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UNPUBLISHED

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

No. 15-4359

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff - Appellee,

v.

MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ,

Defendant - Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, at Anderson. Timothy M. Cain, District Judge. (8:14-cr-00401-TMC-1)

Submitted: December 22, 2015 Decided: January 5, 2016

Before KING and SHEDD, Circuit Judges, and DAVIS, Senior Circuit Judge.

Affirmed by unpublished per curiam opinion.

David W. Plowden, Assistant Federal Public Defender, Greenville, South Carolina, for Appellant. Elizabeth Jean Howard, Assistant United States Attorney, Greenville, South Carolina, for Appellee.

Unpublished opinions are not binding precedent in this circuit.

PER CURIAM:

Miguel Rodriguez pleaded guilty to assault of a corrections officer in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 111(a) (2012). The district court sentenced Rodriguez to 37 months' imprisonment, and he now appeals. Appellate counsel has filed a brief pursuant to Anders v. California, 386 U.S. 738 (1967), questioning whether the district court committed procedural error by failing to adequately explain the sentence imposed. Rodriguez was informed of his right to file a pro se supplemental brief, but he has not done so. Finding no error, we affirm.

This court reviews the reasonableness of a sentence "under a deferential abuse-of-discretion standard." Gall v. United States, 552 U.S. 38, 41 (2007). We review the procedural and substantive reasonableness of the sentence. Id. at 51. "Procedural errors include 'failing to calculate (or improperly calculating) the Guidelines range, treating the Guidelines as mandatory, failing to consider the [18 U.S.C.] § 3553(a) factors, selecting a sentence based on clearly erroneous facts, or failing to adequately explain the chosen sentence.'" United States v. Carter, 564 F.3d 325, 328 (4th Cir. 2009) (quoting Gall, 552 U.S. at 51).

Only if the sentence is free of "significant procedural error" does the court review the substantive reasonableness of the sentence, accounting for "the totality of the

circumstances." <u>Gall</u>, 552 U.S. at 51. Any sentence within a properly calculated Guidelines range is presumptively substantively reasonable; this presumption is rebutted only by demonstrating that the sentence is unreasonable when measured against the § 3553(a) factors. <u>United States v. Dowell</u>, 771 F.3d 162, 176 (4th Cir. 2014).

We have reviewed the record and conclude that the district court correctly calculated the Guidelines range, treated the Guidelines as advisory only, and did not rely on erroneous facts in determining the sentence imposed. The district court considered all of the § 3553(a) factors and thoroughly discussed the factors that were relevant to Rodriguez's case. Because the district court imposed a sentence within the Guidelines range and addressed the relevant § 3553(a) factors, we conclude that the district court did not abuse its discretion or fail to adequately explain the reason for its sentence.

In accordance with <u>Anders</u>, we have reviewed the entire record in this case and have found no meritorious issues for appeal. We therefore affirm Rodriguez's conviction and sentence. This court requires that counsel inform Rodriguez, in writing, of the right to petition the Supreme Court of the United States for further review. If Rodriguez requests that a petition be filed, but counsel believes that such a petition would be frivolous, then counsel may move in this court for

Appeal: 15-4359 Doc: 19 Filed: 01/05/2016 Pg: 4 of 4

leave to withdraw from representation. Counsel's motion must state that a copy thereof was served on Rodriguez.

We dispense with oral argument because the facts and legal contentions are adequately presented in the materials before this court and argument would not aid the decisional process.

AFFIRMED