12/07/2007 "See News Release 078 for any Concurrences and/or Dissents."

SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

No. 07-K-1111

STATE OF LOUISIANA

v.

HENRIETTA WILLIAMS

On Writ of Certiorari to the Third Circuit Court of Appeal

PER CURIAM:

Granted. The decision of the Third Circuit is reversed, and the district court's sentence is reinstated. Given its detailed consideration of the aggravating and mitigating factors relating to defendant's case, the district court did not abuse its broad sentencing discretion when it imposed a sentence of five years imprisonment, the maximum term permitted by the sentencing statute, La.R.S. 14:133, but then suspended all but 18 months of the term. See State v. Taves, 03-0518, p. 4 (La. 12/3/03), 861 So.2d 144, 147 ("[T]he determination of whether a sentence which otherwise falls within the range of punishment provided by the legislature for a particular offense is excessive, <u>i.e.</u>, so disproportionate to the offense that it represents the needless infliction of pain and suffering . . . entails more than a priori judgments by an appellate court. . . . '[T]he statutory criteria legislatively provided by La.C.Cr.P. art. 894.1 (1977), which are similar to those evolved by courts in other American jurisdictions with a constitutional or statutory duty to review excessiveness, provide appropriate criteria by which to measure whether a sentence within statutory limits is nevertheless excessive, either by reason of its length or because it specifies confinement rather than less onerous sentencing alternatives." (quoting State v. Sepulvado, 367 So.2d 762, 769 (La. 1979)(citation omitted)).