

Dismissed and Opinion filed January 4, 2001.



In The

Fourteenth Court of Appeals

NO. 14-00-01014-CR
NO. 14-00-01015-CR
NO. 14-00-01016-CR
NO. 14-00-01017-CR

JOSEPH BARNARD HINES, Appellant

V.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, Appellee

**On Appeal from the 180th District Court
Harris County, Texas
Trial Court Cause Nos. 776,435; 776,436; 800,590; and 800,591**

O P I N I O N

After a guilty plea , appellant was convicted of four counts of aggravated robbery and sentenced to fifteen years on November 1, 1999. Appellant filed an untimely motion for new trial on August 29, 2000. Appellant's notice of appeal was not filed until August 8, 2000.

A defendant's notice of appeal must be filed within thirty days after sentence is imposed when the defendant has not filed a motion for new trial. *See* TEX. R. APP. P. 26.2(a)(1). A notice of appeal which

complies with the requirements of Rule 26 is essential to vest the court of appeals with jurisdiction. *See Slaton v. State*, 981 S.W.2d 208, 210 (Tex. Crim. App. 1998). If an appeal is not timely perfected, a court of appeals does not obtain jurisdiction to address the merits of the appeal. Under those circumstances it can take no action other than to dismiss the appeal. *See id.*

Accordingly, the appeal is ordered dismissed.

PER CURIAM

Judgment rendered and Opinion filed on January 4, 2001.

Panel consists of Justices Yates, Wittig, and Frost.

Do Not Publish — *See* TEX. R. APP. P. 47.3(b).