

OHIO COURT OF APPEALS, THIRD APPELLATE DISTRICT

State v. Grond

2026-Ohio-1337 · No. 7-25-11 · Decided April 13, 2026

SUMMARY

The Ohio Court of Appeals for the Third District affirmed Ashley Grond's criminal conviction and sentence. The court held that the trial court was required to impose court costs under R.C. 2947.23, was not required to make findings regarding Grond's ability to pay, and did not need to specify the amount of costs at sentencing.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Ohio Court of Appeals, Third Appellate District
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Juergen A. Waldick; William R. Zimmerman; John R. Willamowski
JURISDICTION	Ohio Court of Appeals, Third Appellate District
DECIDED	April 13, 2026
DOCKET	7-25-11
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Defendant appealed the Henry County Common Pleas Court's sentencing judgment imposing court costs without findings concerning her ability to pay and without specifying the amount or types of costs.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court reviewed whether the trial court erred as a matter of law in imposing mandatory court costs without ability-to-pay findings or a specification of the costs; no separate standard of review was expressly stated.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	published
PARTIES	Ashley N. Grond v. State of Ohio

TOPICS

- criminal procedure
- statutory interpretation
- appellate procedure
- sentencing

PRACTICE AREAS

- criminal procedure
- appellate procedure
- statutory interpretation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the trial court was required to make findings regarding Grond's present or future ability to pay before imposing court costs under R.C. 2947.23.
2. Whether the trial court erred by failing to specify the amount or particular types of court costs imposed.

HOLDINGS

1. A trial court is not required to consider or make findings regarding a defendant's ability to pay when imposing court costs under R.C. 2947.23, although it may consider that ability when deciding whether to waive, suspend, or modify the costs.
2. The trial court did not err by imposing court costs without specifying the amount or particular costs at sentencing because calculation of court costs is a ministerial act, and the trial court retains continuing jurisdiction to correct a miscalculation.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“By statute, the imposition of court costs on all convicted defendants is mandatory.” (¶ 10)

“a trial court is not required to consider the defendant’s ability to pay in assessing a motion to waive, suspend, or modify court costs under R.C. 2947.23(C), though it is permitted to do so.” (¶ 12)

“Simply put, the trial court complied with its statutorily-mandated duty to impose court costs in this matter.” (¶ 15)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Grond was indicted for aggravated possession of drugs and aggravated trafficking in drugs. Under a negotiated plea agreement, she pleaded guilty to an amended second-degree-felony aggravated-trafficking charge, agreed to testify against a codefendant, and obtained dismissal of the possession count. At sentencing, the trial court waived the mandatory fine because of her indigence but imposed statutory court costs, staying collection until sixty days after her release from incarceration.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Grond was indicted on aggravated-possession and aggravated-trafficking charges, then entered a negotiated guilty plea to an amended aggravated-trafficking charge, with the possession count dismissed. The trial court waived the mandatory fine based on indigence but imposed court costs and stayed collection until sixty days after her release from incarceration. Grond appealed, and the Third District overruled her assignment of error and affirmed, remanding only for execution of the judgment for appellate costs.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

REMAND INSTRUCTIONS

The cause was remanded to the trial court for execution of the judgment for appellate costs and for issuance of the mandate pursuant to App.R. 27.

CASES CITED

- State v. Taylor, 2020-Ohio-3514
- State v. White, 2004-Ohio-5989
- State v. Towe, 2023-Ohio-549 (2d Dist.)

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