

THIRD DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL OF FLORIDA

Damien Broughton v. State of Florida

Broughton · No. 3D24-1796 · Decided July 23, 2025

SUMMARY

The Third District Court of Appeal of Florida affirmed the summary denial of Damien Broughton's motion under Florida Rule of Criminal Procedure 3.850 alleging ineffective assistance of counsel and seeking additional jail credit. The court held that Broughton did not provide sufficient evidence showing that he was held in Louisiana or Tennessee solely on the Florida charge, and that credit for incarceration in other jurisdictions is discretionary rather than required by law.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Third District Court of Appeal of Florida
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Miller; Lobree; Gooden
JURISDICTION	Florida Third District Court of Appeal
DECIDED	July 23, 2025
DOCKET	3D24-1796
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appeal under Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.141(b)(2) from the summary denial of a Florida Rule of Criminal Procedure 3.850 motion alleging ineffective assistance of counsel based on the failure to award credit for time incarcerated in other states.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The opinion does not expressly state a standard of review; it reviewed the summary denial of the Rule 3.850 motion for error.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published opinion; precedential status is subject to finality after disposition of any timely rehearing motion.
PARTIES	Damien Broughton v. State of Florida

TOPICS

- post-conviction relief
- ineffective assistance
- sentencing
- appellate procedure
- criminal procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- criminal procedure
- post-conviction relief
- appellate procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Broughton was entitled to credit against his Florida sentence for time spent incarcerated in Louisiana and Tennessee.
2. Whether Broughton established ineffective assistance of counsel based on counsel's alleged failure to obtain credit for the out-of-state incarceration.
3. Whether the trial court erred by summarily denying the Rule 3.850 motion.

HOLDINGS

1. Florida Statutes section 921.161(1) requires credit for qualifying time spent in a Florida county jail, but it does not create a legal entitlement to credit for incarceration in other jurisdictions.
2. Broughton failed to establish ineffective assistance of counsel because he did not provide sufficient information and documentation to prove that he was held in another state solely on the Florida charge.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“But “the term ‘county jail’ is applicable only to Florida jails” and does not apply to “incarceration in other jurisdictions.”” (at 2)

“The trial judge does, however, have the inherent discretionary authority to award credit for time served in other jurisdictions while awaiting transfer to Florida.” (at 2)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Broughton pleaded guilty to attempted felony murder and armed robbery and was sentenced to concurrent terms of ten years in prison followed by five years of probation. While on probation, he was incarcerated in Louisiana and Tennessee on charges arising in those states, and he was later arrested in Florida for violating probation. He claimed that time spent in Louisiana and Tennessee should have been credited against his Florida sentence, but the documents he submitted showed that the out-of-state detention was related to charges pending in those jurisdictions.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Broughton pleaded guilty to attempted felony murder and armed robbery and received concurrent ten-year prison sentences followed by five years of probation. After violating probation and being resentenced, he moved for post-conviction relief, seeking 1,162 days of credit for time held in Louisiana and Tennessee. The trial court summarily denied the motion, and the Third District Court of Appeal affirmed.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- Kronz v. State, 462 So. 2d 450, 451 (Fla. 1985)

- Garnett v. State, 957 So. 2d 32, 33 (Fla. 2d DCA 2007)
- Kennedy v. State, 547 So. 2d 912, 913 (Fla. 1989)
- Gomez v. State, 984 So. 2d 577, 580 (Fla. 4th DCA 2008)
- Hopping v. State, 650 So. 2d 1087, 1088 (Fla. 3d DCA 1995)

OPINION

Damien Broughton v. State of Florida

PER CURIAM.

Third District Court of Appeal State of Florida Opinion filed July 23, 2025. Not final until disposition of timely filed motion for rehearing. _____ No. 3D24-1796 Lower Tribunal No. F07-16864 _____ Damien Broughton, Appellant, vs. State of Florida, Appellee. An Appeal under Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.141(b)(2) from the Circuit Court for Miami-Dade County, Carlos Lopez, Judge. Damien Broughton, in proper person. James Uthmeier, Attorney General, and David Llanes, Assistant Attorney General, for appellee. Before MILLER, LOBREE and GOODEN, JJ. PER CURIAM. After pleading guilty to attempted felony murder and armed robbery, Appellant Damien Broughton was sentenced to concurrent sentences of ten years in prison to be followed by five years of probation. Broughton served his prison sentence and was released on probation. While on probation, Broughton traveled to several states where he continued to break the law. In Louisiana, Broughton was charged with aggravated second-degree battery. In Tennessee, Broughton was charged with larceny, and later for being a “Fugitive from Justice” after jumping bond. Broughton was subsequently arrested at Miami International Airport attempting to leave the country. He had an outstanding warrant for a probation violation in Florida. 1 Broughton filed a 3.850 motion alleging ineffective assistance of counsel. He asserted: I was originally arrested on April 10, 2019 in Sulphur, Louisiana. A detainer was placed on me for Miami-Dade County in this case. I was detained longer and moved because of a natural disaster that destroyed the city of Lake Charles. Then, I was extradited twice to Williamson County, Tennessee and then to Miami-Dade. I never received the credit for that time on my plea. 1 For the probation violation, Broughton was resentenced to a concurrent sentence of sixteen years in prison. He was awarded 3,195 days of jail credit. 2 He attached various documents from his Louisiana and Tennessee cases in support. As relief, he requested 1,162 days of jail credit. The trial court summarily denied the motion. Broughton appealed. Section 921.161, Florida Statutes, provides in pertinent part: A sentence of imprisonment shall not begin to run before the date it is imposed, but the court imposing a sentence shall allow a defendant credit for all of the time she or he spent in the county jail before sentence. The credit must be for a specified period of time and shall be provided for in the sentence. § 921.161(1), Fla. Stat. But “the term ‘county jail’ is applicable only to Florida jails” and does not apply to “incarceration in other jurisdictions.” Kronz v. State, 462 So. 2d 450, 451 (Fla. 1985). “The trial judge does, however, have the inherent discretionary authority to award credit for time served in other jurisdictions while awaiting

transfer to Florida.” Id. at 451. See also *Garnett v. State*, 957 So. 2d 32, 33 (Fla. 2d DCA 2007) (“Such out-of-state jail credit is not credit that a defendant is entitled to receive as a matter of law, but is instead an issue that is within the inherent discretion of the sentencing court.”). Yet Broughton did not provide sufficient information and documentation to carry his burden of proving ineffective assistance of counsel. See *Kennedy v. State*, 547 So. 2d 912, 913 (Fla. 1989). He did not—and could not—show that he was held in another state solely on the 3 Florida charge. See *Gomez v. State*, 984 So. 2d 577, 580 (Fla. 4th DCA 2008). Instead, the documentation provided shows he was held in other states for charges pending in those states—completely unconnected to Florida. See *Hopping v. State*, 650 So. 2d 1087, 1088 (Fla. 3d DCA 1995). Finding no error in the trial court’s denial of Broughton’s motion, we affirm. Affirmed. 4