

## OFFICE OF THE CLERK WISCONSIN COURT OF APPEALS

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## **DISTRICT III**

May 22, 2018

*To*:

Hon. James M. Peterson Circuit Court Judge 615 Stokke Parkway Menomonie, WI 54751

Edye Hackbarth Juvenile Clerk Dunn County Judicial Center 615 Stokke Parkway, Suite 1300 Menomonie, WI 54751 Philip J. Brehm 23 W. Milwaukee St., Ste. 200 Janesville, WI 53548

Andrea Amidon Nodolf District Attorney 615 Stokke Parkway, Suite 1700 Menomonie, WI 54751-2700

R. N. R. E. 4376 451st Ave. Menomonie, WI 54751

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

2018AP173-NM

State of Wisconsin v. R.N.R. (L. C. No. 2016JV49)

Before Stark, P.J.<sup>1</sup>

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).

R.N.R. appeals from an order finding him delinquent for having committed the crime of criminal damage to property. R.N.R.'s appellate counsel has filed a no-merit report pursuant to Wis. Stat. Rule 809.32, and *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967). R.N.R.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This appeal is decided by one judge pursuant to WIS. STAT. § 752.31(2) (2015-16). All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2015-16 version unless otherwise noted.

received a copy of the report, was advised of his right to file a response, and has not done so. Upon consideration of the report and an independent review of the record, we conclude that the order may be summarily affirmed because there is no arguable merit to any issue that could be raised on appeal. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

A delinquency petition was filed alleging that R.N.R. had damaged a mailbox. After R.N.R. denied the allegation, the circuit court conducted a fact-finding hearing. A homeowner testified that at 7:30 a.m. he found his mailbox knocked over and the mounting post split. He also found mail ripped open and scattered in the street. Two teenagers who had been with R.N.R. that same morning testified that, as they walked along the road, R.N.R. removed mail from people's mailboxes, opened the mail, and hit a couple of mailboxes. One of the teenagers saw a mailbox fall off its post after R.N.R. hit it. The circuit court found that R.N.R. had committed criminal damage to property. At the January 27, 2017 disposition hearing, R.N.R.'s grandmother<sup>2</sup> asserted that R.N.R. was innocent, and she suggested that his trial counsel had been ineffective in not presenting evidence and in questioning the teenagers about inconsistencies in their testimony. The circuit court directed that her complaint was something to be addressed postjudgment by new counsel. The circuit court ordered R.N.R. to be under court supervision for one year, to be placed in his grandmother's home, and to pay restitution of eighty-five dollars.

The no-merit report addresses the potential issues of whether there was sufficient evidence to find that R.N.R. had committed criminal damage to property, whether the circuit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> R.N.R.'s grandmother is his guardian.

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court conducted an adequate colloquy regarding R.N.R.'s decision not to testify, whether the

circuit court erroneously exercised its discretion in determining the disposition, and whether

counsel was ineffective at the fact-finding hearing. This court is satisfied that the no-merit report

properly analyzes the issues it raises as without merit, and this court will not discuss them

further. The no-merit report explains the postdisposition inquiry that R.N.R.'s appointed counsel

made concerning the complaint about trial counsel's performance, including the discovery of

photos showing the damaged mailbox. Nothing in the record or reported by counsel suggests a

viable claim that trial counsel was ineffective in cross-examination of the teenagers. There is no

suggestion in the record of unpresented evidence that would have supported R.N.R.'s innocence.

Our review of the record discloses no other potential issues for appeal. Accordingly, this court

accepts the no-merit report, affirms the delinquency order, and discharges appellate counsel of

the obligation to represent R.N.R. further in this appeal.

Upon the foregoing reasons,

IT IS ORDERED that the order is summarily affirmed. See Wis. STAT. RULE 809.21.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attorney Philip J. Brehm is relieved from further

representing R.N.R. in this appeal. See WIS. STAT. RULE 809.32(3).

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

Sheila T. Reiff

Clerk of Court of Appeals

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