Reporter of Decisions Decision No. Mem 13-114 Docket No. Kno-13-38

STATE OF MAINE

V.

CHERI HASKELL

Submitted on Briefs October 31, 2013 Decided November 7, 2013

Panel: SAUFLEY, C.J., and ALEXANDER, LEVY, SILVER, MEAD, and JABAR, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Cheri Haskell appeals from a judgment of the Superior Court (Knox County, Hjelm, J.) upon a jury verdict finding her guilty of operating under the influence, Class D, in violation of 29-A M.R.S. § 2411(1-A)(B)(1) (2012), and operating without a license, Class E, in violation of 29-A M.R.S. § 1251(1)(A) (2012). The Superior Court did not err in denying her motion to suppress evidence obtained as a result of a stop of her vehicle, because the officer who stopped her had a articulable suspicion that she committing reasonable was infraction—namely, following too closely to the vehicle ahead of her. See State v. Gulick, 2000 ME 170, ¶13, 759 A.2d 1085. The trial court did not abuse its discretion by declining to ask one of Haskell's proposed voir dire questions concerning whether any prospective jurors had ever personally consumed alcohol and then driven a vehicle, because the court asked other questions sufficient to uncover bias and prejudice. See State v. Lowry, 2003 ME 38, ¶ 7, 819 A.2d 331. Finally, the trial court's instruction to the jury that the State only needed to prove that Haskell was impaired "to some degree" was correct. See State v. Soucy, 2012 ME 16, ¶ 11, 36 A.3d 910.

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

On the briefs:

Jeremy Pratt, Esq., Camden, for appellant Cheri Haskell

Geoffrey Rushlau, District Attorney, and Jeffrey Baroody, Asst. Dist. Atty., Prosecutorial District VI, Rockland, for appellee State of Maine

Knox County Superior Court docket number CR-2012-241 FOR CLERK REFERENCE ONLY