

OFFICE OF THE CLERK WISCONSIN COURT OF APPEALS

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DISTRICT III

March 12, 2013

To:

Hon. Douglas T. Fox Circuit Court Judge Price County Courthouse 126 Cherry St. Phillips, WI 54555

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Aaron N. Black W262 Willow Road Abbotsford, WI 54405

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

2012AP1687-CRNM 2012AP1688-CRNM 2012AP1689-CRNM State of Wisconsin v. Aaron N. Black (L. C. Nos. 2011CM48, 2011CM52, 2011CM100)

Before Thomas Cane, Reserve Judge.¹

Counsel for Aaron Black has filed a no-merit report concluding there is no arguable basis for Black to appeal judgments convicting him of disorderly conduct and six counts of misdemeanor bail jumping, all as a habitual offender. Black was advised of his right to respond

¹ This appeal is decided by one judge pursuant to WIS. STAT. § 752.31(2). All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2011-12 version unless otherwise noted.

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to the report and has not responded. Upon this court's independent review of the record as

mandated by Anders v. California, 386 U.S. 738 (1967), no issue of arguable merit appears.

Black was charged with disorderly conduct and seventeen counts of bail jumping. The

complaint alleged that Black arrived intoxicated at the victim's residence, forced his way into her

bedroom and threatened her. Pursuant to a plea agreement, he pled no contest to disorderly

conduct and six counts of bail jumping as a repeat offender. The remaining counts of bail

jumping were dismissed and read-in for sentencing purposes. The court accepted the no contest

pleas and placed Black on probation for three years with conditions of probation including forty

days' confinement on each of the bail jumping convictions and thirty days' confinement on the

disorderly conduct conviction, all to be served consecutively with each other and with any other

sentence.

The record discloses no arguable manifest injustice upon which Black could withdraw his

no contest pleas. See State v. Duychak, 133 Wis. 2d 307, 312, 395 N.W.2d 795 (Ct. App. 1986).

The court's colloquy, supplemented by a plea questionnaire and waiver of rights form with

attached jury instructions, fully informed Black of the elements of the offenses, the potential

penalties and the constitutional rights he waived by pleading no contest. Black confirmed that he

was a repeat offender by virtue of a felony conviction. As required by State v. Hampton, 2004

WI 117, ¶2, 274 Wis. 2d 379, 683 N.W.2d 14, the court also informed Black that it was not

required to accept the parties' sentence recommendations. The record shows the pleas were

knowingly, voluntarily and intelligently entered. See State v. Bangert, 131 Wis. 2d 246, 257,

389 N.W.2d 12 (1986). Entry of valid no contest pleas constitutes a waiver of all

nonjurisdictional defects and defenses. *Id.* at 293.

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The record also discloses no arguable basis for challenging the court's sentencing

discretion. The court could have imposed consecutive sentences totaling fourteen years'

imprisonment. A sentence that is well within the statutory maximum is presumptively not

unduly harsh or excessive. State v. Grindemann, 2002 WI App 106, ¶31, 255 Wis. 2d 632, 648

N.W.2d 507. The court appropriately considered the seriousness of the offenses, Black's

substantial criminal record and his willingness to completely ignore court orders that he have no

contact with the victim.

This court's independent review of the record discloses no other potential issue for

appeal. Therefore,

IT IS ORDERED that the judgments are summarily affirmed. WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that attorney William Schmaal is relieved of his obligation

to further represent Aaron Black in these matters. WIS. STAT. RULE 809.32(3).

Diane M. Fremgen Clerk of Court of Appeals

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