

**By ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Published: Jun 26, 2007 - Page: 6a

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court agreed Monday to review whether race played a role in the selection of an all-white jury that imposed a death sentence on a black man in Louisiana.

Allen Snyder was convicted in 1996 of stabbing his estranged wife 15 times and killing a man with whom she was talking.

The Louisiana Supreme Court ruled that race had no part in the prosecutor's decisions involving black potential jurors.

Dissenting justices said the prosecutor's prejudice was shown by two comparisons he made between Snyder's case and that of

O.J. Simpson, who had been acquitted in 1995 of killing his ex-wife and a friend of hers.

Supreme Court accepts appeal of La. killer

The U.S. high court had previously ordered the state court to take another look at the case, following a decision overturned a black Texas man's murder conviction and death sentence because prosecutors struck nearly all African Americans from the jury.

The Louisiana court reached the same decision.

The case, which will be argued in the fall, is Snyder v. Louisiana, 06-10119.

The Supreme Court turned down two other cases from Louisiana, refusing to disturb state regulations that keep some foreign attorneys from practicing law .

The attorneys said the regulations prohibit them from representing poor defendants in criminal trials.

The justices declined to take an appeal from lawyers from Canada, England and France.

They sued Louisiana court and bar officials after they were denied admission to the state bar because they are in the

United States on temporary, though extended, visas.

At issue is a Louisiana Supreme Court decision in 2002 that said only foreigners on a path to become citizens may practice law in the state.

The lawyers affected by the ruling said they went to Louisiana to help address a severe shortage of lawyers for poor defendants.

One British lawyer, Emily Maw, received her law degree from Tulane University in 2003 and is director of Innocence Project New Orleans, which represents indigent clients. She also is a practicing lawyer in Mississippi.

The cases are Wallace and Maw v. Calogero, 05-1645, and Leclerc v. Webb, 06-11.

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