

07/06/2019 "See News Release 031 for any Concurrences and/or Dissents."

SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

No. 19-KK-1116

STATE OF LOUISIANA

V.

MATTHEW NAQUIN

**ON SUPERVISORY WRITS TO THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL
DISTRICT COURT, PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE**

PER CURIAM

Writ granted. For the reasons assigned in Judge Welch's concurrence in part and dissent in part, the court of appeal's ruling is reversed insofar as it disallowed evidence of the victim's substance use in the month prior to his death. That evidence is relevant to the question of the defendant's guilt, and prohibiting the admission of such evidence will unconstitutionally abridge the defendant's right to present a defense. *See* U.S. Const. Amend. XIV, §1; *Chambers v. Mississippi*, 93 S.Ct. 1038, 410 U.S. 284, 35 L.Ed.2d. 297 (1973). The jury may consider this evidence with appropriate limiting instructions from the trial court. The court of appeal's ruling is otherwise affirmed.