

Opinion issued April 17, 2014



In The
Court of Appeals
For The
First District of Texas

NO. 01-13-00086-CR

ERNEST PETER THOMAS, Appellant

V.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, Appellee

**On Appeal from the Criminal District Court
Jefferson County, Texas
Trial Court Cause No. 10-09929**

MEMORANDUM OPINION

Appellant, Ernest Peter Thomas, was convicted of the offense of sexual assault and sentenced to two years' confinement. *See* TEX. PENAL CODE ANN. §§ 12.33, 22.011(a)(1)(A) (West 2011). Appellant timely filed a notice of appeal.

Appellant's appointed counsel on appeal has filed a motion to withdraw, along with a brief stating that the record presents no reversible error and the appeal is without merit and is frivolous. *See Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738, 87 S. Ct. 1396 (1967).

Counsel's brief meets the *Anders* requirements by presenting a professional evaluation of the record and supplying us with references to the record and legal authority. *See Anders*, 386 U.S. at 744, 87 S. Ct. at 1400; *see also High v. State*, 573 S.W.2d 807, 812 (Tex. Crim. App. 1978). Counsel indicates that he has thoroughly reviewed the record and is unable to advance any grounds of error that warrant reversal. *See Anders*, 386 U.S. at 744, 87 S. Ct. at 1400; *Mitchell v. State*, 193 S.W.3d 153, 155 (Tex. App.—Houston [1st Dist.] 2006, no pet.).

Counsel has also informed us that he delivered a copy of the brief to appellant and informed him of his right to examine the appellate record and to file a response. *See In re Schulman*, 252 S.W.3d 403, 408 (Tex. Crim. App. 2008). Appellant has not filed a pro se response.

We have independently reviewed the entire record in this appeal, and we conclude that no reversible error exists in the record, there are no arguable grounds for review, and the appeal is frivolous. *See Anders*, 386 U.S. at 744, 87 S. Ct. at 1400 (emphasizing that reviewing court—and not counsel—determines, after full examination of proceedings, whether appeal is wholly frivolous); *Garner v. State*,

300 S.W.3d 763, 767 (Tex. Crim. App. 2009) (reviewing court must determine whether arguable grounds for review exist); *Bledsoe v. State*, 178 S.W.3d 824, 826–27 (Tex. Crim. App. 2005) (same); *Mitchell*, 193 S.W.3d at 155 (same). Appellant may challenge a holding that there are no arguable grounds for appeal by filing a petition for discretionary review in the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. *See Bledsoe*, 178 S.W.3d at 827 & n.6.

Accordingly, we affirm the judgment of the trial court and grant counsel’s motion to withdraw.¹ Attorney Thomas J. Burbank must immediately send appellant the required notice and file a copy of the notice with the Clerk of this Court. *See* TEX. R. APP. P. 6.5(c).

PER CURIAM

Panel consists of Justices Keyes, Bland, and Brown.

Do not publish. TEX. R. APP. P. 47.2(b).

¹ Appointed counsel still has a duty to inform appellant of the result of this appeal and that he may, on his own, pursue discretionary review in the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. *See Ex Parte Wilson*, 956 S.W.2d 25, 27 (Tex. Crim. App. 1997).