United States Court of AppealsFOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

No. 11-1857

United States of America,	*
	*
Appellee,	*
•	* Appeal from the United States
v.	* District Court for the
	* Western District of Missouri.
Corday D. Thomas,	*
•	* [UNPUBLISHED]
Appellant.	*

Submitted: September 22, 2011 Filed: October 4, 2011

Before LOKEN, BYE, and COLLOTON, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM.

Corday Thomas pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). The district court¹ sentenced him to 72 months in prison. On appeal, his counsel has moved to withdraw and filed a brief under <u>Anders v. California</u>, 386 U.S. 738 (1967), arguing that the court erred by not varying downward and by imposing a sentence greater than necessary to achieve the sentencing goals of 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a). In a pro se brief, Thomas argues that counsel was ineffective.

Appellate Case: 11-1857 Page: 1 Date Filed: 10/04/2011 Entry ID: 3835582 Ockets.Justia.com

¹The Honorable Ortrie D. Smith, United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri.

We conclude that the sentence was not unreasonable: the record reflects that the district court carefully considered the section 3553(a) factors, explained why it chose not to vary downward, and imposed a sentence at the low end of the undisputed Guidelines range. See United States v. Bauer, 626 F.3d 1004, 1010 (8th Cir. 2010); United States v. Feemster, 572 F.3d 455, 460-61 (8th Cir. 2009) (en banc). We decline to review Thomas's ineffective-assistance claim in this direct appeal. See United States v. Looking Cloud, 419 F.3d 781, 788-89 (8th Cir. 2005).

Having reviewed the record under <u>Penson v. Ohio</u>, 488 U.S. 75, 80 (1988), we find no nonfrivolous issues. Accordingly, we grant counsel leave to withdraw, and we affirm the judgment.