

BOISE, THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2026, AT 9:00 A.M.

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Docket No. 52159

STATE OF IDAHO)
)
 Plaintiff-Respondent)
)
 v.)
)
 JACOB LEVI SMITH,)
)
 Defendant-Appellant)
)
 _____)

Appeal from the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District, State of Idaho, Ada County. Hon. Lynn G. Norton, District Judge.

Erik R. Lehtinen, State Appellate Public Defender; Andrea W. Reynolds, Deputy Appellate Public Defender; Katherine C. Ball and Joshua Bruce Holmstead, University of Idaho Legal Aid Clinic, Boise, for appellant.

Hon. Raúl R. Labrador, Attorney General; Michael MacEgan, Deputy Attorney General, Boise, for respondent.

Officers responded to a vacant lot after receiving a tip from an identified caller concerned about suspicious behavior. The caller described a group of people huddled around a vehicle, sorting through backpacks, and additional vehicles coming and going. The caller expressed concern because one of the individuals had a handgun on his hip. When officers arrived, they saw Jacob Levi Smith sitting in a vehicle and asked him to exit. After exiting the vehicle, Smith ran to the opposite side of the empty lot, fleeing the scene and hiding in a storage shed of a nearby residence. Smith eventually surrendered and was taken into custody. Shortly after apprehending Smith, an officer discovered the handgun hidden in a bush near the vacant lot. Smith filed a motion to suppress, arguing the officers did not have reasonable suspicion to conduct an investigative stop based on the tip received from the caller. The district court denied the motion. Pursuant to a plea agreement, Smith entered a conditional guilty plea to concealment of evidence and a persistent violator sentencing enhancement. Smith appeals, challenging the denial of his motion to suppress.