

OFFICE OF THE CLERK WISCONSIN COURT OF APPEALS

110 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 215 P.O. Box 1688

MADISON, WISCONSIN 53701-1688

Telephone (608) 266-1880 TTY: (800) 947-3529 Facsimile (608) 267-0640 Web Site: www.wicourts.gov

DISTRICT II

August 27, 2025

To:

Hon. Timothy D. Boyle Circuit Court Judge Electronic Notice

Amy Vanderhoef Clerk of Circuit Court Racine County Courthouse Electronic Notice John Blimling Electronic Notice

Angela Conrad Kachelski Electronic Notice

Darkari C. Coleman #714659 Racine Youthful Offender Corr. Facility P.O. Box 44380 Racine, WI 53404

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

2024AP574-CRNM

State of Wisconsin v. Darkari C. Coleman (L.C. #2021CF973)

Before Neubauer, P.J., Gundrum and Grogan, 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).

Darkari C. Coleman appeals a judgment of conviction for second-degree sexual assault of a child as a party to a crime and for possession of child pornography. Coleman's appointed appellate counsel has filed a no-merit report pursuant to WIS. STAT. RULE 809.32 (2023-24)¹ and *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967). Coleman was advised of his right to file a response but has not done so. Upon consideration of the no-merit report, and following an independent

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

review of the record as mandated by *Anders* and RULE 809.32, we conclude there is no arguable merit to any issue that could be raised on appeal. We therefore summarily affirm the judgment. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21(1).

Coleman was charged with the crimes of conviction after the victim reported to police that she had been sexually assaulted in a vehicle by Coleman and two other men. She specifically alleged that Coleman had digitally penetrated her and grabbed her breasts.² During the investigation, an investigator learned that Coleman's snapchat account included a video of the victim sleeping with her breasts exposed and a person believed to be Coleman grabbing them. The investigation also uncovered a snapchat message in which Coleman told another of the men in the vehicle that "what we did was wrong."

Coleman ultimately entered guilty pleas to the two crimes pursuant to a plea agreement with the State, under which the State agreed to recommend ten to twelve years of initial confinement followed by ten years of extended supervision on the sexual assault charge, as well as three years each of initial confinement and extended supervision on the child pornography charge. The defense was free to argue as to the sentences. Coleman completed a Plea Questionnaire/Waiver of Rights form and was advised of the mandatory three-year minimum sentence for possession of child pornography³ and of the various collateral consequences of his

² At sentencing, the prosecutor stated that the victim would have testified that Coleman rubbed her vagina, but did not penetrate her. However, the victim was consistent in her assertion that Coleman had repeatedly groped her breasts, which provided a basis for the second-degree sexual assault charge. See WIS. STAT. §§ 940.02(2) (defining the crime by reference to "sexual contact"); 939.22(34)(a) (defining "sexual contact" by reference to touching of the victim's "intimate parts"); 939.22(19) (defining "intimate parts" as including a person's breasts).

³ See WIS. STAT. § 939.617(1).

pleas, including lifetime sex offender registration. Following a thorough colloquy, the circuit court accepted Coleman's pleas.⁴ The parties stipulated that the complaint could be used as a factual basis for the pleas, and the court concluded it was sufficient for that purpose. The court ordered a presentence investigation (PSI) report.

At the sentencing hearing, the parties first addressed Coleman's statement to the PSI author that he did "not feel like he was properly represented by his attorney." Based on Coleman's statement, his trial counsel moved to withdraw. Upon questioning by the circuit court, Coleman stated that the reason for his request was that he was hopeful a new attorney could get him "a better deal or like lower time." The court declined to grant permission to withdraw and proceeded with sentencing. After discussing sentencing factors and the circumstances of Coleman's crimes, the court imposed a sixteen-year sentence on the sexual assault conviction, bifurcated as eight years' initial confinement and eight years' extended supervision. On the child pornography conviction, the court imposed a consecutive sentence of three years' initial confinement and three years' extended supervision.

The no-merit report addresses whether there would be any nonfrivolous basis to challenge the adequacy of the plea colloquy; the knowing, intelligent, and voluntary nature of Coleman's pleas; the circuit court's exercise of sentencing discretion; and the denial of trial counsel's motion to withdraw at sentencing. Our review of the appellate record satisfies us that the no-merit report sufficiently analyzes these issues and properly concludes that any challenge

⁴ During the colloquy, Coleman was given additional time to speak with his attorney. Coleman stated that he was previously unaware that the circuit court did not have to accept the State's recommendation but, rather, could sentence him up to the maximum penalty on each offense. However, he confirmed his understanding of the circuit court's explanation and proceeded to enter the agreed-upon pleas.

No. 2024AP574-CRNM

based upon them would lack arguable merit. Our independent review of the record reveals no other potentially meritorious issues for appeal.

Based on the foregoing,

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

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attorney Angela Conrad Kachelski is relieved from further representing Dakari C. Coleman in this appeal. *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