

Sentence Review Division  
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SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF MONTANA

STATE OF MONTANA,	)	Cause No. DC-7-2021-00000876-IN
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	Cascade County District Court
	)	
-vs-	)	Montana Eighth Judicial District
	)	
GALVINN COATES MUNSON,	)	<b>DECISION</b>
	)	
Defendant.	)	

On March 10, 2023, the Defendant was sentenced as follows:

Count 1: Twenty (20) years to the Montana State Prison, no time suspended for the offense of Arson, a Felony, in violation of §45-6-103(1)(c), MCA.

Counts 3 – 46: Two (2) years to the Montana State Prison, no time suspended, for the offense of Criminal Endangerment, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-207, MCA. Each of the Criminal Endangerment sentences were ordered to run consecutively to the sentence in Count I and each of the lower-numbered Criminal Endangerment sentences before it, for a total on all the Criminal Endangerment counts of 88 years.

The Defendant was given 458 days of time served. Pursuant to §46-18-202(2), the Defendant was ordered ineligible for parole for the entirety of the Count I sentence because the mediated (1)(b) plea agreement called for it, because of the magnitude of the damage inflicted, and because the entire pattern of his criminal activity (including a recent guilty plea to a Sexual Intercourse Without Consent charge in Department A required it).

The Court ordered the Defendant jointly and severally liable with Co-Defendants Mr. McLean and Mr. Bennett for restitution to the [listed 13] victims for a total of \$1,760,172.65. Because the [sentences] were straight unsuspended prison terms without probation tails, there were no probation conditions.

On August 1, 2024, the Defendant's Application for review of that sentence came on for hearing by Zoom videoconference before the Sentence Review Division of the Montana Supreme Court (hereafter “the Division”). The Defendant appeared from the Montana State Prison and was represented by Tyler Dugger, Defense Counsel. The State was represented by Michele Lavine.

Victims, Mike and Davida Hryszko were present but did not give a statement. The Defendant gave a statement.

Before hearing the Application, the Defendant was advised that the Division has the authority not only to reduce the sentence or affirm it, but also increase it. The Defendant was further advised that there is no appeal from a decision of the Division. The Defendant acknowledged that he understood this and stated that he wished to proceed.

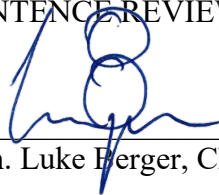
Rule 12, Rules of the Sentence Review Division of the Supreme Court of Montana, provides that, "The sentence imposed by the District Court is presumed correct. The sentence shall not be reduced or increased unless it is clearly inadequate or clearly excessive." (Section 46-18-904(3), MCA).

The Division finds that the sentence imposed by the District Court is not excessive and while there was an argument the parole restriction in Count 1 was excessive, this argument is rendered moot given the length of the entire sentence.

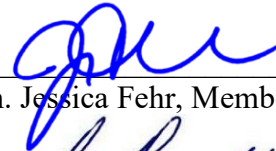
The sentence, terms and conditions imposed in the Judgment of March 10, 2023 are not clearly excessive and are affirmed.

DATED this 13th day of August, 2024.

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon. Luke Berger, Chair



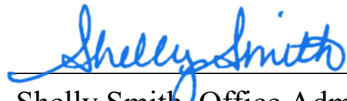
Hon. Jessica Fehr, Member



Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 13th day of August, 2024, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*  
Galvinn Coates Munson #3033357, Defendant  
Hon. John Kutzman – *via email*  
Tyler Dugger, Defense Counsel – *via email*  
Michele Levine, Deputy Co. Attorney – *via email*  
Board of Pardons and Parole – *via email*  
MSP - Records Dept. - *via email*



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Shelly Smith, Office Administrator  
Setence Review Division