

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Docket No. 43372

STATE OF IDAHO,) 2016 Unpublished Opinion No. 587
)
Plaintiff-Respondent,) Filed: June 29, 2016
)
v.) Stephen W. Kenyon, Clerk
)
SCOTT ALLEN SANDERS,) THIS IS AN UNPUBLISHED
) OPINION AND SHALL NOT
Defendant-Appellant.) BE CITED AS AUTHORITY
)
_____)

Appeal from the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District, State of Idaho, Elmore County. Hon. Cheri C. Copey, District Judge.

Judgment of conviction and unified sentence of ten years with a minimum period of confinement of two years, for attempted strangulation, affirmed; order relinquishing jurisdiction, affirmed; order denying Rule 35 motion, affirmed.

Sara B. Thomas, State Appellate Public Defender; Sally J. Cooley, Deputy Appellate Public Defender, Boise, for appellant.

Hon. Lawrence G. Wasden, Attorney General; Jessica M. Lorello, Deputy Attorney General, Boise, for respondent.

Before MELANSON, Chief Judge; GUTIERREZ, Judge;
and GRATTON, Judge

PER CURIAM

Scott Allen Sanders pled guilty to attempted strangulation. Idaho Code § 18-923. Following his plea, Sanders was sentenced to a unified term of ten years with two years determinate and the district court retained jurisdiction. After Sanders completed the rider program, the district court relinquished jurisdiction. Sanders filed an Idaho Criminal Rule 35 motion for reduction of sentence, which the district court denied. Sanders appeals asserting that the district court abused its discretion by imposing an excessive sentence, relinquishing jurisdiction, and denying his Rule 35 motion.

Sentencing is a matter for the trial court's discretion. Both our standard of review and the factors to be considered in evaluating the reasonableness of the sentence are well established and need not be repeated here. *See State v. Hernandez*, 121 Idaho 114, 117-18, 822 P.2d 1011, 1014-15 (Ct. App. 1991); *State v. Lopez*, 106 Idaho 447, 449-51, 680 P.2d 869, 871-73 (Ct. App. 1984); *State v. Toohill*, 103 Idaho 565, 568, 650 P.2d 707, 710 (Ct. App. 1982). When reviewing the length of a sentence, we consider the defendant's entire sentence. *State v. Oliver*, 144 Idaho 722, 726, 170 P.3d 387, 391 (2007). Applying these standards, and having reviewed the record in this case, we cannot say that the district court abused its discretion.

We note that the decision to place a defendant on probation or whether, instead, to relinquish jurisdiction over the defendant is a matter within the sound discretion of the district court and will not be overturned on appeal absent an abuse of that discretion. *State v. Hood*, 102 Idaho 711, 712, 639 P.2d 9, 10 (1981); *State v. Lee*, 117 Idaho 203, 205-06, 786 P.2d 594, 596-97 (Ct. App. 1990). The record in this case shows that the district court properly considered the information before it and determined that probation was not appropriate. We hold that Sanders has failed to show that the district court abused its discretion in relinquishing jurisdiction.

A motion for reduction of sentence under I.C.R. 35 is essentially a plea for leniency, addressed to the sound discretion of the court. *State v. Knighton*, 143 Idaho 318, 319, 144 P.3d 23, 24 (2006); *State v. Allbee*, 115 Idaho 845, 846, 771 P.2d 66, 67 (Ct. App. 1989). In presenting a Rule 35 motion, the defendant must show that the sentence is excessive in light of new or additional information subsequently provided to the district court in support of the motion. *State v. Huffman*, 144 Idaho 201, 203, 159 P.3d 838, 840 (2007). Upon review of the record, including any new information submitted with Sanders' Rule 35 motion, we conclude no abuse of discretion has been shown.

Sanders' judgment of conviction and sentence, the order of the district court relinquishing jurisdiction, and the order denying Sanders' Rule 35 motion are affirmed.