

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](mailto:srdapplication@mt.gov)

**FILED**  
**5/20/2026**  
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-56-2014-0000957  
)  
Plaintiff, ) Yellowstone County District Court  
)  
) Montana Thirteenth Judicial District  
-vs- )  
) **DECISION**  
CHRISTOPHER JAMES MICHELOTTI, )  
)  
Defendant. )

---

On September 26, 2016, the Defendant was sentenced as follows: Count I: Forty (40) years to the Montana State Prison under §46-18-201, MCA, to run consecutively to Federal sentence, for the offense of Aggravated Burglary, a Felony, in violation of §§45-6-204(2)(a)(ii) and (b)(i), MCA. Count III: Twenty (20) years to the Montana State Prison under §46-18-201, MCA, to run consecutively to Count I, for the offense of Assault with Weapon, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-213(1)(b), MCA. Count IV: Twenty (20) years to the Montana State Prison under §46-18-201, MCA, to run concurrently to Count III, for the offense of Assault with Weapon, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-213(1)(b), MCA. Count V: Twenty (20) years to the Montana State Prison under §46-18-201, MCA, to run concurrently to Counts III and IV, for the offense of Assault with Weapon, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-213(1)(b), MCA. Count VI: Twenty (20) years to the Montana State Prison under §46-18-201, MCA, to run concurrently to Counts III, IV, and V, for the offense of Assault with Weapon, a Felony, in violation of §45-5-213(1)(b), MCA. The Defendant was given credit for time spent in pre-trial incarceration from May 26, 2014 through September 26, 2016. The Court ordered the Defendant to pay restitution in the amount of Ten Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Eight Dollars and Twenty-One Cents (\$10,978.21). The Court further ordered the Defendant designated as a Persistent Felony Offender for sentencing under §§46-18-501 and 46-18-502, MCA. Count II was dismissed.

On May 7, 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 Keen Mountain Correctional Facility in Virginia and was represented by Tyler Dugger. The State was represented by Arielle Dean. The Defendant did not 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 20th day of May, 2026.

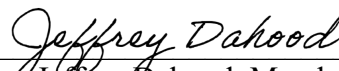
SENTENCE REVIEW DIVISION



Hon. Matthew Cuffe, Chair



Hon. Christopher Abbott, Member



Hon. Jeffrey Dahood, Member

Copies mailed or emailed this 20th day of May, 2026, to:

Clerk of District Court – *via email*  
Christopher James Michelotti #2246789, Defendant  
Hon. Jessica Fehr – *via email*  
Tyler Dugger  
Attorney at Law  
P.O. Box 1913  
Billings, MT 59103-1913, Defense Counsel – *via email*  
Ed Zink, Deputy Co. Attorney – *via email*  
Board of Pardons and Parole – *via email*  
Montana State Prison - Records Dept. – *via email*

*Dia C. Lang*

---

Dia C. Lang, Office Administrator  
Sentence Review Division