10th Dist. No. 11AP-1028, 2013-Ohio-1246, ¶ 34, quoting *State v. Fausnaugh*, 10th Dist. No. 11AP-842, 2012-Ohio-4414, ¶ 26, quoting *State v. Franklin*, 62 Ohio St.3d 118, 124 (1991) ("Under Ohio law * * * circumstantial evidence can have the same probative value as direct evidence, and "[a] conviction can be sustained based on circumstantial evidence alone." ' '). Here, the victims provided circumstantial evidence of burglary by identifying their property recovered from appellant, stating that such property was inside their respective residences before police recovered the property from appellant, and confirming that appellant did not have permission to enter their residences or to take their property. Thus, ample circumstantial evidence supported the element of trespass in the charged offenses, and we, therefore, find appellant's arguments regarding the sufficiency of the evidence to be without merit.

{¶ 45} We next examine appellant's contentions regarding the manifest weight of the evidence. "While sufficiency of the evidence is a test of adequacy regarding whether the evidence is legally sufficient to support the verdict as a matter of law, the criminal manifest weight of the evidence standard addresses the evidence's effect of inducing

belief." *Cassell* at ¶ 38, citing *State v. Wilson*, 113 Ohio St.3d 382, 2007-Ohio-2202 ¶ 25. See also *Thompkins* at 386. "When a court of appeals reverses a judgment of a trial court on the basis that the verdict is against the weight of the evidence, the appellate court sits as a 'thirteenth juror' and disagrees with the factfinder's resolution of the conflicting testimony." *Id.*, citing *Tibbs v. Florida*, 457 U.S. 31, 42 (1982). "The court, reviewing the entire record, weighs the evidence and all reasonable inferences, considers the credibility of witnesses and determines whether in resolving conflicts in the evidence, the jury clearly lost its way and created such a manifest miscarriage of justice that the conviction must be reversed and a new trial ordered." *Thompkins* at 387, quoting *State v. Martin*, 20 Ohio App.3d 172, 175 (1st Dist.1983). This authority " 'should be exercised only in the exceptional case in which the evidence weighs heavily against the conviction.' " *Id.*, quoting *Martin* at 175.

{¶ 46} First, appellant argues that his conviction for attempted burglary is against the manifest weight of the evidence because Tintera could not identify him at trial as the man who attempted to gain access to her residence on November 13, 2013. He also argues that she did not identify him upon his apprehension but only provided police with a "vague clothing description of a suspect." (Appellant's Supplemental Brief, 1.) However, "[t]he identity of a perpetrator may be established by the use of direct or circumstantial evidence." *State v. McClurkin*, 10th Dist. No. 11AP-944, 2013-Ohio-1140, ¶ 43, citing *State v. McKnight*, 107 Ohio St.3d 101, 2005-Ohio-6046.

{¶ 47} Here, ample circumstantial evidence existed to allow the jury to conclude that appellant was the man who attempted to gain access to Tintera's residence. At trial, Tintera testified that the man attempting to open the front door to her residence was "attempting to open the door as I locked the door." (Tr. 142.) Tintera further testified that lights in her residence, including her porch light, were on when she was locking her door. Tintera testified that there was only a glass panel between her and the man and that they were only about a foot apart. Tintera testified that, although she could not identify him in court because "[i]t was a long time ago," she stated that appellant matched the general description of the man who attempted to enter her home. (Tr. 145.) Based on Tintera's testimony regarding the general description of appellant and the fact that police arrested appellant later that same day, after observing him matching the description provided by

Nos. 14AP-252 and 14AP-253

21

Tintera, circumstantial evidence provided support for the identification of appellant as the man who attempted to enter Tintera's residence. *McClurkin* at ¶ 43. Thus, we cannot say that the jury lost its way by concluding that appellant was the man who attempted to gain access to Tintera's residence.

{¶ 48} Regarding the charges arising out of the events of October 21, 2013, appellant also attacks the credibility of Officer Larrison, Dunn, and Schneider. We find appellant's arguments regarding the credibility of the witnesses to be unavailing given the other evidence supporting his convictions. Testimony from Officer Larrison, Schneider, and Dunn supported appellant's convictions for theft, receiving stolen property, and burglary arising out of the incident on October 21, 2013. Dunn and Officer Larrison both testified that they saw appellant carrying a laptop and other electronic equipment in the hallway of the apartment complex where Schneider lived. Schneider testified that the items found in appellant's possession belonged to her and that appellant did not have her permission to be present in her apartment or to possess her property. Appellant fails to point to any evidence in the record that casts serious doubt upon the credibility of the witnesses or their accounts.

{¶ 49} Further, regarding the charges arising out of the events of November 13, 2013, Officer Hall, Officer Rees, Takayama, and Kotalo provided testimony supporting appellant's convictions for burglary. Officer Hall identified appellant at trial as the man he pursued who matched the description given earlier by Tintera of the man who was attempting to gain access to her residence. Officer Rees testified that he discovered appellant, who matched Tintera's description, traveling erratically between houses. Officer Rees further testified that appellant was carrying in his possession items that were later identified as belonging to Takayama and Kotalo. Takayama and Kotalo both testified that the items recovered from appellant by the officers belonged to them, that such items were last seen in their respective homes, and that appellant did not have permission to possess their property. Finally, we find the testimony of Schneider regarding the value of the property at issue in the charge of receiving stolen property was sufficient. Schneider testified that the value of her laptop was between \$1,200 to \$1,400, the value of her iPod was around \$100, and the value of her cell phone was \$400. (Tr. 160-61.) Appellant

points to nothing in the record to dispute the value of the items offered by Schneider at trial.

{¶ 50} Thus, considering the credibility of the witnesses and the evidence presented at trial, we cannot find that the jury clearly lost its way and created such a manifest miscarriage of justice that the conviction must be reversed and a new trial ordered. *See State v. Vencill*, 10th Dist. No. 11AP-1050, 2012-Ohio-4419, ¶ 13-14.

{¶ 51} In conclusion, we find that sufficient evidence supported appellant's convictions and that such convictions were not against the manifest weight of the evidence. Accordingly, we overrule appellant's third assignment of error, the second part of his first supplemental assignment of error, his second supplemental assignment of error, his third supplemental assignment of error, his fourth supplemental assignment of error, his fifth supplemental assignment of error, and the fourth part of his seventh supplemental assignment of error.

VII. Ineffective Assistance of Counsel

{¶ 52} In his sixth supplemental assignment of error, appellant alleges ineffective assistance of counsel during the pretrial, investigative, and advisory stages of the proceedings. A convicted defendant alleging ineffective assistance of counsel must demonstrate that: (1) defense counsel's performance was so deficient that he or she was not functioning as the counsel guaranteed under the Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution; and (2) defense counsel's errors prejudiced defendant, depriving him or her of a trial whose result is reliable. *State v. Campbell*, 10th Dist. No. 03AP-147, 2003-Ohio-6305, ¶ 24, citing *Strickland v. Washington*, 466 U.S. 668 (1984); *State v. Bradley*, 42 Ohio St.3d 136 (1989), paragraph two of the syllabus, *cert. denied*, 497 U.S. 1011 (1990).

{¶ 53} "Judicial scrutiny of counsel's performance must be highly deferential * * * [and] [a] court must indulge a strong presumption that counsel's conduct falls within the wide range of reasonable professional assistance." *Strickland* at 689; *Bradley* at 141. In Ohio, a properly licensed attorney is presumed competent. *State v. Davis*, 10th Dist. No. 13AP-98, 2014-Ohio-90, ¶ 20, citing *Vaughn v. Maxwell*, 2 Ohio St.2d 299, 301 (1965). Trial counsel is entitled to a strong presumption that all decisions fall within the wide range of reasonable professional assistance. *State v. Sallie*, 81 Ohio St.3d 673, 675 (1998).

" To show that a defendant has been prejudiced by counsel's deficient performance, the defendant must prove that there exists a reasonable probability that, were it not for counsel's errors, the result of the trial would have been different.' " *State v. Griffin*, 10th Dist. No. 10AP-902, 2011-Ohio-4250, ¶ 42, quoting *Bradley* at paragraph three of syllabus.

{¶ 54} Initially, we must address appellant's contentions that he was prejudiced by his trial counsel's withdrawal from the case and that he was "tricked" into representing himself. Nothing in the record supports appellant's contention that he did not intend to exercise his right to self-representation. The record reflects that appellant's counsel informed the court weeks before trial that appellant wished to represent himself. Further, at an oral hearing before the trial court, the trial court engaged in a lengthy colloquy with appellant to determine if he wished to exercise his right to self-representation and whether he was capable of so doing. Throughout the discussion with the trial court, appellant repeatedly acknowledged that he was exercising his right to self-representation.¹ We have previously stated that, if an appellant was responsible for what he or she now claims to be error, he or she is precluded from arguing it. *See In re Magnus*, 10th Dist. No. 01AP-411 (Sept. 13, 2001), citing *State v. Seiber*, 56 Ohio St.3d 4, 17 (1990). Accordingly, we find appellant's contentions of ineffective assistance of counsel with regard to his attorney's withdrawal are without merit.

{¶ 55} Next, appellant asserts that he received ineffective assistance of counsel during the pretrial stage of the proceeding. In support of this contention, appellant contends that his counsel erred by failing to file "appropriate [sic] pre-trial motions such as motions to suppress, motions to dismiss, and motions against prejudicial misjoinder of indictments." (Appellant's Supplemental Brief, 17.)

{¶ 56} " When a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel is based on counsel's failure to file a particular motion, a defendant must show that the motion had a reasonable probability of success.' " *State v. Jones*, 10th Dist. No. 11AP-1123, 2012-Ohio-3767, ¶ 31, quoting *State v. Carmon*, 10th Dist. No. 11AP-818, 2012-Ohio-1615, ¶ 12. The Supreme Court of Ohio has held that the " '[f]ailure to file a suppression motion does not

¹ See Tr. 6-20. Appellant states: "Only thing I can't claim on appeal will be ineffective assistance of counsel because I'm representing myself." (Tr. 19.)

constitute per se ineffective assistance of counsel.' " *State v. Madrigal*, 87 Ohio St.3d 378, 389 (2000), quoting *Kimmelman v. Morrison*, 477 U.S. 365, 384 (1986). See also *State v. Haas*, 10th Dist. No. 10AP-35, 2011-Ohio-2676, ¶ 45. Appellant cites to no relevant authority to demonstrate that any of the suggested motions would have had a reasonable probability of success. Furthermore, appellant himself filed motions to dismiss the indictment and motions to suppress evidence in both cases. The trial court heard arguments on appellant's motions and determined that they were without merit. As a result, even if appellant's trial counsel was deficient, appellant fails to show prejudice from his counsel's failure to file motions that appellant himself filed and that were ruled upon by the trial court. *Griffin* at ¶ 39.

{¶ 57} Additionally, appellant asserts that his attorney erred by failing to investigate and subpoena witnesses for trial. However, the record is not fully developed as to the allegations made by appellant regarding the investigation conducted by his attorney. "When allegations of ineffective assistance of counsel hinge on facts not appearing in the record, the proper remedy is a petition for post-conviction relief rather than a direct appeal." *State v. Davis*, 10th Dist. No. 05AP-193, 2006-Ohio-193, ¶ 19, citing *State v. Cooperrider*, 4 Ohio St.3d 226, 228 (1983). See also *State v. Hubbard*, 10th Dist. No. 89AP-1000 (Nov. 7, 1989) ("Since it is obvious that the issues raised would require evidence outside the record of the trial court's proceedings leading up to the judgment of conviction, leave to appeal is not appropriate since defendant has not demonstrated that error in the proceedings themselves occurred. Thus, even assuming that defendant's counsel was ineffective as defendant contends, a motion for leave to appeal from the conviction is not an available means of raising the issue."). Here, even if appellant was able to demonstrate that his trial counsel was deficient in failing to identify and subpoena appellant's alleged witnesses, determination of appellant's claim of ineffective assistance of counsel would require evidence outside the record to determine whether counsel's action or inaction prejudiced appellant. *Davis* at ¶ 19. Thus, appellant's arguments regarding ineffective assistance of counsel in the investigation of potential witnesses are not before us in the present matter.

{¶ 58} Appellant additionally contends that his standby counsel was ineffective because he was not familiar with appellant's case. Here, appellant elected to exercise his

right of self-representation. In Ohio, "a criminal defendant has the right to representation by counsel or to proceed pro se with the assistance of standby counsel," but "these two rights are independent of each other and may not be asserted simultaneously." *State v. Martin*, 103 Ohio St.3d 385, 2004-Ohio-5471, ¶ 32. Thus, appellant cannot complain that he failed to receive effective assistance of counsel because "he has no corresponding right to act as co-counsel on his own behalf." *State v. Thompson*, 33 Ohio St.3d 1, 6-7 (1987). Further, appellant points to nothing in the record to suggest that his standby counsel rendered ineffective assistance, or that he was prejudiced by such deficient assistance. Therefore, we find appellant's arguments regarding the effectiveness of his standby counsel to be without merit.

{¶ 59} Accordingly, we overrule appellant's sixth supplemental assignment of error.

VIII. Judicial Bias

{¶ 60} Appellant's seventh supplemental assignment of error also asserts a number of unrelated issues for our consideration. We have addressed the merits of the second, third, fourth, and fifth parts of his seventh supplemental assignment of error above, and will address the merits of his sentencing arguments below. However, we note that appellant asserts generally that the trial court exhibited bias against him during the course of the proceedings. Appellant fails to demonstrate with reference to the record any conduct on the part of the trial court that would suggest bias and provides no support for such a proposition by citation to pertinent authority. App.R. 16(A)(7). *See State v. L.E.F.*, 10th Dist. No. 13AP-1042, 2014-Ohio-4585, ¶ 19, citing *Sherman v. Sherman*, 10th Dist. No. 05AP-757, 2006-Ohio-2309, ¶ 15 ("It is not this court's duty to search the record for evidence to support an appellant's argument as to alleged error."); *Paranthaman v. State Auto Prop. & Cas. Ins. Co.*, 10th Dist. No. 14AP-221, 2014-Ohio-4948, ¶ 48, citing *Legacy Academy for Leaders v. Mt. Calvary Pentecostal Church*, 10th Dist. No. 13AP-203, 2013-Ohio-4214, ¶ 20 ("An appellate court may reject an argument on appeal when the appellant fails to cite any legal authority in support of that argument."); *Adams, Babner & Gitlitz, LLC v. Tartan West, LLC*, 10th Dist. No. 14AP-277, 2014-Ohio-5305, ¶ 20; *Reid v. Plainsboro Partners, III*, 10th Dist. No. 09AP-442, 2010-Ohio-4373, ¶ 22. We therefore decline to consider appellant's unsubstantiated allegation of bias in his seventh

supplemental assignment of error. Accordingly, we overrule the first part of appellant's seventh supplemental assignment of error.

IX. Sentencing

{¶ 61} In the sixth part of his seventh supplemental assignment of error, appellant asserts that the trial court erred by failing to merge his sentences for burglary. First, the trial court did merge the offenses of theft and receiving stolen property arising out of the October 21, 2013 incident. Second, with regard to the burglary counts, appellant essentially argues that, because his cases were joined, his sentences should have merged. However, joinder and merger are distinct concepts. Joinder in the criminal context refers to the combination of several charges or cases for the purposes of trial, while merger deals with the absorption of a lesser-included offense into a more serious offense when a person is charged with both crimes.² When a trial court considers whether merger of offenses is appropriate under R.C. 2941.25, "the court must determine prior to sentencing whether the offenses were committed by the same conduct." *State v. Johnson*, 128 Ohio St.3d 153, 2010-Ohio-6314, ¶ 47. "[I]f the court determines that the commission of one offense will *never* result in the commission of the other, or if the offenses are committed separately, or if the defendant has a separate animus for each offense, then, according to R.C. 2941.25(B), the offenses will not merge. (Emphasis sic.) *Id.* at ¶ 51. Here, appellant's charges for burglary arose out of entirely separate incidents, and, therefore, the offenses would not merge under R.C. 2941.25. As a result, we find that appellant's arguments regarding merger have no merit. Accordingly, we overrule the sixth part of appellant's seventh supplemental assignment of error.

{¶ 62} In his eighth supplemental assignment of error, appellant asserts that the trial court erred by failing to state findings required for the imposition of consecutive sentences under R.C. 2929.14(C)(4), rendering his sentence void. The state responds that, although the trial court failed to journalize its findings in its judgment entry imposing

² "Joinder of indictments," is defined as follows: "The court may order two or more indictments or informations or both to be tried together if the offenses, and the defendants if there is more than one, could have been joined in a single indictment or information." *Black's Law Dictionary* 836 (6th Ed.1990). "Merger" in criminal law is defined as follows: "When a man commits a major crime which includes a lesser offense, or commits a felony which includes a tort against a private person, the latter is merged in the former." *Black's Law Dictionary* 989 (6th Ed.1990).

sentence as required by the decision of the Supreme Court of Ohio in *State v. Bonnell*, 140 Ohio St.3d 209, 2014-Ohio-3177, the trial court nevertheless made the required findings at appellant's sentencing hearing. As a result, the state contends that, pursuant to *Bonnell*, appellant's sentence is not void but, rather, must be remanded to the trial court for the limited purpose of directing the trial court to issue a nunc pro tunc entry to correct its clerical error.

{¶ 63} R.C. 2929.14(C)(4) provides, as follows:

(4) If multiple prison terms are imposed on an offender for convictions of multiple offenses, the court may require the offender to serve the prison terms consecutively if the court finds that the consecutive service is necessary to protect the public from future crime or to punish the offender and that consecutive sentences are not disproportionate to the seriousness of the offender's conduct and to the danger the offender poses to the public, and if the court also finds any of the following:

(a) The offender committed one or more of the multiple offenses while the offender was awaiting trial or sentencing, was under a sanction imposed pursuant to section 2929.16, 2929.17, or 2929.18 of the Revised Code, or was under post-release control for a prior offense.

(b) At least two of the multiple offenses were committed as part of one or more courses of conduct, and the harm caused by two or more of the multiple offenses so committed was so great or unusual that no single prison term for any of the offenses committed as part of any of the courses of conduct adequately reflects the seriousness of the offender's conduct.

(c) The offender's history of criminal conduct demonstrates that consecutive sentences are necessary to protect the public from future crime by the offender.

Thus, pursuant to R.C. 2929.14(C)(4), in order to impose consecutive terms of imprisonment, the trial court is required to make at least three distinct findings: "(1) that consecutive sentences are necessary to protect the public from future crime *or* to punish the offender; (2) that consecutive sentences are not disproportionate to the seriousness of the offender's conduct and to the danger the offender poses to the public; and (3) that one

Nos. 14AP-252 and 14AP-253

28

of the subsections (a), (b) or (c) applies." (Emphasis sic.) *State v. Price*, 10th Dist. No. 13AP-1088, 2014-Ohio-4696, ¶ 31, citing *Bonnell*.

{¶ 64} In *Bonnell*, the Supreme Court of Ohio held that a trial court seeking to impose consecutive terms of imprisonment is required to make the findings provided by R.C. 2929.14(C)(4) both at the sentencing hearing and to incorporate such findings into its sentencing entry. *Id.* at ¶ 37. However, the trial court need not state reasons to support its findings, nor is the court "required to give a talismanic incantation of the words of the statute, provided that the necessary findings can be found in the record and are incorporated into the sentencing entry." *Id.*

{¶ 65} Here, the trial court made the following findings when it imposed consecutive terms of imprisonment:

I don't know what goes through your mind, but obviously you don't appreciate how serious a burglary is as an offense. I mean, it not only shows a very serious disregard for people's privacy and people's property, it shows a very serious disregard for their safety.

And it's not just like a theft offense. I mean, you leave people very fearful and insecure, and that's why the law considers it a very serious offense. And the fact that these occurred not too long after you were released from prison just indicates that -- [the prosecutor] has a very good point, the only time you're not breaking into people's houses is when you're locked up.

So I have to give you a long sentence to protect the community. Anything less than that, I think, would be demeaning to the seriousness of the offenses when you have several different victims. They all feel like they should have a sentence that reflects the damage done to them.

I'm going to give you six years on each one of the burglaries and make them consecutive, and it will be two years on the attempted burglary and one year on the theft and RSP, which merge. I'll make them concurrent, so the total sentence is 18 years for the three burglaries and the attempted burglary. Maybe when you're 70 years old, you won't be as apt to commit these kinds of crimes.

* * *

Well, I think I said that consecutive sentences are necessary to protect the public, and anything less than consecutive sentences would demean the seriousness of the offenses.

(Tr. 338-40.)

{¶ 66} For the following reasons, we find that the record reflects that the trial court engaged in the correct analysis and made the required finding. We also conclude that the record contains support for the trial court's findings.

{¶ 67} First, the trial court must find either that consecutive sentences are necessary to protect the public from future crime or to punish the offender. *Price* at ¶ 35. Here, the trial court stated explicitly that "consecutive sentences are necessary to protect the public." (Tr. 339.) The trial court stated that it was necessary to give appellant a "long sentence to protect the community." (Tr. 338.) Additionally, the trial court's statement that "the only time you're not breaking into people's houses is when you're locked up" demonstrates that the trial court was concerned about the need to protect the public from future criminal activity. (Tr. 338.) Therefore, we find that the trial court made the first required finding under R.C. 2929.14(C)(4).

{¶ 68} Second, the trial court was required to engage in a proportionality analysis. *Price* at ¶ 36-38. Here, the trial court explicitly stated that "anything less than consecutive sentences would demean the seriousness of the offense." (Tr. 339-40.) Additionally, the trial court stated that appellant did not "appreciate how serious a burglary is as an offense" because "it not only shows a very serious disregard for people's privacy and people's property, it shows a very serious disregard for people's safety." (Tr. 338.) The trial court additionally expressed concerns about any lesser sentence being demeaning to the seriousness of the offense because there were "several different victims" in this case. Therefore, we find that the trial court made the second required finding under R.C. 2929.14(C)(4).

{¶ 69} Finally, we must examine whether the trial court made findings consistent with one of the subsections of R.C. 2929.14(C)(4). Here, although there is potentially support in the record for a finding under either R.C. 2929.14(C)(4)(b) or (c), we find the trial court made sufficient findings under R.C. 2929.14(C)(4)(c) that "[t]he offender's history of criminal conduct demonstrates that consecutive sentences are necessary to

protect the public from future crime by the offender." Here, as earlier noted, the trial court mentioned concern with the fact that appellant committed these offenses "not too long after you were released from prison" and that "the only time you're not breaking into people's houses is when you're locked up." (Tr. 338.) This demonstrates that the trial court considered appellant's history of criminal conduct in fashioning an appropriate sentence. As we earlier mentioned, the trial court explicitly stated that the sentence was necessary to protect the public from future crime. Therefore, we find that the trial court made the findings required under R.C. 2929.14(C)(4)(c).

{¶ 70} Thus, although the trial court did not employ the precise statutory language in making its findings in support of a consecutive sentence, we find that the trial court's commentary at the sentencing hearing demonstrates that it did make the findings required by R.C. 2929.14(C)(4). Accordingly, we overrule appellant's eighth supplemental assignment of error to the extent that it alleges error in making the required findings at the sentencing hearing.

{¶ 71} However, because the trial court's February 25, 2014 judgment entry states only that the trial court "weighed the factors as set forth in the applicable provisions of R.C. 2929.13 and R.C. 2929.14," we must conclude that the trial court inadvertently failed to incorporate its findings into the sentencing entry. (Judgment Entry, 1-2.) As a result, pursuant to *Bonnell*, "[a] trial court's inadvertent failure to incorporate the statutory findings in the sentencing entry after properly making those findings at the sentencing hearing does not render the sentence contrary to law; rather, such a clerical mistake may be corrected by the court through a nunc pro tunc entry to reflect what actually occurred in open court." *Id.* at ¶ 30. Accordingly, we remand this case to the trial court to issue "a nunc pro tunc entry incorporating findings stated on the record." *Id.* at ¶ 31.

X. Other Assertions of Error

{¶ 72} Finally, in the seventh and final part of his seventh assignment of error, appellant asserts that the trial court erred by "denying appellant the compulsory process, making reissuable errors, and handing down a deterrent punishment." Appellant fails to support these assertions with arguments including reference to the record or pertinent authority. App.R. 16(A)(7). As a result, we decline to consider appellant's unsubstantiated

assertions of error in this regard. Accordingly, we overrule the seventh and final part of appellant's seventh supplemental assignment of error.

XI. Disposition

{¶ 73} For the foregoing reasons, appellant's first three assignments of error and all eight of his supplemental assignments of error are overruled, and we affirm the judgment of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas. However, having found that the trial court's judgment entry contains a clerical error, we remand this case to that court for it to issue a nunc pro tunc judgment entry correcting said error in accordance with law and consistent with this decision.

Judgment affirmed; cause remanded with instructions.

SADLER, P.J., and CONNOR, J., concur.

THE STATE OF OHIO
 Franklin County, ss.

I, MARVELLEN O'NEAL RAUGHNESSY, Clerk
 OF THE COURT OF APPEALS
 WITHIN AND FOR SAID COUNTY,

HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING IS TRULY TAKEN
 AND COPIED FROM THE ORIGINAL

DECISION

NOW ON FILE IN MY OFFICE AT THE ADDRESS BY HAND AND SEAL OF SAID
 COUNTY THIS 7th DAY OF JAN. A.D. 2015

MARVELLEN O'NEAL RAUGHNESSY, Clerk
 By EST. [Signature] Deputy

Franklin County Ohio Court of Appeals Clerk of Courts- 2014 Dec 30 2:04 PM-14AP000252

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF OHIO
TENTH APPELLATE DISTRICT

State of Ohio,	:	
	:	
Plaintiff-Appellee,	:	No. 14AP-252
	:	(C.P.C. No. 13CR-11-6206) and
v.	:	No. 14AP-253
	:	(C.P.C. No. 13CR-12-6648)
Robert L. Hillman,	:	
	:	(REGULAR CALENDAR)
Defendant-Appellant.	:	

JUDGMENT ENTRY

For the reasons stated in the decision of this court rendered herein on December 30, 2014, appellant's first three assignments of error and all eight of his supplemental assignments of error are overruled. It is the judgment and order of this court that the judgment of the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas is affirmed. However, having found that the trial court's judgment entry contains a clerical error, we remand this case to that court for it to issue a nunc pro tunc judgment entry correcting said error in accordance with law and consistent with this decision. Costs shall be assessed against appellant.

DORRIAN, J., SADLER, P.J., & CONNOR, J.

/S/ JUDGE

Franklin County Ohio Court of Appeals Clerk of Courts- 2014 Dec 30 9:32 PM-14AP000252