

WASHINGTON STATE COURT OF APPEALS DIVISION THREE

CASE SUMMARIES FOR ORAL ARGUMENT

The following summaries are drawn from briefs and lower court judgments. The summaries have not been reviewed for accuracy by the judges and are intended to provide a general idea of facts and issues presented in the cases. The summaries should not be considered official court documents. Facts and issues presented in these summaries should be checked for accuracy against records and briefs, available from the Court, which provide more specific information.

Date of Hearing: Thursday, April 30, 2020
Location: Spokane, 500 North Cedar
Telephonic Oral Argument

9:00 a.m.

- 1) **No.: 35297-8-III**
Case Name: State of Washington v. Chad G. Bennett
County: Grant

Case Summary: The State charged Chad Bennett with murder in the first degree for the death of Lucille Moore. At trial, the superior court excluded Mr. Bennett's proffered other suspect evidence. A jury found him guilty of the lesser crime of murder in the second degree and multiple aggravating factors. The superior court imposed an upward exceptional sentence, and denied a post-trial motion to dismiss for government mismanagement stemming from the State's late testing of evidence and late disclosure of Mr. Bennett's jail calls. Mr. Bennett appeals these matters and also raises claims of prosecutorial misconduct during closing argument.

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