

Dismissed and Opinion filed May 24, 2001.



In The

Fourteenth Court of Appeals

**NOS. 14-00-00404-CR;
14-00-00405-CR**

REGINALD LAPIER WILLIAMS, Appellant

V.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, Appellee

**On Appeal from the 179th District Court
Harris County, Texas
Trial Court Cause No. 707,021 & 707,098**

OPINION

After a guilty plea, appellant was convicted of the offense of aggravated robbery and, without an agreed punishment, sentenced by the trial court to thirty years' confinement on May 23, 1996. Appellant filed a motion for new trial on June 13, 1996. Appellant's notice of appeal was not filed until October 16, 1996.

A defendant's notice of appeal must be filed within ninety days after sentence is imposed when the defendant has filed a timely motion for new trial. *See* TEX. R. APP. P. 26.2(a)(2). A notice of appeal which complies with the requirements of Rule 26 is

essential to vest the court of appeals with jurisdiction. *Slaton v. State*, 981 S.W.2d 208, 210 (Tex. Crim. App. 1998). If an appeal is not timely perfected, a court of appeals does not obtain jurisdiction to address the merits of the appeal. Under those circumstances it can take no action other than to dismiss the appeal. *Id.*

Accordingly, the appeal is ordered dismissed.

/s/ Don Wittig
Justice

Judgment rendered and Opinion filed May 24, 2001.

Panel consists of Fowler, Wittig and Draughn.¹

Do Not Publish - TEX. R. APP. P. 47.3(b).

¹ Senior Justice Joe Draughn, sitting by assignment..