

Sentence Review Division
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FILED
2/26/2026
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-15-2018-0000013
)
Plaintiff,) Flathead County District Court
)
-vs-) Montana Eleventh Judicial District
)
MICHAEL ROBERT LONG,)
) **DECISION**
)
Defendant.)

On May 29, 2025, the Defendant appeared with counsel for a hearing in aggravation and mitigation of disposition following revocation of Defendant’s conviction for the offense of Count I: Criminal Possession of Dangerous Drugs, a Felony, in violation of §45-9-102(1), MCA, and sentenced the Defendant to two (2) years commitment to the Department of Corrections, with zero (0) years suspended. The Defendant was given credit for 71 days served in custody. The Defendant was previously granted credit for 225 days’ time served in custody in the Judgment and Sentence dated October 15, 2019.

On February 5, 2026, 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 his personal phone and was represented by Lane Bennett, Defense Counsel. The State was not represented. The Defendant did 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 26th day of February 2026.

SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Chair



Hon. Christopher Abbott, Member



Hon. Jeffrey Dahood, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 26th day of February 2026, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*
Michael Robert Long #3024219, Defendant
Hon. Paul Sullivan – *via email*
Lane Bennett, Defense Counsel – *via email*
Travis Ahner, 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