

Westlaw Delivery Summary Report for COOK,GENEVIEVE L

Date/Time of Request:	Monday, September 7, 2009 17:36 Central
Client Identifier:	GENEVIEVE COSTALES
Database:	AL-CS
Citation Text:	963 So.2d 700
Lines:	39
Documents:	1
Images:	0

The material accompanying this summary is subject to copyright. Usage is governed by contract with Thomson Reuters, West and their affiliates.

963 So.2d 700
 (Cite as: 963 So.2d 700)

H

Court of Criminal Appeals of Alabama.
 Rondah GARRETT and Judy Bates Queen

v.

STATE of Alabama.
CR-05-1058.

Jan. 12, 2007.

Rehearing Denied Feb. 16, 2007.

Appeal from Shelby Circuit Court (CC-05-994 and CC-05-995); G. Daniel Reeves, Judge.

[Charles Todd Henderson](#), Columbiana; and [Mickey L. Johnson](#), Pelham, for appellants.

Troy King, atty. gen., and Stephanie N. Morman and [Marc A. Starrett](#), asst. attys. gen., for appellee.

*701 [BASCHAB](#), Judge.

AFFIRMED BY UNPUBLISHED
 MEMORANDUM. NO OPINION.

[McMILLAN](#), P.J., and [COBB](#) and [WISE](#), JJ., concur; [SHAW](#), J., concurs specially, with opinion. [SHAW](#), Judge, concurring specially.

In *State v. Ted's Game Enterprises*, 893 So.2d 355 (Ala.Civ.App.2002), aff'd, 893 So.2d 376 (Ala.2004), the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals, analyzing the meaning of the word "skill" within the context of the limiting effect of [§ 65, Ala. Const. of 1901](#), on the authorization of lotteries, noted:

"[T]he mere fact that the outcome of a game, either in a single play or over multiple plays, can be affected by an understanding of the laws of probability or an understanding of the rules of the game, or can be affected by other recognizable techniques or knowledge, does not change the fundamental nature of that game. Simply put, a player's understanding of the rules or of the laws of probability relating to a game of chance does not change the fact that he is playing a game of chance. A player may be 'skilled' at 'playing

the odds,' but he is still 'playing the odds.' "

[893 So.2d at 375.](#)

I agree with the majority that "Texas Hold'em" poker is fundamentally a game of chance, in that the outcome of the game ultimately depends on a random draw of the cards. I do not disagree with the appellants' argument that a person must possess a certain amount of experience and skill in order to be a successful "Texas Hold'em" poker player. However, a player's skill does not change the fundamental nature of the game. As the Court of Civil Appeals noted, "[a] player may be 'skilled' at 'playing the odds,' but he is still 'playing the odds.'" [893 So.2d at 375.](#) Because "Texas Hold'em" poker is, in my view, chance predominant, I agree with the majority that the appellants' convictions for promoting gambling, in violation of [§ 13A-12-22, Ala.Code 1975](#), are due to be affirmed.

Ala.Crim.App.,2007.
 Garrett v. State
 963 So.2d 700

END OF DOCUMENT