

>> OUR NEXT CASES NUMBER 22068,
LAURIE CARMODY.

>> MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT.
CHRISTINE DAVIS, ON BEHALF OF
THE PETITIONER'S.

THE ISSUE BEFORE THIS COURT IS
WHETHER FLORIDA'S DISTRICT COURT
OF APPEAL HAVE TERTIARY
JURISDICTION TO REVIEW A TRIAL
COURT ORDER DENYING MOTION TO
EXIST, A DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO
DISMISS, WHEN THE PLAINTIFF HAS
FAILED TO CAR OPERATE HIS
MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIM FOR
THE STATUTORILY QUALIFIED
EXPERT.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE AT THE
OUTSET THE CASE IS NOT ABOUT THE
JURISDICTIONAL IRREPARABLE HARM
TO CERTIORARI REVIEW.

THAT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BY
DECADES OF PRECEDENT IN THIS
COURT.

IT WASN'T IMPACTED BY THE
COURT'S DECISION IN WILLIAMS
WHERE THE PARTIES IN THIS CASE.
THAT BECAUSE THE LEGISLATURE SET
OUT A CLEAR AND UNAMBIGUOUS
PROCESS THAT MALPRACTICE
LITIGANTS ARE TO FOLLOW IN
BRINGING MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
CLAIMS.

THE LEGISLATURE MADE CLEAR THAT
IN THE ACT, THE INVESTIGATION OF
MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CLAIMS
APPLIES TO ALL SUCH CLAIMS,
THESE INVESTIGATION REQUIREMENTS
ARE THE HALLMARK TO THE
STATUTORY FRAMEWORK.

THE LEGISLATURE ENFORCES THESE
PROCEDURES THROUGH SEVERAL
STATUTES.

FIRST, NO ACTION SHALL BE FILED,
THIS INVOLVES A CORROBORATING
AFFIDAVIT FROM A QUALIFIED
EXPERT UNDER THE STATUTE.
WHEN THE COMPLAINT IS FILED BUT
IT IS NOT COMPLIED WITH
MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS THE
STATUTE ESPECIALLY SAYS THE
CLAIM SHALL BE DISMISSED.

>> IN DETERMINING WHETHER OR NOT
THIS HAPPENED, IT SEEMS LIKE

WHILE THE STRIKE SECTION 14 USE
THE LIMIT ON ITS FACE THE TRIAL
THE PILE COURT FOR EXPERT
WITNESS ON GROUNDS OTHER THAN
QUALIFICATIONS IT DOES SEEM WHAT
IS RETAINED IS THE COURT'S
ABILITY TO STRIKE AN EXPERT ON
THE BASIS OF QUALIFICATION,
WHETHER THE EXPERT IS OF THE
SAME SPECIALTY.

MY QUESTION IS, DO YOU AGREE THE
DETERMINATION, WHETHER THE
POSITION, MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS
ARE THE SAME SPECIALTY, A
DETERMINATION OF FACT, A
QUESTION THE COURT WOULD TAKE
EVIDENCE ON ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.
AND ITS CONCLUSION ON THAT FRONT
WHETHER SOMEONE IS OR IS NOT IN
THE SAME SPECIALTY, WOULD
THEREFORE, WHATEVER IT IS, IF IT
IS SUPPORTED BY EVIDENCE ON
THAT, NOT BE IN CLEAR VIOLATION
OF THE LAW, THE ESSENTIAL
REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW, IF IT
IS THE KIND OF QUESTION THAT'S
AMENABLE TO TAKING EVIDENCE, AN
UPHILL CHARGE SAYING IT IS
APPROPRIATE.

>> I DON'T UNDER THESE
CIRCUMSTANCES.

STARTING WITH WHETHER IT IS A
FACT-FINDING, THIS COURT MADE
CLEAR, YOU LOOK AT THE EVIDENCE
OF THE PERSON EXPERTS
QUALIFICATION THAT CAN BE
AFFIDAVIT, DEPOSITION TESTIMONY
AND YOU COMPARE IT TO THE
STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND SEE
IF THEY ONLINE.

WHEN YOU GET INTO SAYING
ESPECIALLY IN MEDICAL
MALPRACTICE, FACT FINDING AND NO
CERTIORARI PETITION SHOULD BE
GRANTED WITH FACT-FINDING, THAT
IS NOT SO IN A MEDICAL
MALPRACTICE CASE BECAUSE THE
STATUTE HAS CLEAR MANDATES,
766-ONE HUNDRED 2, A CLEAR
MANDATE THAT MUST BE FOLLOWED
FOR THE EXPERT TO BE QUALIFIED
SO THERE IS NO WAVE OF EVIDENCE,
NO DISCRETION OF THE TRIAL COURT
ANYMORE, THE ANALYSIS IS SIMPLY

WHAT DO WE HAVE THAT SAYS ON THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THIS EXPERT, AND DO THEY ALIGN WITH STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND THAT IS WHAT THIS COURT SAID.

THIS WAS AN APPEAL FROM A FINAL JUDGMENT BUT THE ANALYSIS IS THE SAME.

>> LET ME PRESS YOU WILL LITTLE BIT ON THIS.

IS IT FAIR TO SAY THEY ARE RUNNING OUT THERE IN THE STATE, THERE ARE MATTERS OF WHICH TWO CARDIOLOGISTS OR TWO CRITICAL-CARE PHYSICIANS ARE IN THE SAME SPECIALTY, ISN'T THAT BEING LITIGATED RIGHT NOW OR IS THAT JUST NOT LITIGATED?

>> IT CAN BE LITIGATED IF A PLAINTIFF FILES A CLAIM AND CORROBORATES THEIR CLAIM WITH AN AFFIDAVIT FROM A CARDIOLOGIST AND THE DEFENDANT IS A CARDIOLOGIST, THEN THAT WOULD BE SAME SPECIALTY SO THAT DOESN'T MEAN A DEFENDANT DOESN'T CHALLENGE IT BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE GROUNDS FOR BELIEVING THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS HAVEN'T BEEN COMPLIED WITH BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT THE ONLY ONES, BUT IT IS LITIGATED AND THE PURPOSE OF THE IRREPARABLE HARM THAT'S CLEARLY ESTABLISHED IN OUR LAW IS THE DEFENDANT IS NOT SUPPOSED TO HAVE TO LITIGATE.

>> I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THAT. LET'S LEAVE TO THE SIDE THE FACT THAT WE AGREE THE STATUTE ON SPACE SEEMS DESIGNED IN NEXT TEXTUAL CONTENT AVOIDS IRREPARABLE HARM HAVING TO DEAL WITH THE CLAIM.

I'M FOCUSED ON THE ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF LAW IN THE ANALYSIS.

WHAT I CAN'T SEEM TO GET MY HEAD AROUND IS I AM CERTAIN THAT TWO ICU PHYSICIANS, TWO CRITICAL-CARE SPECIALIST WILL HAVE SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT RESUME, MAYBE THEY ARE HOSPITALISTS AS WELL, MAYBE THEY ARE INTERNAL MEDICINE HEAVY ICU DOCTORS, OR A

PULMONOLOGIST.
FOLKS ARE GOING TO LITIGATE
WHETHER THERE IS A MISSING
SPECIALTY AND I HAVE A HARD TIME
UNDERSTANDING HOW THE DECISION
YOU DON'T LIKE OR THAT YOU DO
LIKE THAT HAPPENS WITHIN THAT
CONTEXT THE PARTS FROM THE
ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF LAW
SUCH THAT CERTAIN RELIEF IS
APPROPRIATE?

>> THIS COURT HAS MADE CLEAR IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
WHAT IS THE DEPARTURE FROM
ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF LAW,
WHAT ARE CLEARLY ESTABLISHED
PRINCIPLES OF LAW AND A STATUTE
IS CLEARLY ESTABLISHED LAW AND
VIOLATION OF A STATUTE IS
DEPARTURE FROM ESSENTIAL
REQUIREMENTS OF LAW SO WHEN THE
STATUTE REQUIRES THAT YOU SHALL
COMPLY WITH STATUTORY CRITERIA
OR ELSE YOUR CLAIM SHOULD BE
DISMISSED, FAILING TO DO SO IS A
DEPARTURE FROM THE ESSENTIAL
REQUIREMENTS OF LAW.

>> THAT BASICALLY COLLAPSES INTO
A DETERMINATION TO THE EXTENT
THAT THE WHOLE REQUIREMENTS OF
LAW AND CLEARLY ESTABLISHED LAW
TO THE EXTENT THAT IT'S TRYING
TO NARROW AND MAKE IT DIFFERENT,
DID THE JUDGE GET IT RIGHT OR
WRONG AND IT SEEMS YOU ARE
COLLAPSING THAT?

>> IN A TYPICAL CASE, YOU WOULD
HAVE THE EXPERT QUALIFICATIONS
AND IN THIS CASE, FOR EXAMPLE, A
NEUROSURGEON WHO COMPLETED THE
PROCEDURE AND BROUGHT A CLAIM
AGAINST THE NEUROSURGICAL ARV,
THEY CORROBORATED THAT CLAIM
WITH INTERNAL MEDICINE OPERATION
DOCTOR WHO HAD NOT BEEN
PRACTICING IN THE HOSPITAL
WITHIN THREE YEARS AND THROUGH
HIS TESTIMONY WHICH WAS PLAYED
OUT IN THIS BRIEF HAD ABSOLUTELY
NO EXPERIENCE WITH THE CLINICAL
PRACTICE OF NEUROSURGICAL --
NEVER SUPERVISED ONE, HAD NEVER
DEALT WITH -- HE COULD IDENTIFY
A WOUND ABSCESS BUT COULDN'T

TREAT IT, HE REFERRED THOSE OUT.
THIS IS THE TYPICAL CASE OF
THESE TWO EXPERTS, THIS EXPERT
DOES NOT SATISFY THAT
REQUIREMENT AND SO THEN GOING
BACK TO MORRIS WHICH I THINK IS
CRITICAL, YOU JUST CONSIDER
WHETHER THEY ONLINE.

IT'S UNIQUE IN MEDICAL
MALPRACTICE CASES BECAUSE OF THE
WAY THE STATUTORY SCHEME HAS
BEEN SET UP.

>> THERE ARE ALWAYS GOING TO BE
-- ONE THING THAT STRIKES ME
ABOUT THIS BODY OF CASE LAW, SO
MUCH TIME SPENT ARGUING ABOUT
WHETHER CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS ARE
MET AND ALL THAT, SEEMS TO ME
YOUR ARGUMENT ABOUT LEGISLATIVE
SCHEME AND WHAT THE LEGISLATURE
IS TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH POINTS
TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THERE
OUGHT TO BE A RIGHT OF INTERLOCK
YOU STORY APPEAL, THEN WE CUT TO
THE CHASE.

WE CUT TO WHETHER THE STATUTE IS
ACTUALLY BEING FOLLOWED BY THE
TRIAL COURT AND MOST OF THE TIME
THEY WILL BUT SOMETIMES TRIAL
COURTS MAKE MISTAKES LIKE
APPELLATE COURTS MAKE MISTAKES.
THAT WOULD BE THE CLEAREST, MOST
DIRECT MEANS OF FOCUSING ON WHAT
THE LEGISLATURE IS TRYING TO
ACCOMPLISH.

WHAT I'M I MISSING WHEN I SAY
THAT?

>> YOU ARE NOT MISSING ANYTHING.
WE WERE AMENDED TO ALLOW AN
INTERLOCK USSURI APPEAL FROM
THESE DECISIONS THAT WOULD MAKE
SENSE BUT THAT DOESN'T HELP US
IN THIS CASE OR ALL THE CASES
THAT HAPPENED BEFORE THAT ARE
COMING DOWN THE PIKE NOW.
WHEN YOU GET INTO THE
REQUIREMENTS OF CERTIORARI,
THERE IS IRREPARABLE HARM AND
JURISDICTION AND REQUIRING A
PARTY TO GO THROUGH THE TRIAL
WHEN THEY ARE NOT SUPPOSED TO
HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE TRIAL
BECAUSE THE STATUTORY
REQUIREMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN

FOLLOWED THAT IS IRREPARABLE HARM. THEN YOU GET TO ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF LAW AND WITHOUT HAVING IMMEDIATE REVIEW OF AN ORDER THAT SAYS, DENIES MOTION TO DISMISS BECAUSE THE COURT THINKS THE EXPERTS ARE QUALIFIED, WITHOUT IMMEDIATE REVIEW, YOU'RE GETTING THAT PORTION, YOU'RE GETTING THE ENTIRE ACT BECAUSE ANY QUALIFICATION THAT HAS NOT BEEN SATISFIED CAN'T BE REMEDIED ON POSTJUDGMENT APPEAL.

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>> THE ARGUMENT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES COMES DOWN TO WHETHER IT MAKES SENSE TO HAVE A PROPHYLACTIC RULE BECAUSE IN THE SENSE OF NOT ALLOWING IT, YOU POSIT THE SORT OF WORST-CASE SCENARIO WHERE IT IS OBVIOUSLY WRONG IN WHICH CASE YOU WOULD HOPE THE TRIAL COURTS WOULD GET IT RIGHT MOST OF THE TIME, THAT IT WOULD BE AN OUTLIER, YOU GET PEOPLE WITH CATEGORICALLY DIFFERENT SPECIALTIES AND THEN IN THE CASE WHERE IT IS KIND OF DEBATABLE AND MAYBE YOU THINK THAT LOOKING AT IT THEY WOULD HAVE APPLIED THE STATUTORY CRITERIA DIFFERENTLY, THEN YOU ARE REALLY DEPRIVING DEPARTURE FROM ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF LAW, OF HAVING ANY FORCE. YOU BASICALLY JUST, YOU ARE EITHER GOING TO HAVE IT HAVE THE DISTRICT COURT CONSISTENTLY SAYING MAYBE IT IS WRONG BUT NOT REALLY WRONG OR OBVIOUSLY WRONG OR MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE AND SO WHAT IS THE POINT?

>> THAT IS WHERE YOU ARE GETTING INTO WHERE COURT START TALKING ABOUT MERE LEGAL ERROR AND NOT SIMPLY AND I DON'T THINK THAT APPLIES IN THIS CONTEXT BECAUSE IT CAN'T BE A SIMPLE LEGAL ERROR OR NOT SERIOUS ERROR IF YOUR EXPERT IS NOT QUALIFIED. IF YOU HAVEN'T CORROBORATED YOUR CLAIM WITH A QUALIFIED PRE-SUIT

EXPERT, YOU HAVEN'T COMPLIED WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT, THAT REQUIRES THE ESPECIALLY WAS OF THE STATUTE, THAT THE CASE SHALL BE DISMISSED AND IT IS ESTABLISHED THAT IT CANNOT BE REMEDIED ON JUDGMENT APPEAL.

>> CLEARLY ESTABLISHED, THAT WOULD HAVE TO RELATE NOT JUST TO THE WORD IN THE STATUTE BUT TO THE APPLICATION AND IT WILL BE RARE THAT THERE'S GOING TO BE PRECEDENT THAT DIRECTLY ADDRESSES A DISPUTE OVER PARTICULAR EXPERT THAT IS SO MUCH LIKE A CLEARLY ESTABLISHED CASE OF THAT, YOU KNOW WHAT I AM SAYING?

IT SEEMS THAT YOU'RE ESSENTIALLY TURNING IT INTO, YOU ARE LETTING THE IRREPARABLE HARM PIECE WHERE YOUR ARGUMENT IS STRONG, IT'S OBVIOUS IF THE WHOLE POINT IS TO GIVE PEOPLE THE ABILITY TO DO THE EXAMINATION AND NOT BE SUBJECT TO THIS -- IT IS OBVIOUS THERE IS IRREPARABLE HARM BUT IF YOU LOOK THE OTHER PRONG IF IT'S GOING TO HAVE ANY MEANING AT ALL, WHAT YOU ARE ARGUING IS STRAIGHT UP REVIEW BY THE APPEALS COURT.

>> LET ME GIVE YOU SOME EXAMPLES WHY THAT WOULD NOT BE TRUE. AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HAVING A QUALIFIED EXPERT IT IS TRUE BECAUSE THAT IS THE LAW, THE STATUTE IS CLEARLY ESTABLISHED.

>> I JUST -- I REALIZE WE ARE OPERATING UNDER THE AMENDMENT STATUTE AND THERE IS GREATER CLARITY AND LIMITED SCOPE BUT THERE ARE STILL CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER THE STATUTE WHERE DETERMINATION HAS TO BE MADE CONCERNING WHETHER THE EXPERT HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN THE ACTIVE CHEMICAL PRACTICE OF OR CONSULTING WITH RESPECT TO THE SAME OR SIMILAR HEALTH PROVISION AS A HEALTH PROVIDER ON WHOSE BEHALF THEY HAVE TESTIMONIES OFFERED, THEY'RE ALL KIND OF -- THERE ARE KIND OF -- HOW WOULD

YOU DESCRIBE IT?

THERE'S GOING TO BE -- PEOPLE
WILL REASONABLY DISAGREE ABOUT
SOME OF THOSE THINGS.

RIGHT?

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN SAY A
CLEAR-CUT PRINCIPLE OF LAW THAT
WE -- IT WILL BE AMENABLE TO THE
KIND OF TREATMENT YOU ARE
TALKING ABOUT.

>> THE COURT IS THE ONE WHO HAS
TO MAKE THE DETERMINATION
WHETHER REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN
SATISFIED, IT IS NOT A JURY
QUESTION.

THE COURT HAS TO MAKE A
DETERMINATION SO WHEN IT DOES
THAT IT LOOKS -- I KEEP GOING
BACK TO MORRIS VERSUS LOUISE
BECAUSE THAT'S THE MOST HELPFUL
WAY TO DESCRIBE IT, THE COURT
HAS TO BE ABLE TO DECIDE.

HAVE THEY PRACTICED IN 3 YEARS
PRECEDING THIS INCIDENT?
IN THIS CASE NO.

THIS TESTIMONY DOESN'T MAKE
CLEAR HE DID NOT.

AND DO THEY PRACTICE IN THE SAME
-- AN ACTIVE CLINICAL PRACTICE?

THE EVIDENCE HERE IS HE HASN'T.
WHAT YOU ARE TAKING IS THE
EVIDENCE AND COMPARING IT TO THE
STATUTORY CRITERIA WHICH YOU
HAVE DO.

OTHERWISE, YOU WOULD BE
PROCEEDING WITH PRE-SUIT BECAUSE
YOU WOULD HAVE NO IMMEDIATE
REVIEW WHEN YOU HAVEN'T COMPLIED
WITH THE STATUTE.

ONE THING I NOTE AS FAR AS A
PROPHYLACTIC RULE, THERE ARE
CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE COURT
HAS HELD THAT IT WOULDN'T BE A
DEPARTURE FROM THE ESSENTIAL
REQUIREMENTS OF LAW WHEN IT IS
NOT CLEARLY ESTABLISHED.

THE THIRD DISTRICT CASE, THE
ISSUE WAS WHETHER A COURT WAS
REQUIRED TO HOLD THE HEARING,
THE LAW IS NOT CLEARLY
ESTABLISHED IN THE MEDICAL
MALPRACTICE ACT AS TO WHETHER IT
IS REQUIRED, IT ESTABLISHED WHAT
WAS DENIED.

THEY MADE AN ARGUMENT THAT ONE PARTICULAR DEFENDANT WASN'T NOTICED PROPERLY AND THE LAW WAS NOT CLEARLY ESTABLISHED AS TO WHETHER THIS PARTICULAR DEFENDANT NEEDED THOSE, THAT WASN'T SUFFICIENT BECAUSE THE LAW WASN'T CLEARLY ESTABLISHED. IN THIS CASE YOU HAVE CLEAR STATUTORY REQUIREMENT THAT AN EXPERT HAS TO BE QUALIFIED BUT EXPERT IS NOT QUALIFIED, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO PROCEED WITH THE ACT AND SO IT IS UNIQUE IN A MEDICAL MALPRACTICE SCHEME, UNDER ANY SUBSECTION OF 5 ON ABC OR SECTION 6, THAT YOU TAKE THE QUALIFICATIONS AND COMPARE THEM AND YOU HAVE TO HAVE IMMEDIATE REVIEW OF THAT.

>> THANK YOU.

ADAM RICHARDSON ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT.

THE POSITIONS HAVE BEEN CLEARLY STATED IN THE BRIEF SO LET ME RUN THROUGH A QUICK SUMMARY BECAUSE I THINK ONE OF THEM HASN'T RECEIVED ATTENTION SO FAR.

THE FIRST ARGUMENT IS THE COURT SHOULD APPROVE THE RESULT OF THE FIRST DISTRICT'S DECISION.

WE ALL RECOGNIZE JURISDICTION TO REVIEW THESE ISSUES.

THE QUESTION IS ABOUT THE DEPARTURE FROM REQUIREMENTS.

ADDITIONALLY, THE SECOND ARGUMENT IS THE 2013 AMENDMENTS WHICH LEAD SPECIALISTS AND THE SUBSECTION 14 THAT THE JUSTICE MIGHT HAVE MENTIONED DO NOT UNDERMINE THE BILLIONS THAT WAS BASED ON GENERAL SURF PRINCIPLES WHICH THE FIRST YOU SEE A RECOGNIZED.

>> I'M GLAD YOU BROUGHT UP WILLIAMS BECAUSE I HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT.

IN THIS CASE, UNLIKE WILLIAMS AM I RIGHT THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN EVIDENTIARY AIR REHEARING?

>> YES, THAT IS CORRECT.

I'M NOT SURE IF IT WAS CLEAR IN THIS COURT -- THERE WERE TWO

AFFIDAVITS.

>> AND WILLIAMS, THE COURT
CONCLUDES NO SIR BUT REMANDS AND
SAYS HOLD THIS EVIDENTIARY AIR
REHEARING.

HERE, WE ARE, IF YOU WILL, NET
OF THAT EVIDENTIARY AIR
REHEARING ALREADY.

DOES THAT LIMIT THE
APPLICABILITY OF WILLIAMS TO OUR
CASE?

FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE?

>> LIMITED IN WHAT WAY?

>> I THINK THERE'S AN ARGUMENT
TO BE MADE THAT WILLIAMS, AN
ARGUMENT FAVORABLE TO YOUR
CLIENT THAT WILLIAMS CONSTRAINS
US IN THIS CASE AND A COUNTER
ARGUMENT THAT WILLIAMS IS QUITE
DISTINGUISHABLE, DIFFERENT FACT
PATTERN.

MY BOTTOM LINE QUESTION, IS
WILLIAMS MUCH HELP TO YOU TODAY
OR NOT AND IF SO, HOW?

>> I THINK IT IS HELPFUL BECAUSE
IF YOU HAVE AN EVIDENTIARY AIR
HEARING AND STANDARDS OF REVIEW
PARTICULAR TO CERTAIN CASES.

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS WITH THE
INSTRUCTION IN WILLIAMS, THE DCA
DON'T HAVE THE ABILITY TO ISSUE
INSTRUCTIONS, THEY DON'T --
JURISDICTIONS ARE NOT
TRANSFERABLE TO DCA.

THAT'S PART OF THE COURT
DECISION BUT I'M NOT SURE HOW
HELPFUL IT IS IN SAYING WHETHER
WILLIAMS APPLIES TO OUR CASE BUT
WILLIAMS HAD A MUCH BROADER
POINT THAN WHETHER OR NOT IT WAS
PRIOR AND IF NOT, THE
IMPLICATIONS OF THAT.

WILLIAMS, WILLIAMS INVOLVED
GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

AS I SAID EARLIER, WHICH IS
CLEARLY ESTABLISHED DEPARTURE
FROM REQUIREMENTS OF LAW WHICH
THIS COURT HAS DEFINED OVER THE
DECADES AS VIOLATION OF CLEARLY
ESTABLISHED PRINCIPLE OF LAW
RESULTING IN A MISCARRIAGE OF
JUSTICE.

THAT'S WHAT YOU NEED TO LOOK AT
THEIR INSTEAD OF PARTICULAR

PROCEDURALS.

>> I AM WONDERING IF WE NEED TO
RETHINK HOW WE DO THIS IN THE
CONTEXT OF WHERE IT IS COMING
FROM A TRIAL COURT OR A DECISION
ON THIS ISSUE TO A DCA.

BASED ON READING EVERYTHING
HERE.

IT SEEMS THE ESSENTIAL
REQUIREMENTS OF LAW TEST WHICH
IS VERY DUE PROCESS FOCUSED,
MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE ET
CETERA.

IT ERODES IN THE CONTEXT OF A
SECOND APPEAL WHERE YOU HAD
COUNTY COURT DOING SOMETHING,
CIRCUIT COURT DOES AN APPELLATE
REVIEW.

IS IT SO BAD THAT WE SHOULD GIVE
SOMEONE AN APPELLATE APPLE AND
IN THAT CONTEXT, THAT'S WHERE
THE TEST MIGHT MAKE SENSE, BUT
HERE, SEEMS LIKE THE FOCUS IS
THIS WHOLE ERA FOR HARM CONCEPT
IS DOING MOST OF THE WORK, THEN
WE GET INTO THESE WEIRD
DISCUSSIONS IN CASES ABOUT THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SOMETHING
THAT'S A LONG VERSUS OBVIOUSLY
WRONG ETC.

AND I'M NOT SURE WHETHER WE ARE
DOWN THE RIGHT PATH ON THAT OR
IF THE QUESTION SHOULDN'T BE
MORE TIED TO THE VALUE ADD OF
THIS KIND OF INTERMEDIATE
REVIEW, IN WHICH CASE IT SEEMS
THAT TEST IN THIS CASE WHERE
THERE'S A LOT OF DISPUTES HOW TO
APPLY THE TEST AND EVERYTHING,
ARGUABLY THERE'S JUST NOT MUCH
VALUE ADDED BY INTERRUPTING THE
PROCEEDING TO HAVE THIS REVIEW.
ANY THOUGHTS ON THAT?

>> THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN FIRST
YEAR REVIEW AND SECOND-TIER
REVIEW IS SOMETHING I THOUGHT
MIGHT COME UP TODAY, SOMETHING I
THOUGHT ABOUT A LOT.

FROM CAREFUL DECISIONS OF THIS
COURT, THIS COURT, I UNDERSTAND
YOU ARE INCLINED TO REVISIT
THAT, HAS NOT DISTINGUISHED
BETWEEN THE TWO WHEN IT COMES TO
THE STANDARD OF REVIEW OR

SECOND-TIER CONTEXTS, VIOLATION OF DUE PROCESS AND DEPARTURE FROM PARTS OF THE LAW BUT THE LANGUAGE IS THE SAME ON THE STANDARD REVIEW AND THAT'S WHY THE MEANING SHOULD HAVE THE SAME AND WHETHER THE COURT WANTS TO REVISIT THAT, IT'S NOT AN APPROPRIATE CASE FOR THAT.

HASN'T BEEN BRIEFED.

I DON'T KNOW IF THIS IS

SOMETHING THE COURT DOES BUT THAT IS SOMETHING WE WANT TO THINK ABOUT AND IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

>> WHAT MAKES THE WILLIAMS CASE KIND OF STRANGE IS, THE WAY I READ IT, THEY ESSENTIALLY THEY DREW THIS DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE PROCEDURAL PART AND THE SUBSTANTIVE PART WHICH I'M NOT SURE I WOULDN'T PUT WHETHER THE EXPERT IS QUALIFIED, THAT COULD BE A PROCEDURAL THING, TO HAVE A QUALIFIED EXPERT OR YOU DON'T AND THEY ESSENTIALLY SAY EVEN IF THERE WAS A DEPARTURE FROM THE ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF LAW, IF IT'S IN THE SUBSTANTIVE BASKET YOU CAN'T REVIEW THAT AND THAT IS THE SENSE THAT I WOULD DESCRIBE THE PROPHYLACTIC RULE SAYING WE ARE NOT EVEN GOING TO LET THE DCA GO DOWN THAT PATH IF THE DISPUTE IS OVER SUBSTANCE VERSUS JUST CHECKING THE BOXES OF DID YOU FOLLOW THIS DEADLINE AND IS THERE AN AFFIDAVIT? SO IT SEEMS LIKE WILLIAMS ISN'T REALLY TRYING TO APPLY THE TEST FAITHFULLY EITHER BECAUSE YOU WOULD THINK WHAT THEY WOULD HAVE SAID IS THERE MAY BE SOME DECISIONS THAT ARE SO EGREGIOUSLY CRAZY, THE CARDIOLOGIST CLAIMING TO BE AN EXPERT ON WHATEVER, THAT'S A DEPARTURE FROM CLEARLY ESTABLISHED LAW BUT FOR THE RUN-OF-THE-MILL THING WHERE REASONABLE MINDS CAN DISAGREE YOU WILL NEVER MEET THAT CATEGORY.

>> I HAVE TWO POINTS ON THAT,

THE FIRST IS WHEN WE TALK ABOUT WILLIAMS, WHICH IMPLICATES THE RULE STANDARD.

>> THAT'S DEBATABLE.

>> OKAY.

SO THAN MY MORE SUBSTANTIVE RESPONSE IS THAT WE ACTUALLY SAID THAT IN OUR ANSWER BRIEF, THERE'S A POSSIBILITY WILLIAMS MIGHT NOT BE COMPLETELY ACCURATE AND PERHAPS THE COURT WILL CLARIFY IT.

THE RUN-OF-THE-MILL CASES, IT MIGHT NOT BE APPROPRIATE BECAUSE OF THE VOLUME NATION DOVES CLEARLY ESTABLISHED ETC.

BUT THERE ARE ERRORS THAT ARE SO SIGNIFICANT THAT WOULD RESULT IN A MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE AND IN THOSE INSTANCES WHICH I THINK WOULD BE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR DCA TO INTERVENE AS THEY TALK ABOUT.

>> SO LET'S APPLY THAT TO THIS CASE.

YOUR PROFIT EXPERT DOES WHAT?

>> AT THIS POINT THE PROFFERED EXPERT IS MORE OF INTERNIST. IS NOT A HOSPITALIST.

>> THE DOCTOR TEAM, WHAT DO THEY DO?

>> THE DOCTOR UNDER WHOM THE ARNP WORKS WAS A NEUROSURGEON.

>> YOU WOULD STIPULATE, WOULDN'T YOU, THEY ARE NOT THE SAME SPECIALTY.

>> YES.

THAT IS NOT THE PROVISION IMPLICATED BY THIS CASE.

>> I WANT TO MAKE SURE, WE CAN HAVE AND HAVE HAD VERY EDIFYING DISCUSSION ABOUT THE STATUTE AND THAT IS ALL GREAT BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY WE HAVE A CASE WE NEED TO RESOLVE.

THIS CASE INVOLVES A VERY CLEAR SITUATION IN WHICH THE PROFFERED EXPERT DOESN'T MEET STATUTORY COMMAND, JUST DOESN'T.

WHATEVER WE HOLD IN THIS CASE WE ARE SPEAKING, WE ARE NOT SPEAKING TO A CLOSE CALL, WE ARE NOT SPEAKING TO AN EDGE CASE. SO SINCE ALL WE REALLY HAVE TO

DO IS SPEAK TO THIS CASE, WHY SHOULD WE DO ANYTHING MORE THAN ADDRESS THE FACT THAT THIS IS NOT EVEN CLOSE SITUATION WHERE YOU STIPULATE THE PROFFERED EXPERT IS NOT THE SAME SPECIALTY, THAT ON ITS FACE, MAY BE THE RARE CASE WHERE IT IS REQUIRED, IT IS BETTER TO DEAL WITH THIS ON INTERLOCUTOR APPEAL, WHY ISN'T THAT THE RIGHT OUTCOME TO THIS CASE?

>> I HAVE A COUPLE RESPONSES TO THAT.

>> I FIGURED YOU WOULD.

THE PETITIONERS BRIEFING, ALL OF THE PROCESS, WHAT THEY DID IS ASKED THE COURT TO ADDRESS THIS TOP LINE ISSUE AND SEND THE CASE BACK TO DCA TO MAKE THE SPECIFIC DETERMINATION IN THIS CASE.

>> YOU STIPULATED THEY ARE NOT THE SAME SPECIALTY.

>> THAT'S TRUE BUT THAT IS NOT THE PROVISION THAT APPLIES HERE. THE CIRCUIT COURT, 5C.

>> THE NURSE PRACTITIONER THAT WORKS FOR A NEUROSURGEON. IN FOR A PENNY, IN FOR A POUND. IF YOU'RE YOUR INTERNIST IS NOT A NEUROSURGEON, NOT IN NEITHER CASE WITH THE INTERNIST WOULD OVERSEE HOUSE -- NURSE PRACTITIONER IN THE NEUROSURGERY FIELD.

>> THERE ARE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.

IF YOU WANT TO CARRY DOWN THE LEGISLATURE --

>> THAT'S WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO.

>> THE STATUTE HERE THAT APPLIES IS THE 5C AND I UNDERSTAND YOU ARE TRYING TO HOLD US TO COLLATION AGAINST US.

>> I'M NOT TRYING TO HOLD THIS TO BE ELATION AGAINST YOU BUT TRYING TO GET THE FACTS TO THE STIPULATION YOU MADE.

WHAT'S THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE STIPULATION?

>> THE STIPULATIONS THEY MADE WHICH IS NOT THE SAME SPECIALTY PROVISION BUT IS 5C.

>> WHAT THE POINT, WHAT THE EFFECT OF THAT, SO WHAT?
>> THEY ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.
>> WALK ME THROUGH WHAT THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENT DOES GIVEN AN INTERNIST DOES NOT SUPERVISE NURSE PRACTITIONERS IN THE FIELD OF NEUROSURGERY AND THE PEOPLE YOU HAVE SUED ARE NEUROSURGEON AND NURSE PRACTITIONER AND NEUROSURGERY, DEAL WITH YOUR STATUTORY PROVISION.
HOW DO YOU IN THIS CASE GIVEN THAT?
>> IS IT UNDERSEA ONE, 2 OR 3?
>> IT IS UNDERSEA ONE.
>> HERE IT IS NOT AS NARROW AS THE SAME SPECIALTY AND LOOKING AT THE BREADTH OF SUBSECTION 1, IT DOES SAY ACTIVE PRACTICE OF BUT THERE'S ALSO THE CLAUSE FOR CONSULTING WITH RESPECT TO THE PROFESSION AND I THINK REASONABLE MOVEMENT COULD DISAGREE ON WHETHER THIS PARTICULAR EXPERT IN OUR CASE DOES OR DOES NOT SATISFY THAT.
>> WITH THEIR EVIDENCE IN THE RECORD YOUR EXPERT SUPERVISED NEUROSURGERY, NURSE PRACTITIONERS AT ANY POINT IN HIS CAREER?
>> NO, BUT THAT IS NOT EVEN HINTED AT IN THE STATUTE. THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT OF SUPERVISION WHICH I UNDERSTAND THAT'S THE ARGUMENT THE PETITIONERS HAVE MADE.
CONSULTING WITH RESPECT TO --
>> HAS YOUR PROFIT EXPERT EVER CONSULTED WITH RESPECT TO A NEUROSURGERY NURSE PRACTITIONER?
>> NOT NEUROSURGERY NURSE PRACTITIONER.
>> THE MORE FACTS WE GET THE WORST THIS GETS FOR YOU, NO?
>> NO, I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS THAT BAD.
THE DEPOSITION TESTIMONY AND THE TESTIMONY OF THE EVIDENTIARY AIRY HEARING, THIS WOULD BE MORE OF A BORDERLINE CASE THAN CLEAR STATUTORY LANGUAGE IN 5 AND.

AND I ALSO WOULD WANT TO POINT OUT WE GO BACK TO THE CERT STANDARD WHICH IS CLEARLY, UNDER THE STANDARD THE COURT HAS BEEN VERY CLEAR, AS OF DCAs THE MISAPPLICATION OF LAW IS INSUFFICIENT SO I THINK WHEN WE ARE TALKING ABOUT -- WE ARE REALLY TALKING ABOUT MISAPPLICATION OF LAW.

>> TO UNDERSTAND THIS FACTUALLY, THE PHRASE IS THE SAME OR SIMILAR HEALTH PROVISION AS THE HEALTHCARE PROVIDER.

SO HOW ARE YOU DEFINING -- YOU ARE CONCEDING IT IS NOT THE SAME, CORRECT?

SO WHAT IS IT, WHAT IS THE SYMBOL?

>> THAT'S DIFFICULT BECAUSE -- IN 2013, THEY DID PRIOR ITERATIONS OF THE STATUTE AND THEN THEY TOOK THAT OUT AND NOW WE ARE JUST LEFT WITH A SIMILAR, WITHOUT EVEN PREVIOUS ITERATIONS THEY HAD ON SOMETHING LIKE INVOLVING -- SORRY, THE DIAGNOSIS OF THE PARTICULAR CASE SO I DON'T KNOW HOW FAR IT GETS ME, I WILL BE HONEST.

>> I DON'T THINK IT GETS YOU FAR AT ALL.

IF THAT WERE THE POINT BASED ON MY UNDERSTANDING OF THE FACTS, THAT WOULD UNDERCUT YOUR POSITION, WOULDN'T IT?

>> I DON'T THINK SO BECAUSE THE PARTICULAR TREATMENT --

>> WHAT DID YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAY YOU DON'T KNOW HOW FAR THAT GETS YOU?

>> BECAUSE OF IT BEING A PRIOR VERSION OF THE STATUTE THAT WAS TAKEN OUT BY THE LEGISLATURE, HOW FAR WE CAN RELY ON IT BUT IF WE WERE TO DO THAT, IT IS TALKING ABOUT THE CARE THAT WAS RENDERED.

I UNDERSTAND THAT SHE WAS IN THE HOSPITAL FOR NEUROSURGICAL PROCEDURE BUT THE ACTUAL CARE WAS POSTOPERATIVE CARE AND THEN OUR EXPERT WOULD HAVE BEEN QUALIFIED UNDER THE STATUTE

AGAINST THAT BECAUSE HE DOES
HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH
POSTOPERATIVE CARE.

>> TO BRING THIS BACK TO THE
ISSUE, THE DCA FELT THEY DIDN'T
HAVE THE AUTHORITY BECAUSE OF
WILLIAMS TO GO IN DOUBT.
THIS DEBATE IS ABOUT HOW
OBVIOUSLY WRONG WAS THIS
DECISION, THE DCA THOUGHT
BECAUSE OF WILLIAMS IT DIDN'T
EVEN HAVE THE DISCRETION TO EVEN
LOOK AT THE ISSUE, RIGHT?
SO ONE POSSIBLE RESOLUTION OF
THIS IS TO CHANGE, INTERPRET
WILLIAMS A CERTAIN WAY AND SAY
WILLIAM SORT OF TOOK THE
DEPARTURE FROM ESSENTIAL
REQUIREMENTS OFF THE TABLE FOR
THIS KIND OF QUESTION OR PUTTING
IT BACK ON THE TABLE.

DCA, SHOULD APPLY THE TEST.

>> THAT GETS BACK TO WHAT YOU
SAID EARLIER ABOUT WHETHER
WILLIAMS FAITHFULLY APPLIES
BECAUSE AS THE COURT MADE CLEAR
OVER THE DECADES, VERY
CONSISTENT ABOUT THIS, IT IS A
DISCRETIONARY REMEDY.

I WILL NOT NECESSARILY PLAY
DEVILS ADVOCATE BUT WILLIAMS
DECISION CREATED THE RULE THAT
IS COMPLETELY REMOVED, THE
ABILITY OF THE COURT TO ADDRESS
THIS ISSUE AND PERHAPS THAT'S
WRONG BECAUSE OF THE APPLICATION
OF THE COURT'S CERT BUT EVEN IF
THE COURT WERE TO RESTORE THAT
DISCRETION AND SEND IT BACK TO
THE DCA, AS I SAID BEFORE, IN
MOST CASES THE RESULT WOULD BE
THE SAME BECAUSE OF THE REVIEW
OF THE MERITS AND OUTLIER CASES.
FOR EXAMPLE, THERE WOULD BE A
CERTAIN RELIEF.

IF THERE ARE ANY MORE QUESTIONS.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>> I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE TWO
POINTS.

FIRST, TO SAY THAT THE COURT
APPLIES THE CORRECT LAW DOESN'T
HELP US IN THIS SITUATION AND WE
SET THAT OUT IN OUR BRIEF
BECAUSE OF THE COURT APPLIES THE

CORRECT LAW, THAT MEANS THE COURT SAYS OKAY, WE LOOK AT 766-102, 506 AND DECIDE WHETHER IT APPLIES AND THAT LAW IS APPLIED BUT YOU CAN HAVE AGAIN A NEUROSURGEON AND A PODIATRIST AND THE CORRECT LAW HAS BEEN APPLIED BECAUSE THE PROCEDURE HAS BEEN FOLLOWED AND THAT CLEARLY CAN'T BE THE LAW IN THIS COUNTRY TO THE STATUTE. AS FAR AS WILLIAMS I WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST REASONS THAT IT IS INCORRECT. WE DID MAKE AN ARGUMENT THAT THE STATUTE AND CHANGED, WILLIAMS WAS BASED ON TWO PRIMARY REASONS. BEFORE I GET INTO THOSE, IT DID NOT CITE OR GIVE ANY KIND OF ATTENTION TO THE MULTITUDE OF CASE LAW THAT EXISTED PRIOR TO WILLIAMS THAT FOUND A DEPARTURE FROM ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS OF LAW WHEN AN EXPERT IS NOT QUALIFIED SO THE COURT IN WILLIAMS KIND OF GRABBED ONTO THE PUNITIVE DAMAGES AND ANALOGY TO SAY IN A PUNITIVE DAMAGES CASE YOU HAVE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE'S BEEN AN EVIDENTIARY AIRY PROPER TO SHOW A REASONABLE BASIS TO ASSERT PUNITIVE DAMAGES. THAT'S NOT THE SAME, THAT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT IN MEDICAL MALPRACTICE CASES WHERE YOU HAVE STATUTORY CRITERIA, NOT THIS FLEXIBLE, IS THE EVIDENCE SUFFICIENT TO ALLOW THIS CLAIM TO GO FORWARD AND WHETHER THE IRREPARABLE HARM WAS A FINANCIAL WORK DISCOVERY, HERE, YOU HAVE EXPRESS LANGUAGE THAT YOU HAVE TO QUALIFY UNDER THIS ACT OR ELSE YOUR CLAIM HAS TO BE DISMISSIVE, THAT WAS INCORRECT REASONING AND THE COURT RELIED ON THE ST. MARY'S CASE WHICH WAS NOT OPPOSITE TO THE ISSUE BEFORE THE COURT. IN ST. MARY'S, THE ISSUE WAS WHETHER

THE PLAINTIFF HAD EVER BEEN A
PATIENT OF THE HOSPITAL SO THAT
WAS THE DISPUTED MERIT ISSUE OF
WHETHER THE PATIENT HAD EVER
BEEN ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL
NOT RELATED TO IT.

THE TWO MAIN REASONS THE COURT
IN WILLIAMS MADE THIS RULE THE
FIRST DISTRICT FELT IT HAD TO
FOLLOW HERE DOESN'T LINE UP WITH
THE ACT AND BASICALLY EVISCERATE
THE PURSUIT REQUIREMENTS.

>> THANK YOU.

I WANT TO SAY THE BRIEFING IN
THIS CASE WAS GREAT ON BOTH
SIDES.

UNUSUALLY GOOD.

THANKS.