

FILED

FEB 12 2024

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION  
OF THE SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF MONTANA

Sentence Review Division  
301 S. Park Ave., Suite 328  
P.O. Box 203005  
Helena, MT 59620-3005  
Phone: (406) 841-2976  
Email: [shellysmith@mt.gov](mailto:shellysmith@mt.gov)

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF MONTANA

STATE OF MONTANA,	)	Cause No. DC-14-2014-0000059-IN
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	Fergus County District Court
-vs-	)	
	)	Montana Tenth Judicial District
GILBERT VICTOR CROUSE, III,	)	
	)	<b>DECISION</b>
	)	
Defendant.	)	

On July 21, 2023, the Court found the Defendant violated the terms of his previous suspended sentence, revoked the sentence, and re-sentenced him as follows:

Count I: Five (5) years to the Montana State Prison, with no time suspended, for the offense of Theft, Obtain or Exerts Unauthorized Control Over Property, a Felony, in violation of §45-6-301(1), MCA. The sentence was ordered to run concurrently with the sentence in DC-16-012.

Count II: Five (5) years to the Montana State Prison, with no time suspended, for the offense of Burglary, a Felony, in violation of §45-6-204(1), MCA. The sentence was ordered to run concurrently with Count I and the sentence in DC-16-012.

Count III: Five (5) years to the Montana State Prison, with no time suspended, for the offense of Burglary, a Felony, in violation of §45-6-204(1), MCA. The sentence was ordered to run concurrently with Counts I and II, and the sentence in DC-16-012.

The Defendant was given credit of two-hundred-sixty-one (261) days jail time served, and two-hundred-twenty-eight (228) days of street time served.

On February 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 Dawson County Correctional Facility and was represented by Teal Mittelstadt, Defense Counsel. The State was not represented. 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 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 9th day of February, 2024.

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



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Hon. Luke Berger, Chair



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Hon. Jessica Fehr, Member

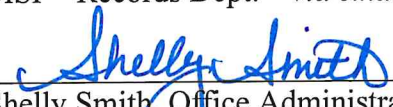


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Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 12th day of February, 2024, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*  
Gilbert Victor Crouse, III #3016894, Defendant  
Hon. Heather Perry – *via email*  
Teal Mittelstadt, Defense Counsel – *via email*  
Kent Sipe, Esq. – *via email*  
Board of Pardons and Parole – *via email*  
MSP - Records Dept. – *via email*



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Shelly Smith, Office Administrator  
Sentence Review Division