

Sentence Review Division
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FILED
04/15/2025
SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION
OF THE SUPREME COURT
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF MONTANA

STATE OF MONTANA,) Cause No. DC-7-2018-0000776
)
Plaintiff,) Cascade County District Court
)
-vs-) Montana Eighth Judicial District
)
CORENA MARIE BANKS,) **DECISION**
)
Defendant.)

On November 2, 2020, the Defendant was sentenced to the Montana Women’s Prison for One Hundred (100) years, with Fifty (50) years suspended, for the offense of Count II: Sexual Abuse of Children, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-625(1)(c), MCA. The Court ordered the Defendant ineligible for parole for the first twenty-five (25) years of her sentence. The Defendant was given credit for 699 days for time served.

On April 4, 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 Women’s Prison and was represented by Penelope Strong, 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 she understood this and stated that she 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 15th day of April, 2025.

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon. Jessica Fehr, Chair



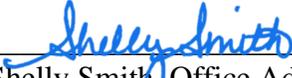
Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Member



Hon. Christopher Abbott, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 15th day of April, 2025, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*
Corena Marie Banks #3029142, Defendant
Hon. John W. Larson – *via email*
Penlope Strong, Defense Counsel – *via email*
State Office of the Public Defender
Joshua Racki, County Attorney – *via email*
Board of Pardons and Parole – *via email*
MWP - Records Dept. – *via email*



Shelly Smith, Office Administrator
Sentence Review Division