

Bond Case Briefs

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BONDS - ALABAMA

Houston County Economic Development Authority v. State

Supreme Court of Alabama - November 21, 2014 - So.3d - 2014 WL 6608547

State instituted a civil-forfeiture proceeding, seeking forfeiture of items and currency seized during search of bingo gaming facility. Facility operator intervened. The Circuit Court entered judgment condemning 691 allegedly illegal gambling devices, \$288,657.68 in cash, and various documents allegedly related to illegal gambling. Operator appealed.

The Supreme Court of Alabama held that:

- Game played on electronic machines was not the game commonly or traditionally known as “bingo,” permitted by amendments excepting bingo from the general constitutional prohibition on lotteries;
- Table game combining elements of roulette and bingo was not the game commonly or traditionally known as “bingo”;
- Prior bond-validation proceeding was not conclusive as to the legality of particular gaming machines; and
- Evidence supported forfeiture of currency and gambling records.