



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 III

January 28, 2025

To:

Hon. Kelly J. Thimm
Circuit Court Judge
Electronic Notice

Michele Wick
Clerk of Circuit Court
Douglas County Courthouse
Electronic Notice

Laura M. Force
Electronic Notice

Jennifer L. Vandermeuse
Electronic Notice

Trayvaun Edward Knowles 658866
Racine Correctional Inst.
P.O. Box 900
Sturtevant, WI 53177-0900

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

2023AP1595-CRNM State of Wisconsin v. Trayvaun Edward Knowles
(L. C. No. 2021CF282)

Before Stark, P.J., Hruz and Gill, 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).

Counsel for Trayvaun Knowles has filed a no-merit report, concluding that no grounds exist to challenge Knowles' conviction for sexual exploitation of a child, contrary to WIS. STAT. § 948.05(1)(a) (2021-22).¹ He also appeals from an order denying his postconviction motion. Knowles was informed of his right to file a response to the no-merit report, and he has not responded. Upon our independent review of the record as mandated by *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967), we conclude there is no arguable merit to any issue that could be raised on

¹ All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2021-22 version unless otherwise noted.

appeal. Therefore, we summarily affirm the amended judgment of conviction and the postconviction order. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

The State charged Knowles with sexual exploitation of a child following a sexually explicit video chat that he had with sixteen-year-old Alice,² while Knowles was incarcerated in the Douglas County Jail. The complaint alleged that during the video call, Alice was wearing a tank top and thong underwear. Knowles twice told Alice to turn around, thus exposing her bare buttocks, and on the second occasion, Knowles showed the screen to another inmate.

In exchange for his no-contest plea to the crime charged, the State agreed to recommend that the circuit court dismiss and read in charges of second-degree sexual assault of a child and incest with a child in Douglas County case No. 2021CF65. The State also agreed to cap its sentence recommendation at either five years of initial confinement or the recommendation made in the presentence investigation report (PSI), whichever was greater. Out of a maximum possible forty-year sentence, with a presumptive mandatory minimum of five years of initial confinement, the court imposed a thirteen-year term, consisting of seven years of initial confinement followed by six years of extended supervision.

Knowles filed a postconviction motion, arguing that he was entitled to sentence modification based on information that was new or previously overlooked. Specifically, Knowles asserted that a new psychosexual examination and report demonstrated that his risk to reoffend was vastly overstated, thus justifying a sentence below the presumptive mandatory

² Pursuant to the policy underlying WIS. STAT. RULE 809.86(4), we use a pseudonym instead of the victim's name.

minimum. Knowles also claimed that the circuit court relied on incorrect information at sentencing. He additionally argued that he was entitled to one extra day of sentence credit. The court granted the sentence credit sought, but it denied the sentence modification motion after a hearing.

The no-merit report addresses whether Knowles knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily entered his no-contest plea; whether the circuit court properly exercised its sentencing discretion; and whether there are any grounds to challenge the partial denial of Knowles' postconviction motion for sentence modification. Upon reviewing the record, we agree with counsel's description, analysis, and conclusion that none of these issues has arguable merit.³ The no-merit report sets forth an adequate discussion of the potential issues to support the no-merit conclusion, and we need not address them further. Our independent review of the record discloses no other potential issue for appeal.

Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that the amended judgment of conviction and order are summarily affirmed. WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attorney Laura M. Force is relieved of her obligation to further represent Trayvaun Knowles in this matter. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.32(3).

³ The no-merit report states that the circuit court failed to advise Knowles that a conviction could carry immigration consequences if he were not a United States citizen. The record, however, reflects that during the plea colloquy, the court advised Knowles of the deportation consequences of his plea, as mandated by WIS. STAT. § 971.08(1)(c). In any event, the record shows that Knowles is a United States citizen not subject to deportation.

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

Samuel A. Christensen
Clerk of Court of Appeals