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SUPREME COURT

Madness and the Gavel

Supreme Court Overturns Murder Conviction Citing Right to Defend

Sheikh Rayees • May 24, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a case where law and mental illness collided head-on, the Supreme Court tore down a murder conviction, declaring that a person who's mentally derailed cannot be punished for crimes he's incapable of understanding—much less defending against. A man convicted of murder and serving a life sentence is now free, as the apex court ruled that his mental condition raised more than enough doubt to dismantle the verdict. The bench,...

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