

State v. Ramirez, (DeKalb County Superior Court, 2003)

The DeKalb County District Attorney sought the death penalty against Ramirez, a 25 years old Mexican citizen and illegal alien who admittedly shot a Doraville police officer killing him as they struggled when the officer was trying to arrest Ramirez for possession of the weapon. The trial received much media attention and lasted for 2 ½ months with the jury acquitting the Defendant of murder but finding the Defendant guilty of felony murder. In the sentencing phase the jury rejected the death penalty and life without parole and sentenced the Defendant to life with parole. The Defendant spoke no English when the incident occurred but three (3) years later had learned proficient English in jail and was able to testify at trial and did an excellent job of saving his own life.

The Defendant was represented by Dwight L. Thomas, Tom West, and Keith Adams.