IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL FIRST DISTRICT, STATE OF FLORIDA

CHRISTOPHER WILSON,

Petitioner,

NOT FINAL UNTIL TIME EXPIRES TO FILE REHEARING MOTION AND DISPOSITION THEREOF IF FILED.

CASE NO. 1D04-2716

v.

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Respondent.

Opinion filed February 17, 2005.

Petition for Belated Appeal -- Original Jurisdiction.

Christopher Wilson, pro se, petitioner.

Charlie Crist, Attorney General, and Anne Conley, Assistant Attorney General, Tallahassee, for respondent.

PER CURIAM.

The petition for belated appeal is granted.¹ Petitioner shall be allowed a belated appeal from the judgment and sentence rendered on August 6, 2003, in Leon County Circuit Court case number 1998-CF-2560. Upon issuance of mandate in this cause, a copy of this opinion shall be provided to the clerk of the circuit court for treatment

¹This court relinquished jurisdiction to the circuit court to conduct an evidentiary hearing. The special master issued an order which was titled "Order Granting Defendant's Belated Appeal." Although the special master is empowered to make factual findings, the decision to determine whether a belated appeal is granted is reserved to the appellate court. Fla. R. App. P. 9.141(c)(2).

as the notice of appeal. Fla. R. App. P. 9.141(c)(5)(D). If petitioner qualifies for appointed counsel, the trial court shall appoint counsel to represent petitioner on appeal.

PETITION GRANTED.

BARFIELD, WEBSTER and DAVIS, JJ., concur.