Court of Appeals of Ohio

EIGHTH APPELLATE DISTRICT COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA

JOURNAL ENTRY AND OPINION **No. 91323**

STATE OF OHIO

PLAINTIFF-APPELLEE

VS.

DEMETREUS LOGAN

DEFENDANT-APPELLANT

JUDGMENT: AFFIRMED

Criminal Appeal from the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas Case Nos. CR-502302 and CR-503399

BEFORE: Cooney, A.J., Blackmon, J., and Boyle, J.

RELEASED: April 9, 2009

JOURNALIZED: ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT Steve W. Canfil 1370 Ontario Street Standard Building Suite 2000 Cleveland, Ohio 44113

ATTORNEYS FOR APPELLEE

William Mason Cuyahoga County Prosecutor

BY: Kevin R. Filiatraut Assistant County Prosecutor 8th Floor, Justice Center 1200 Ontario Street Cleveland, Ohio 44113

N.B. This entry is an announcement of the court's decision. See App.R. 22(B) and 26(A); Loc.App.R. 22. This decision will be journalized and will become the judgment and order of the court pursuant to App.R. 22(C) unless a motion for reconsideration with supporting brief, per App.R. 26(A), is filed within ten (10) days of the announcement of the court's decision. The time period for review by the Supreme Court of Ohio shall begin to run upon the journalization of this court's announcement of decision by the clerk per App.R. 22(C). See, also, S.Ct. Prac.R. II, Section 2(A)(1).

COLLEEN CONWAY COONEY, A.J.:

- \P 1} Defendant-appellant, Demetreus Logan ("Logan"), appeals his five-year sentence on his failure-to-comply conviction. Finding no merit to the appeal, we affirm.
- {¶ 2} In October 2007, Logan was charged with failure to comply with a police officer's order, drug trafficking, possession of criminal tools, and three counts of drug possession.¹ Logan pled guilty to the first three offenses and one count of drug possession. The remaining charges were nolled. The trial court sentenced him to a total of six years in prison.
- \P 3} Logan appeals, raising one assignment of error in which he argues that the trial court erred in imposing the maximum sentence for failure to comply. He claims that the trial court failed to consider R.C. 2929.11 and imposed a disproportionate sentence.

Standard of Review

 \P 4 In *State v. Kalish*, 120 Ohio St.3d 23, 2008-Ohio-4912, 896 N.E.2d 124, the Ohio Supreme Court recently addressed our standard of review for felony sentences. The *Kalish* court, in a split decision, declared that in applying

¹Each of these charges carried forfeiture specifications.

State v. Foster, 109 Ohio St.3d 1, 2006-Ohio-856, 845 N.E.2d 470, to the existing statutes, appellate courts "must apply a two-step approach." *Kalish* at ¶4.²

{¶5} Appellate courts must first "examine the sentencing court's compliance with all applicable rules and statutes in imposing the sentence to determine whether the sentence is clearly and convincingly contrary to law." Id. at ¶4. If this first prong is satisfied, then we review the trial court's decision under an abuse-of-discretion standard. Id. at ¶4, 19.

Step One-Is the Sentence Contrary to Law?

- $\{\P 6\}$ In the first step of our analysis, we review whether the sentence is contrary to law as required by R.C. 2953.08(G). Id. at $\P 14$.
- {¶7} As the *Kalish* court noted, post-*Foster*, "trial courts have full discretion to impose a prison sentence within the statutory range and are no longer required to make findings and give reasons for imposing maximum, consecutive or more than the minimum sentence." Id. at ¶11; *Foster*, paragraph seven of the syllabus; *State v. Mathis*, 109 Ohio St.3d 54, 2006-Ohio-855, 846 N.E.2d 1, paragraph three of the syllabus. See, also, *State v. Redding*, Cuyahoga App. No. 90864, 2008-Ohio-5739; *State v. Ali*, Cuyahoga App. No. 90301, 2008-Ohio-4449; *State v. McCarroll*, Cuyahoga App. No. 89280, 2007-Ohio-6322; *State*

²We recognize *Kalish* is merely persuasive and not necessarily controlling because it has no majority. The Supreme Court split over whether we review sentences under an abuse-of-discretion standard in some instances.

v. Sharp, Cuyahoga App. No. 89295, 2007-Ohio-6324. The *Kalish* court declared that although *Foster* eliminated mandatory judicial fact-finding, it left R.C. 2929.11 and 2929.12 intact. *Kalish* at ¶13. As a result, the trial court must still consider these statutes when imposing a sentence. Id., citing *Mathis* at ¶38.

- $\{\P 8\}$ R.C. 2929.11 (A) provides that:
- $\{\P 9\}$ "[A] court that sentences an offender for a felony shall be guided by the overriding purposes of felony sentencing. The overriding purposes of felony sentencing are to protect the public from future crime by the offender and others and to punish the offender. To achieve those purposes, the sentencing court shall consider the need for incapacitating the offender, deterring the offender and others from future crime, rehabilitating the offender, and making restitution to the victim of the offense, the public, or both."
- {¶ 10} R.C. 2929.12 provides a nonexhaustive list of factors a trial court must consider when determining the seriousness of the offense and the likelihood that the offender will commit future offenses.
- {¶ 11} The *Kalish* court also noted that R.C. 2929.11 and 2929.12 are not fact-finding statutes like R.C. 2929.14. *Kalish* at ¶17. Rather, they "serve as an overarching guide for trial judges to consider in fashioning an appropriate sentence." Id. Thus, "[i]n considering these statutes in light of *Foster*, the trial

court has full discretion to determine whether the sentence satisfies the overriding purposes of Ohio's sentencing structure." Id.

 \P 12} Logan argues that the trial court failed to properly consider the factors in R.C. 2929.11 when imposing his sentence and considered "improper matters." We disagree.

 \P 13} In the instant case, the trial court expressly stated that it considered the purposes of R.C. 2929.11 and all factors required by law. Furthermore, Logan's sentence is within the permissible statutory range of one to five years. Thus, we find that his sentence is not contrary to law.

Step Two-Abuse of Discretion

{¶ 14} Having satisfied step one, we next consider whether the trial court abused its discretion. *Kalish* at ¶4, 19. An abuse of discretion is "more than an error of law or judgment; it implies that the court's attitude is unreasonable, arbitrary or unconscionable." Id. at ¶19, citing *Blakemore v. Blakemore* (1983), 5 Ohio St.3d 217, 219, 450 N.E.2d.

{¶ 15} A review of the record reveals that the trial court considered the statutory factors under R.C. 2929.11. Here, the trial court learned that Logan had led Cleveland police on a lengthy and dangerous high-speed chase during rush hour.³ The trial court also recounted Logan's criminal history and noted

³Logan argues that the court relied upon improper matters by permitting a police

that he displayed a high degree of recidivism. We find nothing in the record to suggest that the trial court's decision was unreasonable, arbitrary, or unconscionable. We also find no abuse of the court's discretion in allowing the officer to describe the chase rather than merely reviewing a presentence report. Accordingly, the trial court did not abuse its discretion in imposing the maximum five-year sentence.

Sentence Proportionality

 \P 16} Logan also argues that his sentence is contrary to law because the trial court failed to consider the issue of consistency and proportionality of his sentence to those imposed on similar offenders, thereby violating R.C. 2929.11(B).

{¶ 17} However, this court has previously held that in order to support a claim that a "sentence is disproportionate to sentences imposed upon other offenders, a defendant must raise this issue before the trial court and present some evidence, however minimal, in order to provide a starting point for analysis and to preserve the issue for appeal." *State v. Edwards*, Cuyahoga App. No. 89191, 2007-Ohio-6068. See, also, *Redding*.

-8-

 $\{\P$ 18 $\}$ In the instant case, Logan did not raise the issue of proportionality

before the trial court. Accordingly, he has not preserved the issue for appeal.

Thus, we decline to address this argument for the first time on appeal.

 $\{\P 19\}$ Therefore, the sole assignment of error is overruled.

{¶ 20} Accordingly, judgment is affirmed.

It is ordered that appellee recover of appellant costs herein taxed.

The Court finds there were reasonable grounds for this appeal.

It is ordered that a special mandate issue out of this court directing the

common pleas court to carry this judgment into execution. The defendant's

conviction having been affirmed, any bail pending appeal is terminated. Case

remanded to the trial court for execution of sentence.

A certified copy of this entry shall constitute the mandate pursuant to

Rule 27 of the Rules of Appellate Procedure.

COLLEEN CONWAY COONEY, ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

PATRICIA A. BLACKMON, J., AND

MARY J. BOYLE, J., CONCUR