

OFFICE OF THE CLERK WISCONSIN COURT OF APPEALS

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DISTRICT III

August 12, 2014

Hon. John A. Damon Circuit Court Judge Trempealeau Co. Courthouse 36245 Main St. Whitehall, WI 54773

Michelle Weisenberger Clerk of Circuit Court Trempealeau Co. Courthouse 36245 Main St. Whitehall, WI 54773

Eileen A. Hirsch Asst. State Public Defender P.O. Box 7862 Madison, WI 53707-7862 Taavi McMahon District Attorney P.O. Box 67 Whitehall, WI 54773

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Denis K. Lapka 354850 Jackson Corr. Inst. P.O. Box 233 Black River Falls, WI 54615-0233

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

2013AP2823-CRNM State of Wisconsin v. Denis K. Lapka (L.C. #2007CF15)

Before Hoover, P.J., Stark, J., and Thomas Cane, Reserve Judge.

Counsel for Denis Lapka has filed a no-merit report concluding there is no basis for appealing a sentence imposed after revocation of probation. Lapka was advised of his right to respond and 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 and summarily affirm.

Lapka was convicted of fleeing a traffic officer. Sentence was withheld and he was placed on probation consecutive to a sentence in an Eau Claire court case for misappropriating

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information. Lapka's probation was subsequently revoked and the court sentenced him to eighteen months' initial confinement and eighteen months' extended supervision, consecutive to any sentence he was currently serving.

Because this appeal arises from a judgment after revocation, Lapka is barred from challenging that judgment or raising issues in this appeal that relate to the underlying conviction. *See State v. Tobey*, 200 Wis. 2d 781, 784, 548 N.W.2d 95 (Ct. App. 1996). Further, revocation is independent from the underlying criminal action. *See State ex rel. Flowers v. DH&SS*, 81 Wis. 2d 376, 384, 260 N.W.2d 727 (1978). This court's review is limited to whether the court properly exercised its sentencing discretion.

The record discloses no arguable basis for challenging the sentencing court's discretion. The court considered the proper sentencing factors. *See Ocanas v. State*, 70 Wis. 2d 179, 185, 233 N.W.2d 457 (1975). The court emphasized Lapka's "poor record here under probation." The court noted there were twenty separate violations, and Lapka had just been convicted of a felony offense in another county. The sentence was allowable under law and not excessive or unduly harsh.

IT IS ORDERED that the judgment after revocation of probation is summarily affirmed. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21 (2011-12).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that attorney Eileen Hirsch is relieved of further representing Lapka in this matter.

Diane M. Fremgen Clerk of Court of Appeals

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