

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

FILED
3/4/2026
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-15-2023-0000178
)
) Plaintiff,) Flathead County District Court
)
 -vs-)
) Montana Eleventh Judicial District
 EDWARD CLAY CURTIS,)
) **DECISION**
)
)
 Defendant.)

On June 5, 2025, the Defendant was sentenced to forty (40) years to the Montana State Prison for the offense of Count I: Sexual Intercourse Without Consent, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-503(1), MCA, with zero (0) years suspended. The Defendant was given credit for 348 days of time previously served in custody. The Court ordered the Defendant be designated as a Level II Sexual Offender pursuant to §46-23-509(2), MCA. Under the conditions, the Defendant was not to knowingly have any contact, oral, written, electronic or through a third party, with D.T., the victim and/or the victim's immediate family.

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 the Montana State Prison and was represented by Brian Owens, Defense Counsel. The State was represented by Ashley Frechette. 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 4th day of March 2026.

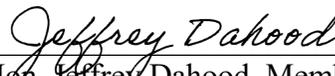
SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Chair



Hon. Christopher Abbott, Member



Hon. Jeffrey Dahood, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 4th day of March 2026, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*
Edward Clay Curtis #3038472, Defendant
Hon. Amy Eddy – *via email*
Brian Owens, Defense Counsel – *via email*
Ashley Frechette, Deputy County Attorney – *via email*
Board of Pardons and Parole – *via email*
MSP - Records Dept. – *via email*



Dia C. Lang, Office Administrator
Sentence Review Division