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DISTRICT IV

July 23, 2026

To:

Hon. Mario White
Circuit Court Judge
Electronic Notice

Jeff Okazaki
Clerk of Circuit Court
Dane County Courthouse
Electronic Notice

John Blimling
Electronic Notice

Devon M. Lee
Electronic Notice

Victor R. Discua Paredes 727543
Wisconsin Resource Center
P.O. Box 220
Winnebago, WI 54985-0220

You are hereby notified that the Court has entered the following opinion and order:

2025AP1583-CRNM State of Wisconsin v. Victor R. Discua Paredes
(L.C. # 2022CF2384)

Before Graham, P.J., Kloppenburg, and Nashold, JJ.

Summary disposition orders may not be cited in any court of this state as precedent or authority, except for the limited purposes specified in WIS. STAT. RULE 809.23(3).

Victor R. Discua Paredes appeals a judgment of conviction for first-degree reckless injury contrary to WIS. STAT. § 940.23(1)(a) (2023-24).¹ Appellate counsel, Devon M. Lee, filed a no-merit report pursuant to *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967), and WIS. STAT. RULE 809.32. Discua Paredes was advised of his right to file a response, but he has not responded. After this court's independent review of the record and counsel's report, we

¹ All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2023-24 version.

conclude that there are no issues of arguable merit that could be pursued on appeal. We therefore summarily affirm the judgment.

The State charged Discua Paredes with one count of attempted first-degree intentional homicide, one count of first-degree reckless injury, and one count of mayhem, all with a dangerous weapon, stemming from an incident in the early hours of September 5, 2022. According to the complaint, Discua Paredes believed that a man had an inappropriate interaction or relationship with Discua Paredes's wife. Accompanied by three other people, Discua Paredes went to the man's house before 3:00 a.m. and had an altercation with him. Discua Paredes used a knife to stab the man in the face, causing the man to bleed heavily and lose consciousness, and then used the same knife to cut the man's wife on her face.

Discua Paredes agreed to enter a guilty plea to the first-degree reckless injury charge, and the State agreed to move to dismiss the other charges and the dangerous weapon enhancer and read in the mayhem charge for purposes of sentencing. The parties agreed to request a pre-sentencing investigation with no sentencing recommendation, and the State agreed that its recommendation would be capped at eight years of initial confinement. After a colloquy, the circuit court accepted Discua Paredes's plea. The court ultimately imposed a sentence consisting of eight years of initial confinement and ten years of extended supervision.

The first potential issue discussed in the no-merit report is whether there is any arguably meritorious basis for challenging Discua Paredes's guilty plea as not knowing, intelligent, and voluntary. This court's review of the record—including the plea questionnaire and the plea hearing transcript—confirms that the circuit court complied with its obligations for taking guilty pleas pursuant to WIS. STAT. § 971.08; *State v. Bangert*, 131 Wis. 2d 246, 261-62, 389 N.W.2d

12 (1986); and *State v. Brown*, 2006 WI 100, ¶35, 293 Wis. 2d 594, 716 N.W.2d 906. While Discua Paredes indicated he does not understand the English language, he stated that he had been able to communicate with his attorney throughout the proceedings and that he understood the plea questionnaire, which he went over with his attorney in English. A sworn, court-certified interpreter assisted in all court proceedings. This court agrees with counsel’s analysis and conclusion that any challenge to the validity of Discua Paredes’s plea would lack arguable merit.

The no-merit report also addresses whether there is any arguably meritorious basis for challenging the circuit court’s sentencing discretion. See *State v. Gallion*, 2004 WI 42, ¶17, 270 Wis. 2d 535, 678 N.W.2d 197 (this court’s review of sentencing is limited to whether the circuit court erroneously exercised its discretion). This court’s review of the record confirms that the circuit court appropriately considered relevant sentencing objectives and factors. See *id.*, ¶41 (the sentencing court may weigh sentencing objectives differently); see also *State v. Odom*, 2006 WI App 145, ¶7, 294 Wis. 2d 844, 720 N.W.2d 695 (identifying “primary” and additional factors for the sentencing court to consider); *State v. Ziegler*, 2006 WI App 49, ¶23, 289 Wis. 2d 594, 712 N.W.2d 76 (identifying principal objectives of sentencing and explaining sentencing court’s duties). The sentence imposed is well below the statutory maximum of 25 years. See WIS. STAT. § 939.50(3)(d); see also *State v. Scaccio*, 2000 WI App 265, ¶18, 240 Wis. 2d 95, 622 N.W.2d 449 (“A sentence well within the limits of the maximum sentence is unlikely to be unduly harsh or unconscionable.”). There is no arguable merit to challenging to the court’s sentencing discretion.

This court’s independent review of the record reveals no other potential issues of arguable merit.

Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that the judgment is summarily affirmed. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attorney Devon M. Lee is relieved of further representation of Discua Paredes in this matter. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.32(3).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this summary disposition order will not be published.

Samuel A. Christensen
Clerk of Court of Appeals