

## **SUMMARY STATEMENT**

*State v. Coats*, Docket No. 46488

The Supreme Court vacated Coats's conviction for grand theft, holding that there was insufficient evidence for the jury to convict. Shawn Coats, the defendant, was charged with eight different offenses after he took an elderly man's debit card and deposited fraudulent checks into the man's credit union account to create funds for a multi-day shopping spree at Walmart. After a jury trial, he was convicted of seven of the offenses, including grand theft of retail goods and fraudulent use of a financial transaction card. Coats contended that the jury did not have substantial evidence to convict him of grand theft of retail goods from an owner because Walmart was paid in full for the goods and the elderly man did not have a greater possessory interest in the purchases. The Supreme Court agreed.