

COURT OF APPEALS OF OHIO, SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT,
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

State v. Hanson

2026-Ohio-53 · No. 2025-CA-17 · Decided January 9, 2026

SUMMARY

The Ohio Second District Court of Appeals affirmed Raymond Scott Hanson's sentence following the revocation of his community control sanctions. Hanson argued that the trial court failed to comply with Ohio's felony-sentencing principles and purposes when imposing a 30-month prison term. The appellate court held that the sentence was within the statutory range and that the trial court had considered the required statutory factors.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Court of Appeals of Ohio, Second Appellate District, Champaign County
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Christopher B. Epley, Presiding Judge; Tucker, Judge; Lewis, Judge
JURISDICTION	Ohio Court of Appeals, Second Appellate District, Champaign County
DECIDED	January 9, 2026
DOCKET	2025-CA-17
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Hanson appealed from the Champaign County Court of Common Pleas' revocation of his community-control sanctions and imposition of a 30-month prison sentence for third-degree-felony burglary, concurrent with a 120-day jail sentence for misdemeanor assault.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Under R.C. 2953.08(G), the appellate court may increase, reduce, modify, or vacate a felony sentence if it clearly and convincingly finds that the record does not support specified findings or that the sentence is contrary to law. The appellate court does not independently weigh the evidence or substitute its judgment for the trial court's judgment concerning compliance with R.C. 2929.11 and R.C. 2929.12.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published Ohio Court of Appeals opinion
PARTIES	Raymond Scott Hanson v. State of Ohio

TOPICS

sentencing

sentencing guidelines

probation

standard of review

appellate procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

criminal law

sentencing

criminal appellate procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the trial court's 30-month prison sentence was contrary to law because the court failed to comply with the purposes and principles of felony sentencing under R.C. 2929.11 and the seriousness and recidivism factors under R.C. 2929.12.
2. Whether the sentence was unsupported by the record.

HOLDINGS

1. The sentence was not contrary to law because it fell within the statutory range for a third-degree felony and the trial court stated that it had considered R.C. 2929.11 and R.C. 2929.12.
2. The appellate court could not independently weigh the evidence and substitute its judgment for that of the trial court regarding compliance with R.C. 2929.11 and R.C. 2929.12.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“A trial court has full discretion to impose any sentence within the authorized statutory range, and it is not required to make any findings or give its reasons for imposing such a sentence up to the maximum term.” (¶ 6)

“we may not independently “weigh the evidence in the record and substitute [our] judgment for that of the trial court concerning the sentence that best reflects compliance with R.C. 2929.11 and 2929.12.”” (¶ 8)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Hanson pleaded guilty to burglary, reduced from first-degree aggravated burglary, and to first-degree-misdemeanor assault arising from a violent home invasion. He was placed on five years of community control with conditions including abstaining from alcohol, avoiding the crime location and victims, and completing a residential correctional program. He admitted multiple later violations, including alcohol use, contact with the prohibited location, cocaine use, failure to complete treatment, and intoxication at a bar. After the final violations, the trial court revoked community control and imposed a 30-month sentence for burglary and a concurrent 120-day sentence for assault.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Hanson pleaded guilty to reduced burglary and assault charges in 2020 and received five years of community control. After multiple admitted supervision violations, the trial court revoked community control in 2025 and imposed concurrent prison and jail sentences. Hanson timely appealed, arguing that the prison sentence did not comply with the purposes and principles of felony sentencing.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- State v. Kelly, 2021-Ohio-325, ¶ 85 (2d Dist.)
- State v. King, 2013-Ohio-2021, ¶ 45 (2d Dist.)
- State v. Leopard, 2011-Ohio-3864, ¶ 11 (2d Dist.)
- State v. Worthen, 2021-Ohio-2788, ¶ 13 (2d Dist.)
- State v. Jones, State v. Jones, 2020-Ohio-6729, ¶ 42
- State v. Dorsey, 2021-Ohio-76, ¶ 18 (2d Dist.)
- State v. Cunningham, 2025-Ohio-2894, ¶¶ 22-23 (2d Dist.)

OPINION

PER CURIAM.

[Cite as State v. Hanson, 2026-Ohio-53.] IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF OHIO SECOND APPELLATE DISTRICT CHAMPAIGN COUNTY STATE OF OHIO:: C.A. No. 2025-CA-17 Appellee:: Trial Court Case No. 2020 CR 162 v.: (Criminal Appeal from Common Pleas RAYMOND SCOTT HANSON: Court) Appellant: FINAL JUDGMENT ENTRY &: OPINION Pursuant to the opinion of this court rendered on January 9, 2026, the judgment of the trial court is affirmed.

Costs to be paid as stated in App.R. 24. Pursuant to Ohio App.R. 30(A), the clerk of the court of appeals shall immediately serve notice of this judgment upon all parties and make a note in the docket of the service. Additionally, pursuant to App.R. 27, the clerk of the court of appeals shall send a certified copy of this judgment, which constitutes a mandate, to the clerk of the trial court and note the service on the appellate docket.

For the court, CHRISTOPHER B. EPLEY, PRESIDING JUDGE TUCKER, J., and LEWIS, J., concur. OPINION CHAMPAIGN C.A. No. 2025-CA-17 CHRIS BECK, Attorney for Appellant KARA N. RICHTER, Attorney for Appellee EPLEY, P.J. {¶ 1} Defendant-Appellant Raymond Scott Hanson appeals from the judgment of the Champaign County Court of Common Pleas after it sentenced him to 30 months in prison for violating the terms of his community control.

For the reasons that follow, the judgment of the trial court is affirmed. I. Facts and Procedural History {¶ 2} In October 2020, Hanson was indicted on aggravated burglary and assault charges stemming from a violent home invasion in Champaign County.

In exchange for pleading guilty, Hanson's first-degree aggravated burglary charge was reduced to burglary, a third-degree felony. He also pled guilty to assault, a first-degree misdemeanor. The court placed Hanson on community control sanctions for a period of five years.

As conditions of the sanctions, Hanson was prohibited from purchasing, possessing, or consuming alcohol, and he was not permitted to have contact with the Pleasantview Estates (where the burglary took place) or the victims. Additionally, Hanson was ordered to complete the West Central Community Based Correctional Facility’s residential program. {¶ 3} In early February 2021, a little more than a week after his supervision began, Hanson violated its terms by drinking alcohol and having contact with the Pleasantview Estates.

He admitted the violations but was placed back on community control. In September 2023, the Champaign County adult parole authority, which supervised his community control, filed another violation notice, this time alleging that Hanson consumed alcohol, used 2 cocaine, and failed to complete treatment as ordered. He, again, admitted to the violations and was placed back on community control with additional sanctions.

Finally, in April 2025, the adult parole authority filed another notice of supervision violations, this time asserting that Hanson got drunk at a bar in Franklin County. Hanson, as before, admitted to the violations, but instead of being placed back on community control with even more conditions, the trial court revoked the community control sanctions and sentenced him to 30 months in prison for the burglary count and 120 days in jail for the misdemeanor assault.

The sentences were ordered to run concurrently. {¶ 4} Hanson has filed a timely appeal. II. Sentencing {¶ 5} In his lone assignment of error, Hanson argues that the trial court erred in sentencing him to 30 months in prison. Specifically, he claims that the court did not comply with the principles and purposes of sentencing by imposing prison time.

We disagree. {¶ 6} A trial court has full discretion to impose any sentence within the authorized statutory range, and it is not required to make any findings or give its reasons for imposing such a sentence up to the maximum term. *State v. Kelly*, 2021-Ohio-325, ¶ 85 (2d Dist.), quoting *State v. King*, 2013-Ohio-2021, ¶ 45 (2d Dist.). “However, a trial court must consider the statutory criteria that apply to every felony offense, including those set out in R.C.

2929.11 and R.C. 2929.12.” *Id.*, citing *State v. Leopard*, 2011-Ohio-3864, ¶ 11 (2d Dist.). {¶ 7} When reviewing felony sentences, we must apply the standard of review set forth in R.C. 2953.08(G). Under this statute, an appellate court may increase, reduce, or modify a sentence, or vacate it altogether and remand for resentencing, if it “clearly and convincingly finds either (1) the record does not support certain specified findings or (2) that the sentence imposed is contrary to law.” *State v. Worthen*, 2021-Ohio-2788, ¶ 13 (2d Dist.). {¶ 8} According to the Ohio Supreme Court, we may not independently “weigh the evidence in the record and substitute [our] judgment for that of the trial court concerning the sentence that best reflects compliance with R.C.

2929.11 and 2929.12.” *State v. Jones*, 2020-Ohio-6729, ¶ 42. The inquiry is simply whether the sentence is contrary to law. A sentence is contrary to law when it falls outside the statutory range

for the offense or if the sentencing court does not consider R.C. 2929.11 and 2929.12. *State v. Dorsey*, 2021-Ohio- 76, ¶ 18 (2d Dist.). {¶ 9} In this case, there is no question that Hanson's 30-month sentence was within the statutory range for third-degree felonies or that 120 days in jail is an available sentence for first-degree misdemeanors.

To be successful on appeal, therefore, Hanson must show that the trial court failed to consider R.C. 2929.11 and 2929.12. The trial court, both on the record at the disposition and in the judgment entry, stated that it had considered and applied the purposes and principles of sentencing set forth in R.C. 2929.11 and seriousness and recidivism factors from R.C.

2929.12. The court not only mentioned that it had considered both required statutes, but going further, it made detailed findings which are not required under the law. Judgment Entry, p. 3-6. See also *State v. Cunningham*, 2025-Ohio-2894, ¶ 22-23 (2d Dist.). {¶ 10} Based on the record before us, Hanson's 30-month sentence was not contrary to law.

The sentence was within the parameters for third-degree felonies, and the trial court considered the principles and purposes of felony sentencing and the seriousness and recidivism factors. To the extent that Hanson argues his sentence was unsupported by the record, that argument is foreclosed by *Jones*, 2020-Ohio-6729. Even if it were not, we would find there was evidence in the record to support the sentence.

The assignment of error is overruled. III. Conclusion {¶ 11} The judgment of the trial court is affirmed. TUCKER, J., and LEWIS, J., concur. 5