

IN THE SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WYOMING

2021 WY 58

April Term, A.D. 2021

April 28, 2021

DODI JOSEPH CARPENTER,

**Appellant
(Defendant),**

v.

S-20-0218

THE STATE OF WYOMING,

**Appellee
(Plaintiff).**

ORDER AFFIRMING THE DISTRICT COURT’S JUDGMENT AND SENTENCE

[¶ 1] **This matter** came before the Court upon its own motion following the filing of Appellant’s “Pro-se Motion for Appeal Due to Ineffective Counsel,” which was filed herein April 16, 2021. Pursuant to a plea agreement, Appellant entered an unconditional guilty plea to one count of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree. Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 6-2-314(a)(iii). The district court imposed a 35 to 50-year sentence. Appellant filed this appeal to challenge the district court’s September 8, 2020, “Judgment and Sentence.”

[¶ 2] On December 1, 2020, Appellant’s court-appointed appellate counsel filed a “Motion to Withdraw as Counsel,” pursuant to *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738, 744, 87 S.Ct. 1396, 1400, 18 L.Ed.2d 493 (1967). This Court subsequently ordered that Appellant may “file with this Court a *pro se* brief specifying the issues he would like the Court to consider in this appeal.” This Court also provided notice that, after the time for filing a *pro se* brief expired, this Court would “make its ruling on counsel’s motion to withdraw and, if appropriate, make a final decision” on this appeal. On April 16, 2021, Appellant filed a *pro se* brief, which he styled as a “Pro-se Motion for Appeal Due to Ineffective Counsel.”

[¶ 3] Now, following a careful review of that *pro se* brief, the record, and the “*Anders* brief” submitted by appellate counsel, this Court finds that appellate counsel’s motion to

withdraw should be granted and the district court’s “Judgment and Sentence” should be affirmed. It is, therefore,

[¶ 4] **ORDERED** that the Wyoming Public Defender’s Office, court-appointed counsel for Appellant Dodi Joseph Carpenter, is hereby permitted to withdraw as counsel of record for Appellant; and it is further

[¶ 5] **ORDERED** that the Fremont County District Court’s September 8, 2020, “Judgment and Sentence” be, and the same hereby is, affirmed.

[¶ 6] **DATED** this 28th day of April, 2021.

BY THE COURT:

/s/

MICHAEL K. DAVIS
Chief Justice