

Sentence Review Division
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SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION OF THE SUPREME COURT OF MONTANA

STATE OF MONTANA,	)	Cause No. DC-7-2025-0000118
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	Cascade County District Court
	)	
	)	Montana Eighth Judicial District
-vs-	)	
	)	DECISION
ROBERT AHENAKEW,	)	
	)	

Defendant.

On September 17, 2025, the Defendant was sentenced in Count I, per the plea agreement. The Defendant was not given credit for time served. The sentence to run consecutively to any other sentence the Defendant was currently serving. On February 25, 2026, the Court found the Defendant violated the conditions of his probation, revoked the sentence, and sentenced him to four (4) years commitment to the Department of Corrections for the offense of Count I: Criminal Possession of Dangerous Drugs, a Felony, in violation of §45-9-102, MCA. The Court recommended placement in a secure Department of Corrections treatment facility, specifically Connections Corrections, to be followed by pre-release. The Defendant was given credit for 51 days for time already served and 33 days for street time. The sentence to run consecutive to any other sentence the Defendant was currently serving. As this was a straight Department of Corrections sentence, the Court did not impose conditions of probation.

On August 6, 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 Connections Corrections Program and was represented by Kirsten Mull Core, Esq., Defense Counsel. The State was not represented. The Defendant did provide 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.

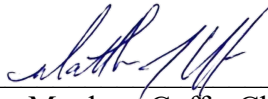
Rule 12, Rules of the Sentence Review Division of the Supreme Court of Montana, provides that, "The sentence imposed by the District Court is presumed correct. The sentence shall not be reduced or increased unless it is clearly inadequate or clearly excessive." (Section 46-18-904(3), MCA).

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 September, 2026.

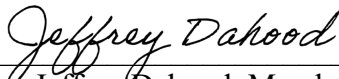
SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Chair



Hon. Christopher Abbott, Member



Hon. Jeffrey Dahood, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 8th day of September, 2026,
to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*
Robert Ahenakew #3033637, Defendant
Hon. David J. Grubich – *via email*
Kirsten Mull Core, Esq., Defense Counsel – *via email*
John Brothers, Deputy Co. Attorney – *via email*
Board of Pardons and Parole – *via email*
Montana State Prison - Records Dept. – *via email*



Dia C. Lang, Office Administrator
Sentence Review Division