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DISTRICT IV

October 23, 2025

To:

Hon. David D. Conway
Circuit Court Judge
Electronic Notice

Jeff Okazaki
Clerk of Circuit Court
Dane County Courthouse
Electronic Notice

Lena D. Archer
Electronic Notice

John Blimling
Electronic Notice

Kelsey Jarecki Morin Loshaw
Electronic Notice

Julius A. Goodwin 240559
Fox Lake Minimum Correctional Inst.
P.O. Box 200
Fox Lake, WI 53933-0200

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

2024AP704-CRNM State of Wisconsin v. Julius A. Goodwin (L.C. # 2022CF1353)

Before Graham, P.J., Blanchard, and Kloppenburg, 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).

Attorney Lena Archer, appointed counsel for appellant Julius Goodwin, has filed a no-merit report seeking to withdraw as appellate counsel. Goodwin has responded to the no-merit report, challenging the validity of his pleas. Goodwin asserts that he was not competent at the time he entered his pleas and that his trial counsel should have raised the issue of his competency to proceed. Goodwin also asserts that his trial counsel failed to properly assess whether he could have asserted a defense of not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect (NGI), and that his counsel did not discuss the possibility of an NGI defense with him.

On this court's review of the no-merit report, response, and the record, this court was unable to determine whether further proceedings would be wholly frivolous. Accordingly, on September 24, 2025, this court issued an order directing counsel to address whether there would be arguable merit to a challenge to Goodwin's guilty pleas based on issues related to Goodwin's competency or the viability of an NGI defense. In response to that order, counsel informs this court that counsel has determined that there would be arguable merit to a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel. Counsel moves to dismiss this no-merit appeal and extend the time to file a postconviction motion.

Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that the no-merit report is rejected and the no-merit appeal is voluntarily dismissed without prejudice.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the deadline for filing a postconviction motion or notice of appeal is extended to sixty days from the date of this order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this summary disposition order will not be published.

Samuel A. Christensen
Clerk of Court of Appeals