

NON-PRECEDENTIAL DECISION - SEE SUPERIOR COURT I.O.P. 65.37

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Appellee

v.

JEFFREY BERAN

Appellant

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF
PENNSYLVANIA

No. 397 WDA 2013

Appeal from the Judgment of Sentence October 31, 2012
In the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County
Criminal Division at No(s): CP-02-SA-0001866-2012

BEFORE: BENDER, P.J., LAZARUS, J., and MUNDY, J.

JUDGMENT ORDER BY MUNDY, J.: FILED: December 5, 2013

Appellant, Jeffrey Beran, appeals *pro se* from the October 31, 2012 judgment of sentence of a \$200.00 fine, after Appellant pled guilty to one count of disorderly conduct.¹ After careful review, we dismiss this appeal.

Generally, appellate briefs are required to conform to the Rules of Appellate Procedure. **See** Pa.R.A.P. 2101. "This Court may ... dismiss an appeal if the appellant fails to conform to the requirements set forth in the Pennsylvania Rules of Appellate Procedure." ***In re Ullman***, 995 A.2d 1207, 1211 (Pa. Super. 2010) (citation omitted), *appeal denied*, 20 A.3d 489 (Pa. 2011). This Court is willing to construe *pro se* materials liberally, but "*pro se* status confers no special benefit on an appellant." ***Id.*** at 1211-1212.

¹ 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 5503(a)(1).

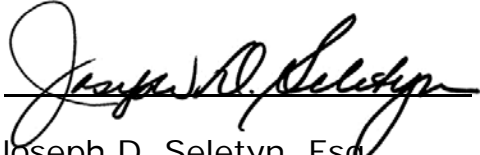
"[A]ny layperson choosing to represent himself in a legal proceeding must, to some reasonable extent, assume that his lack of expertise and legal training will be his undoing." ***Commonwealth v. Adams***, 882 A.2d 496, 498 (Pa. Super. 2005) (citation omitted).

In the case *sub judice*, Appellant's brief contains one single-spaced paragraph argument. This paragraph is less than one-half a page in length. In addition, Appellant's argument paragraph lacks citations to any legal authority or any citation to the certified record. Pennsylvania Rule of Appellate Procedure 2119(a) requires that the argument section of an appellate brief include "citation of authorities as are deemed pertinent." Pa.R.A.P. 2119(a). This Court will not consider an argument where an appellant fails to cite to any legal authority or otherwise develop the issue. ***Commonwealth v. Johnson***, 985 A.2d 915, 924 (Pa. 2009), *cert. denied*, ***Johnson v. Pennsylvania***, 131 S. Ct. 250 (2010); ***see also, e.g., In re Estate of Whitley***, 50 A.3d 203, 209 (Pa. Super. 2012) (stating, "[f]ailure to cite relevant legal authority constitutes waiver of the claim on appeal[]") (citation omitted), *appeal denied*, 69 A.3d 603 (Pa. 2013).

Based on the foregoing, we conclude that the defects in Appellant's brief substantially prevent us from conducting any meaningful appellate review. Accordingly, we elect to exercise our discretion pursuant to Rule 2101 and dismiss this appeal.

Appeal dismissed. Case stricken from argument list.

Judgment Entered.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph D. Seletyn", written over a horizontal line.

Joseph D. Seletyn, Esq.
Prothonotary

Date: 12/5/2013