01/03/2011 "See News Release 001 for any Concurrences and/or Dissents."

### SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

No. 2010-KK-2867

# STATE OF LOUISIANA

#### **VERSUS**

## **JASON DAUZART**

# ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE COURT OF APPEAL, FOURTH CURCUIT, PARISH OF ORLEANS

Writ granted. We find the trial court abused its discretion in finding no probable cause to arrest the accused for possession of the firearm as a convicted felon. A reasonable officer could conclude the accused had dominion and control over the firearm that was in plain view and within his reach inside the vehicle. *See Maryland v. Pringle*, 540 U.S. 366, 371-372, 124 S.Ct. 795, 800-801, 157 L.Ed.2d 769 (2003) (Where cocaine was discovered behind the back-seat armrest and accessible to all three occupants, probable cause existed to arrest the front-seat passenger.) Further, the ruling of the trial court granting the motions to suppress is vacated. The admissibility of evidence is dependent upon the circumstances under which it was obtained, not upon whether there was probable cause to believe the accused had committed a crime. *See State v. Bradford*, 98-1428, p. 4 (La. Ct. App. 4 Cir. 12/9/98), 729 So.2d 1049, 1051. Case is remanded to the trial court for further proceedings.