

DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA
FOURTH DISTRICT
July Term 2006

LOWEN ESPINUEVA,
Appellant,

v.

STATE OF FLORIDA,
Appellee.

No. 4D05-3562

[November 29, 2006]

FARMER, J.

When defendant was arrested by Coral Springs police for a double homicide during a bank robbery, almost immediately thereafter he was arrested by the FBI as well to answer for federal criminal charges arising from the same episode. Meanwhile, the State of Florida proceeded to file charges against him, including two counts of felony murder, two counts of armed robbery, and one count of grand theft. More than two years later he filed a motion for speedy trial discharge, arguing that the speedy trial time had long since passed. The trial court properly denied the motion, citing the rule's exception from the speedy trial requirement when the defendant is in federal custody. *See*, Fla. R. Crim. P. 3.191(e) (providing that defendant is not entitled to benefit of speedy trial rule until federal custody ends and defendant is returned to Florida custody); *see also*, *State v. Mitchel*, 768 So.2d 1223, 1224 (Fla. 3d DCA 2000), *rev. denied*, 804 So.2d 329 (Fla. 2001) (provisions of rule 3.191(e) apply even when defendant was in state custody before being taken into federal custody). We therefore affirm his conviction.

Defendant's plea was conditioned on his right to appeal the speedy trial issue. At sentencing he did not object to the multiple sentences on double jeopardy grounds, as he now seeks to do for the first time on appeal. The State argues that this sentencing issue is not preserved for appeal. *See*, *Novaton v. State*, 634 So.2d 607, 608 (Fla. 1994) (holding that defendant waived claim of double jeopardy as to sentences where plea bargain consented to separate sentences on each count). In this instance, however, the plea agreement did not include any

understanding as to sentencing. At the plea hearing, defendant was asked to acknowledge that there was no agreement as to sentencing, and the trial court duly noted that there were “no promises, representations or guarantees as to sentencing.” We therefore conclude that the double jeopardy issue as to the sentences was not waived by the plea. We therefore reverse and return the case to the trial court to consider, in the first instance, defendant’s contention that the sentences imposed violate the double jeopardy protection and, if necessary, for resentencing.

Conviction affirmed; Reversed as to sentencing issue.

GUNTHER and GROSS, JJ., concur.

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Appeal from the Circuit Court for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, Broward County; Charles M. Greene, Judge; L.T. Case No. 03-2604 CF10B.

Carey Haughwout, Public Defender, and Elisabeth Porter, Assistant Public Defender, West Palm Beach, for appellant.

Charles J. Crist, Jr., Attorney General, Tallahassee, and Jeanine M. Germanowicz, Assistant Attorney General, West Palm Beach, for appellee.

Not final until disposition of timely filed motion for rehearing.