

BOISE, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2025, AT 8:50 A.M.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

STATE OF IDAHO,

Plaintiff-Respondent,

V.

CHRISTOPHER ROBERT SMITH,

Defendant-Appellant.

Docket No. 51551

Appeal from the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District of the State of Idaho,
Ada County. Cynthia Yee-Wallace, District Judge.

Erik R. Lehtinen, State Appellate Public Defender, Boise, for Appellant.

Raúl R. Labrador, Idaho Attorney General, Boise, for Respondent.

This appeal concerns the denial of Smith's motion to suppress evidence and the district court's imposition of conditions at his sentencing hearing. Smith pled guilty to one count of Sexual Exploitation of a Child, Idaho Code section 18-1507(2)(c). The district court sentenced him to a 30-year term in the custody of the Idaho Department of Correction, with 7 years fixed and the remaining 23 years indeterminate.

The Meridian Police Department began an investigation after receiving a report that Smith was taking photographs and videotaping his stepchildren when they were in the bathroom of their home. After reviewing evidence of Smith's conduct, detectives approached Smith in the parking lot of his workplace in the evening. During the conversation, a detective asked to see Smith's cell phone and Smith handed the detective his phone. The detective seized Smith's phone. The following morning, the detective searched the phone after obtaining a warrant to conduct the search. Smith filed a motion to suppress the evidence from his phone, claiming the warrantless seizure of the phone violated his constitutional rights. The district court denied his motion, finding the seizure was reasonable under the exigent circumstances exception. On appeal, Smith argues the district court erred because the evidence did not support the exigent circumstances exception.

At sentencing, the district court imposed 15 conditions as part of Smith's sentence. On appeal, Smith claims the court abused its discretion and acted outside the boundaries of its discretion when it imposed the conditions on his sentence.