IN THE SUPREME COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA WESTERN DISTRICT

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, : No. 179 WAL 2018

Respondent

Petition for Allowance of Appeal from

: the Order of the Superior Court

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JAMES T. BYRD, A/K/A AL-TARIQ SHARIF ALI BYRD,

:

Petitioner

<u>ORDER</u>

PER CURIAM

AND NOW, this 19th day of September, 2018, the Petition for Allowance of Appeal is **GRANTED**. The issue, rephrased for clarity, is:

- i. Where an inmate defendant seeks to suppress recordings of his jail visit communications in a criminal proceeding, must the Commonwealth demonstrate that the inmate had actual knowledge that he was being recorded to satisfy the "prior consent" requirement of the two-party consent exception to the Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Control Act ("Wiretap Act"), 18 Pa.C.S. § 5704(4)?
- ii. If actual knowledge is required by the statute, did the Superior Court err in concluding that Byrd had actual knowledge that he was being recorded?