

## OPINION SUMMARY

### MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS EASTERN DISTRICT

STATE OF MISSOURI, Respondent,                    )    No. ED101106  
  )    Appeal from the Circuit Court of  
vs.    )    the City of St. Louis  
  )    Honorable Joan L. Moriarty  
MARKUS STEED, Appellant.                        )    Filed: February 24, 2015

Marcus Steed (Defendant) appeals the judgment of conviction entered after a jury found him guilty of unlawful possession of a firearm and unlawful use of a weapon. Defendant claims the trial court erred in denying: (1) his request for a mistrial when the trial court instructed the jury to continue deliberations; and (2) his motion for judgment of acquittal because the State produced insufficient evidence to support his conviction.

AFFIRMED.

Division Four Holds: The trial court did not abuse its discretion when it denied Defendant's request for a mistrial because the trial court's instruction to continue deliberations did not coerce the jury to return a guilty verdict. Nor did the trial court err in denying Defendant's request for judgment of acquittal because the State produced sufficient evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Defendant knowingly possessed a firearm.

Opinion by: Patricia L. Cohen, P.J.  
Roy L. Richter, J., and Robert M. Clayton III., J., concur.

Attorney for Appellant: Amanda P. Faerber  
Attorney for Respondent: Andrew C. Hooper

**THIS SUMMARY IS NOT PART OF THE OPINION OF THE COURT. IT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE READER AND SHOULD NOT BE QUOTED OR CITED.**