

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

STATE OF MONTANA,	)	Cause No. DC-24-2020-0000085
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	Lake County District Court
	)	
	)	Montana Twentieth Judicial District
-vs-	)	
	)	DECISION
JAROD MATTHEW JOSEPH,	)	
	)	

Defendant.

On December 3, 2025, the Defendant was sentenced as follows: Count I: Ten (10) years to Montana State Prison, with 6 years suspended, for the offense of Sexual Assault, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-502, MCA. The Defendant's eligibility for parole to be restricted for a period of four (4) years because the underlying offenses were abhorrent in nature and involved multiple young victims. Therefore, the parole restriction was necessary to protect the public. Count II: Ten (10) years to Montana State Prison, with 6 years suspended, for the offense of Sexual Assault, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-502, MCA. The Defendant's eligibility for parole to be restricted for a period of four (4) years because the underlying offenses were abhorrent in nature and involved multiple young victims. Therefore, the parole restriction was necessary to protect the public. Counts I and II to run consecutively, and DC-20-0085 to run consecutively to DC-21-0096. The Defendant was given credit for 272 days' time served. The Court to designate the Defendant a Level I Sexual Offender [Condition #25].

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 Crossroads Correctional Center and was represented by Glen Neier, 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 31st day of August, 2026.

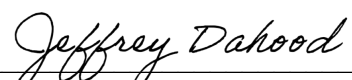
SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Chair



Hon. Christopher Abbott, Member



Hon. Jeffrey Dahood, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 31st day of August, 2026, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*
Jarod Matthew Joseph #3039780, Defendant
Hon. Molly Owen – *via email*
Glen Neier, Esq., Defense Counsel – *via email*
Benjamin Anciaux, 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