2016 OK CR 17

IN THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA WICHAELS. RICHIE CLERK

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, FOR PUBLICATION Appellant, Case No. S-2015-605 v. MICHAEL WAYNE TUBBY, and RUSTY LLOYD WOOTEN, Appellees.

SUMMARY OPINION

LUMPKIN, VICE PRESIDING JUDGE:

¶1 The State charged Appellees, Michal Wayne Tubby and Rusty Lloyd Wooten, with Murder in the First Degree-Felony Murder (Count 1) (21 O.S.Supp.2012, § 701.7(B)), in the District Court of Cleveland County Case Numbers CF-2014-582 and CF-2014-587.1 The Honorable Lori Walkley, District Judge, joined the cases for trial and conducted a jury trial between the 15th and 25th days of June, 2015. Appellees requested an instruction for Accessory to First Degree Felony Murder (21 O.S.2011, § 175(5)) as a lesser offense to the charged offense. Over the State's objection, the District Court instructed the jury that Accessory to First Degree Felony Murder was a lesser included offense to First Degree Felony Murder. The jury acquitted Appellees of First Degree Felony Murder and convicted them of Accessory to First Degree

¹ The State also charged Appellees with Robbery With a Dangerous Weapon (Count 2) (21 O.S.2011, § 801) and Burglary in the First Degree (Count 3) (21 O.S.2011, § 1431). The magistrate sustained Appellees' demurrer to Count 2 at preliminary hearing. The jury acquitted Appellees of Count 3 at trial but found Wooten guilty of the lesser included offense of Breaking and Entering (21 O.S.2011, § 1438).

Felony Murder. Appellees did not appeal and their convictions have become final.² The State now appeals on a reserved question of law pursuant to 22 O.S.2011, § 1053(3).

¶2 Section 1053(3) provides that the State may appeal "[u]pon a question reserved by the state or a municipality." To pursue an appeal on a reserved question of law, there must be a judgment of acquittal or an order of the court which expressly bars further prosecution. State v. Campbell, 1998 OK CR 38, ¶8, 965 P.2d 991, 992.

¶3 The State seeks to clarify whether Accessory to First Degree Felony Murder is a legally recognized lesser included offense of First Degree Felony Murder. A state appeal on a reserved question of law solely addresses the precise legal issue reserved. State v. Anderson, 1998 OK CR 67, ¶ 2, 972 P.2d 32, 33; State v. Harp, 1969 OK CR 207, ¶ 2, 457 P.2d 800, 805. This Court reviews issues of law de novo. King v. State, 2008 OK CR 13, ¶ 4, 182 P.3d 842, 843; Seabolt v. State, 2006 OK CR 50, ¶ 15, 152 P.3d 235, 241 (Lumpkin, V.P.J., Dissenting).

¶4 Whether any particular offense is a lesser included offense depends upon which lesser included offense test or approach is utilized and whether the trial evidence warrants the instruction. *Davis v. State*, 2011 OK CR 29, ¶ 101, 268 P.3d 86, 115 (citing Shrum v. State, 1999 OK CR 41, ¶ 7, 991 P.2d 1032,

² The jury recommended as punishment for Tubby, imprisonment for twelve (12) years. The trial court sentenced accordingly. The jury recommended as punishment for Wooten, imprisonment for twenty-three (23) years in Count 1 and incarceration for one (1) year in the county jail in Count 3. The trial court sentenced accordingly and ordered the sentences to run concurrently.

determination about whether a crime constitutes a lesser included offense of the charged crime or whether it is legally possible for the charged crime to include a lesser included offense." Shrum, 1999 OK CR 41, ¶ 7, 268 P.3d at 1035 (citations, brackets and quotations omitted).

¶5 Citing Cummings v. State, 1998 OK CR 45, 968 P.2d 821, the State argues that Accessory to First Degree Felony Murder does not pass the "elements test." This Court had traditionally looked to the statutory elements of the charged crime and any lesser degree of crime to determine the existence of any lesser included offenses. See Willingham v. State, 1997 OK CR 62, ¶ 19, 947 P.2d 1074, 1080; State v. Uriarite, 1991 OK CR 80, ¶ 8, 815 P.2d 193, 195. Under this test, the elements of the lesser offense must necessarily be included in the charged offense to constitute a legally recognized lesser included offense. Id.

¶6 Using the elements test, this Court has concluded that the offense of accessory after the fact is a separate substantive offense and not a lesser offense of the charged felony. Cummings, 1998 OK CR 45, ¶ 40, 968 P.2d at 834; VanWoundenberg v. State, 1986 OK CR 81, ¶ 17, 720 P.2d 328, 335; Wilson v. State, 1976 OK CR 167, ¶ 14, 552 P.2d 1404, 1406. Establishment of the elements of First Degree Felony Murder does not necessarily establish all the required elements of Accessory to First Degree Felony Murder. Inst. Nos. 2-2, 4-64, OUJI-CR(2d) (Supp.2013). Therefore, the offense of Accessory to First

Degree Felony Murder is not a necessarily included offense to First Degree Felony Murder.

¶7 However, in *Shrum*,³ a majority of this Court determined the "strict statutory elements approach" was too narrow and inflexible and broadened the rule to include situations "where the lesser and greater offense are in the same class of offenses and are closely or inherently related, but the elements do not satisfy the strict statutory elements test." *Shrum*, 1999 OK CR 41, ¶¶ 7-9, 991 P.2d at 1036. While *Shrum* did not ignore statutory elements, the Court concluded that the "evidence test" or reliance on "the crimes the trial evidence tends to prove" was the better approach in determining whether an offense was a lesser included or lesser related offense. *Id.* 1999 OK CR 41, ¶¶ 9-10, 991 P.2d at 1036. Under this test, a lesser included instruction is warranted when there is *prima facie* evidence of the lesser offense presented at trial. *Davis*, 2011 OK CR 29, ¶ 101, 268 P.3d at 116. *Prima facie* evidence of a lesser included offense is that evidence which would allow a jury rationally to find the accused guilty of the lesser offense and acquit him of the greater. *Id*.

¶8 In Glossip v. State, 2001 OK CR 21, ¶ 29, 29 P.3d 597, 604, we applied the Shrum test and determined that Accessory After the Fact was a related offense to Murder in the First Degree. As prima facie evidence of Accessory After the Fact had been shown and this was the appellant's theory of

³ Shrum is the current precedent this Court must apply, however, I continue to doubt its viability. This case reflects the unintentional mischief the lack of an objective criteria creates in our District Courts, i.e., it becomes a subjective "feeling" test rather than an objective legal analysis which can be equally and consistently applied. Shrum v. State, 1999 OK CR 41, ¶¶ 3-8,991 P.2d 1032, 1038 (Lumpkin, V.P.J, concurring in results). This Court should adopt the test that I outlined in footnote 6 of Davis v. State, 2011 OK CR 29, ¶ 101 n. 6, 268 P.3d 86, 115 n. 6.

defense, this Court concluded that the trial court erred when it failed to instruct upon the lesser offense of Accessory After the Fact. *Id.*

¶9 In Miller v. State, 2013 OK CR 11, ¶¶ 138-40, 313 P.3d 934, 980-81, this Court found that the trial court had properly declined to instruct the jury on the lesser offense of Accessory After the Fact to First Degree Murder. Noting that the appellant's defense was total innocence and not that he was an accessory after the fact, this Court distinguished Glossip on the basis that the evidence did not establish a prima facie case of Accessory After the Fact to First Degree Murder. Id., 2013 OK CR 11, ¶¶ 138-40, 313 P.3d at 980-81.4

¶10 Turning to the present case, we are unable to determine whether Accessory to First Degree Felony Murder was a legally recognized lesser included offense. The State did not designate those portions of the trial transcript containing the evidence at trial. Instead, the State designated the jury instruction conferences. Because the determination whether an offense is a legally recognized lesser included offense is based upon the crimes the trial evidence tends to prove we find that the State has failed to ensure a sufficient record to determine the question raised on appeal. *Hiler v. State*, 1990 OK CR 54, ¶ 12, 796 P.2d 346, 350 (holding it is the appellant's duty to ensure sufficient record provided to determine issues raised on appeal); *Chambers v. State*, 1988 OK CR 255, ¶ 6, 764 P.2d 536, 537 (refusing to determine issue

⁴ This Court has consistently held that a defendant is entitled to an instruction on his theory of defense where there is evidence to support it, as long as that theory is tenable as a matter of law. Kinsey v. State, 1990 OK CR 64, ¶¶ 8-9, 798 P.2d 630, 632-33. A theory of defense instruction must embrace a defense recognized in law, which either exonerates guilt or reduces the charge to a lesser included offense. Id.; Davis, 2011 OK CR 29, ¶ 94, 268 P.3d at 114. A theory of defense instruction is properly refused if there is insufficient evidence to support it. Id.; Davis, 2011 OK CR 29, ¶ 94, 268 P.3d at 114.

based on insufficient record); *Dollar v. State*, 1984 OK CR 1, ¶ 7, 674 P.2d 48, 50 (finding record insufficient for determination of issue). Therefore, we find that the State has waived review of this question. *Hill v. State*, 1995 OK CR 28, ¶ 10, 898 P.2d 155, 160 (Failure to provide adequate record waives review of the issue); *Boyd v. State*, 1987 OK CR 211, ¶ 11, 743 P.2d 674, 676 (finding issue waived where appellant failed to present sufficient record upon which to determine the issue).

¶11 In reaching the conclusion that this matter should be dismissed, we find that further examination of this matter will not provide any additional insight into the determination whether an offense is a legally recognizable lesser included offense other than that set forth above. Because the analysis is based upon the crimes the trial evidence tends to prove, this determination will always be fact specific and vary from case to case. As such, supplementation of the record pursuant to Rule 3.11, Rules of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals, Title 22, Ch. 18, App. (2015), is neither necessary nor in the best interests of justice. See Anderson, 1998 OK CR 67, ¶ 2, 972 P.2d at 33 (recognizing that determination of applicability of law to a given set of facts was inconsistent with purpose of State's right to appeal upon a Reserved Question of Law).

¶12 We further find that there are additional deficiencies in the record on appeal. The trial court's final order or Judgment and Sentence has not been included in the original record as required by Rule 2.2(A) Rules of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals, Title 22, Ch. 18, App. (2015). Nothing in the record

by Rule 2.1(D), Rules of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals, Title 22, Ch. 18, App. (2015). Accordingly, we find that this matter should be dismissed.

DECISION

¶13 This appeal is **DISMISSED**. Pursuant to Rule 3.15, Rules of the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals, Title 22, Ch. 18, App. (2016), the **MANDATE** is **ORDERED** issued upon the delivery and filing of this decision.

AN APPEAL FROM THE DISTRICT COURT OF CLEVELAND COUNTY THE HONORABLE LORI WALKLEY, DISTRICT JUDGE

APPEARANCES AT TRIAL

JENNIFER AUSTIN
CHRISTY MILLLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS
201 S. JONES, STE 300
NORMAN, OK 73069
COUNSEL FOR THE STATE

SAMUEL L. TALLEY ATTORNEY AT LAW 219 E. MAIN STREET NORMAN, OK 73069 COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT TUBBY

DAVID SMITH ATTORNEY AT LAW 216 E. EUFAULA NORMAN, OK 73069 COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT WOOTEN

OPINION BY: LUMPKIN, V.P.J.

SMITH, P.J.: Concur in Results

JOHNSON, J.: Concur

LEWIS, J.: Concur in Results HUDSON, J.: Specially Concur

APPEARANCES ON APPEAL

JENNIFER AUSTIN
CHRISTY MILLER
ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS
201 S. JONES, STE 300
NORMAN, OK 73069
COUNSEL FOR APPELLANT

RICKI J. WALTERSCHEID APPELLATE DEFENSE COUNSEL P.O. BOX 926 NORMAN, OK 73070 COUNSEL FOR APPELLEES

HUDSON, JUDGE: SPECIALLY CONCUR

P1 The State seeks clarification regarding whether Accessory to First Degree Felony Murder is a legally recognized lesser included offense of First Degree Felony Murder. The question posed, however, is an elusive one in which a definitive legal answer cannot be provided. As the majority aptly observes, resolution of this issue hinges upon the *prima facie* evidence presented at trial of the purported lesser included offense. Davis v. State, 2011 OK CR 29, ¶ 101, 268 P.3d 86, 116. The pivotal question being whether evidence was presented that "would allow a jury rationally to find the accused guilty of the lesser offense and acquit him of the greater." *Id.* Resolution of this issue will always be fact dependent, and hence, must be decided on a case by case basis. Therefore, as further examination of this issue in the present matter will not provide the State the conclusive answer it seeks, I concur.