

Sentence Review Division
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FILED
08/14/2025
SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION
OF THE SUPREME COURT
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| STATE OF MONTANA, |) | Cause No. DC-56-2024-0000910 |
| |) | |
| Plaintiff, |) | Yellowstone County District Court |
| -vs- |) | |
| |) | Montana Thirteenth Judicial District |
| LEWIS LEWELLYN RICHARDSON, |) | |
| |) | DECISION |
| |) | |
| Defendant. |) | |

On **December 20, 2024**, the Defendant was sentenced to ten (10) years to the Crossroads Correctional Center under §46-18-201, MCA, for the offense of Count I: Assault with Weapon, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-213(1)(a), MCA, to run consecutive to DC-22-949. The Defendant was given credit for time spent in pre-trial incarceration as follows: July 4, 2024 through December 20, 2024. The Court ordered the Defendant to pay restitution in the total amount of \$12,947.51 to Christopher Larocque. The Defendant shall not knowingly have any contact, oral, written, electronic or through a third party with J.H. and T.C., the victims.

On August 7, 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 Crossroads Correctional Center and was represented by Sarah Kottke, Defense Counsel. The State was not represented. The Defendant did not give 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 14th day of August, 2025.


SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon. Jessica Fehr, Chair




Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Member



Hon. Christopher Abbott, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 14th day of August, 2025, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*
Lewis Lewellyn Richardson #3033936, Defendant
Hon. Brett Linneweber – *via email*
Sarah Kottke, Defense Counsel – *via email*
Colby K. Sturgeon, Deputy Co. Attorney – *via email*
Board of Pardons and Parole – *via email*
MSP - Records Dept. – *via email*



Dia C. Lang, Office Administrator
Sentence Review Division