

Sentence Review Division
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FILED

FEB 08 2021

**SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION
OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA**

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF MONTANA

STATE OF MONTANA,) Cause No. DC-19-511
)
Plaintiff,) Lewis & Clark County District Court
)
-vs-) Montana First Judicial District
)
WILLIAM LOREN SADDLER,) **DECISION**
)
Defendant.)

On September 30, 2020, the Defendant was sentenced to Montana State Prison for a period of ten (10) years. The sentence was ordered to be served consecutively to the Defendant's previous sentences imposed by the First Judicial District Court for cause numbers: DC-11-64, DC-11-211, and DC 13-165. Count II was dismissed. The Defendant was not given credit for time served because he was on parole when he committed this offense. The Court ordered the Defendant to register as a Violent Offender.

On February 4, 2021, 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 David Maldonado, Defense Counsel. The State was not represented. Katie Benevides, wife of the Defendant, appeared and 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 8th day of February, 2021.

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon., Luke Berger Chairperson




Hon. Jessica Fehr, Member



Hon. Dan Wilson, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 9th day of February, 2021, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*
William Loren Saddler #2073750, Defendant (2)
Hon. Mike Menahan – *via email*
David Maldonado, Defense Counsel – *via email*
Leo Gallagher, Esq. – *via email*
Board of Pardons and Parole – *via email*
MSP - Records Dept. – *via email*



Shelly Smith, Office Administrator
Sentence Review Division