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SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF MONTANA

STATE OF MONTANA,) Cause No. DC-41-2023-0000012
Plaintiff,) Ravalli County District Court
-VS-) Montana Twenty-First Judicial District
DONALD DEAN CASTERLINE,	DECISION
Defendant.))

On September 12, 2024, the Defendant was sentenced as follows:

<u>Charge I</u>: Ten (10) years to a state prison to be designated by the Department of Corrections for the offense of Criminal Endangerment a Felony, in violation of §45-5-207, MCA.

<u>Charge II</u>: Ten (10) years to a state prison to be designated by the Department of Corrections for the offense of Criminal Endangerment a Felony, in violation of §45-5-207, MCA, to run consecutively to Charge I.

<u>Charge III</u>: Ten (10) years to a state prison to be designated by the Department of Corrections for the offense of Criminal Endangerment a Felony, in violation of §45-5-207, MCA, to run consecutively to Charges I and II.

The Court granted credit for time served in the amount of 138 days.

On February 6, 2025, 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 Sarah Kottke, Defense Counsel. The State was not represented. The Defendant provided 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 reasons advanced for modification are insufficient to hold that the sentence imposed by the District Court is clearly inadequate or clearly excessive.

Therefore, it is the unanimous decision of the Division that the sentence is AFFIRMED.

DATED this 25th day of February, 2025.

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION

Hon. Jessica Fehr, Chair

Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Member

Hon. Christopher Abbott, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 25th day of February, 2025, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email* Donald Dean Casterline #3036195, Defendant Hon. Jennifer Lint – *via email* Sarah Kottke, Defense Counsel – *via email*

Angela Auch, Chief Deputy Attorney - via email

Board of Pardons and Parole – via email

MSP - Records Dept. - via email

Shelly Smith, Office Administrator

Sentence Review Division