

OPINION SUMMARY
MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS—EASTERN DISTRICT
DIVISION TWO

STATE OF MISSOURI,)	No. ED101332
)	
Respondent,)	Appeal from the Circuit Court
)	of the City of St. Louis
vs.)	1222-CR04018-01
)	
ROSCOE R. MEEKS,)	Honorable Margaret M. Neill
)	
Defendant/Appellant.)	FILED: June 23, 2015

Roscoe R. Meeks (Defendant) appeals from the judgment upon his convictions by a jury for one count of assault in the first degree, in violation of Section 565.050, RSMo 2000,¹ and one count of armed criminal action, in violation of Section 571.015. The trial court sentenced Defendant as a prior and persistent offender to twenty-years' imprisonment for assault and ten-years' imprisonment for armed criminal action, to be served concurrently.²

AFFIRMED AS MODIFIED.

Division Two Holds: The trial court did not clearly err in denying Defendant's Batson challenge to the State's peremptory strike of an African-American venireperson because the State gave a race-neutral reason for the strike which was not pretextual. Also, the trial court did not abuse its discretion in sustaining the State's objection to defense counsel's closing argument that a conviction was significant and would have "dire consequences" for Defendant.

Opinion by: Mary K. Hoff, J.
Sherri B. Sullivan, P.J., and Mark D. Pfeiffer, Sp. J., Concur.

Attorney for Appellant: Jessica M. Hathaway
Attorney for Respondent: Gregory L. Barnes

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.

¹ Unless otherwise indicated, all further statutory references are to RSMo 2000 as amended.

² The written sentence is modified to reflect oral pronouncement at sentencing.