

**Williams v. State (1986)**

A request to make a jury shuffle is timely if made after the venire is seated and before the commencement of voir dire. The panel was brought into the courtroom and the judge addressed remarks to them. The judge asked the panel members if they understood his remarks and felt that they could discharge their duties appropriately. The defense then requested a jury shuffle which was denied on the grounds that the judge had already begun voir dire and the request was therefore untimely. After recognizing that various cases had interpreted the question of when voir dire actually began differently, the Court of Criminal Appeals held that in all cases, voir dire was considered to commence once the State was called and recognized to begin its questioning of prospective jury members and actually began its questioning.