

BOISE, THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021 AT 11:10 A.M.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

STATE OF IDAHO,

Plaintiff-Respondent,

V.

JACOB STEELE RANDALL,

Defendant-Appellant.

Docket No. 48692

Appeal from the District Court of the Sixth Judicial District of the State of Idaho,
Bannock County, Robert C. Naftz, District Judge.

Eric D. Fredericksen, Idaho Public Defender, Boise, for appellant.

Lawrence G. Wasden Idaho Attorney General, Boise, for respondent.

Jacob Steele Randall appeals from the district court's denial of his motion to suppress evidence of 65 pounds of marijuana. An officer discovered the marijuana after a traffic stop and a sniff by a drug detection dog, during which the dog leapt through an open window of the car Randall was driving. Randall also appeals as excessive his sentence to a term of seven years, with three years fixed, imposed by the district court after Randall conditionally pleaded guilty and reserved the right to appeal the denial of the motion to suppress.

Randall alleges his Fourth Amendment rights against unreasonable search and seizure were violated on two grounds, and that the marijuana seized as a result must be suppressed as “fruit of the poisonous tree.” First, Randall argues the duration of the traffic stop was unconstitutionally prolonged because law enforcement lacked reasonable suspicion of drug trafficking in order to conduct a drug sniff. Second, Randall argues that the dog’s entry into the car was an unconstitutional “search” because law enforcement lacked a warrant or probable cause before the entry and the officer assisted the dog into the car. The case was first heard by the Court of Appeals, which affirmed the district court’s denial of the motion to suppress and affirmed Randall’s sentence. Randall then petitioned this Court for review, and the Court granted the petition.