

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Docket No. 52139

STATE OF IDAHO, )  
 )  
 Plaintiff-Respondent, ) Filed: April 28, 2025  
 )  
 v. ) Melanie Gagnepain, Clerk  
 )  
 RANDY DEAN TELLES, ) THIS IS AN UNPUBLISHED  
 ) OPINION AND SHALL NOT  
 ) BE CITED AS AUTHORITY  
 Defendant-Appellant. )  
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 )

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Appeal from the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District, State of Idaho, Ada County. Hon. Jason D. Scott, District Judge.

Judgment of conviction and unified sentence of twelve years, with a minimum period of confinement of two and one-half years, for attempted strangulation, affirmed.

Erik R. Lehtinen, State Appellate Public Defender; Kimberly A. Coster, Deputy Appellate Public Defender, Boise, for appellant.

Hon. Raúl R. Labrador, Attorney General; Kacey L. Jones, Deputy Attorney General, Boise, for respondent.

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Before GRATTON, Chief Judge; HUSKEY, Judge;  
and TRIBE, Judge

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PER CURIAM

Randy Dean Telles pled guilty to attempted strangulation. Idaho Code § 18-923. In exchange for his guilty plea, the State agreed to dismiss the remaining charges in the present case and dismiss Telles’s charges in another case. The district court sentenced Telles to a unified term of twelve years, with a minimum period of confinement of two and one-half years. Telles filed an Idaho Criminal Rule 35 motion, which the district court denied.<sup>1</sup> Telles appeals, arguing that his

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<sup>1</sup> On appeal, Telles does not challenge the district court’s denial of his Rule 35 motion for reduction of his sentence.

sentence is excessive, specifically that the district court should have placed him on probation or retained jurisdiction.

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). Our role is limited to determining whether reasonable minds could reach the same conclusion as the district court. *State v. Biggs*, 168 Idaho 112, 116, 480 P.3d 150, 154 (Ct. App. 2020).

The primary purpose of a district court retaining jurisdiction is to enable the court to obtain additional information regarding whether the defendant has sufficient rehabilitative potential and is suitable for probation. *State v. Jones*, 141 Idaho 673, 677, 115 P.3d 764, 768 (Ct. App. 2005). Probation is the ultimate goal of retained jurisdiction. *Id.* There can be no abuse of discretion in declining to retain jurisdiction if the district court has sufficient evidence before it to conclude that the defendant is not a suitable candidate for probation. *Id.* The goal of probation is to foster the probationer's rehabilitation while protecting public safety. *State v. Cheatham*, 159 Idaho 856, 858, 367 P.3d 251, 253 (Ct. App. 2016). A decision to deny probation will not be deemed an abuse of discretion if it is consistent with the criteria articulated in I.C. § 19-2521.

Applying these standards, and having reviewed the record in this case, we cannot say that the district court abused its discretion. Therefore, Telles's judgment of conviction and sentence are affirmed.