

SIXTH DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL OF FLORIDA

Shahzad Nazir Sayed v. State of Florida

Sayed · No. 6D2023-0826 · Decided December 5, 2025

SUMMARY

The Sixth District Court of Appeal of Florida affirmed Shahzad Nazir Sayed’s sentence following his no contest plea to aggravated manslaughter of a child. The court upheld the denial of a downward departure sentence and the challenged cost imposition, while certifying conflict with decisions from the First and Second District Courts of Appeal.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Sixth District Court of Appeal of Florida
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Per Curiam; Smith, J.; Mize, J.; Gannam, J.
JURISDICTION	Florida Sixth District Court of Appeal
DECIDED	December 5, 2025
DOCKET	6D2023-0826
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Appeal from a sentence entered after Appellant's no contest plea to one charge of aggravated manslaughter of a child.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published; conflict certified
PARTIES	Shahzad Nazir Sayed v. State of Florida

TOPICS

- sentencing
- appellate jurisdiction
- appellate procedure
- criminal procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- criminal law
- criminal procedure
- appellate practice

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether the trial court erred in denying Appellant's request for a downward departure sentence.
- Whether the challenged cost imposition in the sentencing judgment was improper because the judgment failed to cite the applicable authority.

HOLDINGS

1. The court had jurisdiction over the appeal as it pertained to the denial of the downward departure and found no error in the trial court's denial of the request.
2. The court affirmed the cost imposition for the reasons stated in *Kim v. State* and *Spiro v. State*.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Appellant entered a no contest plea to one charge of aggravated manslaughter of a child. Following the plea, the trial court imposed a sentence, denied Appellant's request for a downward departure, and included a cost imposition in the sentencing judgment. Appellant challenged both the denial of the downward departure and the authority cited for the cost.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Sayed pleaded no contest to aggravated manslaughter of a child in the Circuit Court for Charlotte County. The trial court denied his request for a downward departure sentence and imposed a cost for which Appellant argued the judgment failed to cite applicable authority. He appealed to the Florida District Court of Appeal; the case was transferred from the Second District Court of Appeal to the Sixth District on January 1, 2023.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- *Caviness v. State*, No. 23-3661, 2025 WL 2737847, at *1 (Fla. 6th DCA Sept. 26, 2025)
- *Kim v. State*, No. 24-0197, 2025 WL 2884470, *1 (Fla. 6th DCA Oct. 10, 2025)
- *Spiro v. State*, 418 So. 3d 316 (Fla. 6th DCA 2025)
- *Dibelka v. State*, 326 So. 3d 835 (Fla. 2d DCA 2021)
- *R.T.D. v. State*, 679 So. 2d 1263 (Fla. 2d DCA 1996)
- *Williams v. State*, 285 So. 3d 1003 (Fla. 1st DCA 2019)