

STATE OF MAINE

v.

TERRAN J. MORROW

Submitted on Briefs February 26, 2003
Decided March 24, 2003

Panel: SAUFLEY, C.J., and CLIFFORD, RUDMAN, ALEXANDER,
CALKINS, and LEVY, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Terran J. Morrow appeals from a judgment entered in the District Court (Millinocket, *Stitham, J.*) on his conditional guilty plea to the charge of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol (Class D) in violation of 29-A M.R.S.A. § 2411(1) (1996). Contrary to Morrow's contention, the District Court did not err in denying his motion to suppress evidence derived from the traffic stop that led to his arrest. Given the totality of the circumstances, the police officer had a reasonable, articulable suspicion that an OUI was occurring because the officer received a tip from a known source, *see State v. McKenzie*, 440 A.2d 1072, 1075

(Me. 1982) (ruling that information supplied by known informants may provide greater indicia of reliability than tips made anonymously); the officer immediately corroborated details of the tip, *see State v. Lafond*, 2002 ME 124, ¶ 12, 802 A.2d 425, 429 (ruling that immediate, independent corroboration of a tip's details increases its credibility); and the officer independently observed the vehicle operating substantially below the speed limit in the early morning hours, *see State v. Buxton*, 687 A.2d 227, 228 (Me. 1996) (ruling that defendant's abnormal driving provided "more than an unsubstantiated hunch" that an OUI was occurring).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

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