

OHIO COURT OF APPEALS, FIFTH APPELLATE DISTRICT, DELAWARE
COUNTY

State v. Brady

2026-Ohio-1784 · No. 25 CAA 11 0099 · Decided May 14, 2026

SUMMARY

The Ohio Court of Appeals for the Fifth Appellate District affirmed Adrain Brady’s felony drug-possession and petty-theft sentence. The court held that the trial court properly considered the Ohio felony-sentencing statutes and did not err by imposing 120 days of local incarceration as a community-control sanction after Brady violated intervention-in-lieu-of-conviction conditions.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Ohio Court of Appeals, Fifth Appellate District, Delaware County
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Kevin W. Popham; William B. Hoffman; Robert G. Montgomery
JURISDICTION	Ohio Court of Appeals, Fifth Appellate District, Delaware County
DECIDED	May 14, 2026
DOCKET	25 CAA 11 0099
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Brady appealed from the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas judgment imposing community control, including 120 days of local incarceration, after the court terminated intervention in lieu of conviction.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Under R.C. 2953.08, an appellate court may increase, reduce, modify, or vacate a felony sentence and remand only when it clearly and convincingly finds that the record does not support specified statutory findings or that the sentence is otherwise contrary to law. The appellate court may not independently reweigh the evidence or substitute its judgment for the trial court's regarding compliance with R.C. 2929.11 and R.C. 2929.12.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published opinion
PARTIES	Adrain M. Brady v. State of Ohio

TOPICS

sentencing

sentencing guidelines

standard of review

appellate procedure

criminal procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

Criminal law

Criminal procedure

Appellate sentencing review

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the trial court imposed a felony sentence contrary to the principles and purposes of sentencing in R.C. 2929.11 by including 120 days of local incarceration as part of Brady's community-control sanction.
2. Whether the trial court improperly relied on Brady's ineligibility for community-based correctional facility placement in selecting the sentence.

HOLDINGS

1. The trial court did not err in imposing community control that included 120 days of local incarceration because the court considered the record, the parties' statements, the presentence investigation, the R.C. 2929.11 purposes and principles, and the R.C. 2929.12 seriousness and recidivism factors, and the sentence was within the statutory range.
2. The trial court did not improperly rely on the outstanding Kentucky warrant because the warrant disqualifying Brady from community-based correctional facility placement had not been issued when he entered his guilty pleas, and defense counsel agreed that CBCF treatment was not realistically available.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“The overriding purposes of felony sentencing are to protect the public from future crime by the offender and others, to punish the offender, and to promote the effective rehabilitation of the offender using the minimum sanctions that the court determines accomplish those purposes without imposing an unnecessary burden on state or local government resources.” (¶ 18)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Westerville police responded to a reported theft at a Meijer store and found Brady wearing new shoes that a store employee observed him take without paying. After his arrest, officers found a white crystalline substance in his pocket, which laboratory testing confirmed contained methamphetamine. Brady repeatedly failed to comply with bond and intervention-in-lieu conditions, including drug testing, reporting, and treatment requirements, and admitted the alleged violations. The trial court terminated intervention in lieu of conviction and imposed community control with 120 days of local incarceration.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Brady was indicted for aggravated possession of methamphetamine and petty theft. The trial court granted intervention in lieu of conviction, but later terminated the intervention after Brady admitted violating its conditions, found him guilty, and imposed community control with 120 days of local incarceration. Brady appealed, arguing that the jail term violated Ohio's felony-sentencing principles.

DISPOSITION

affirmed

CASES CITED

- State v. Marcum, 2016-Ohio-1002
- State v. Jones, State v. Jones, 2020-Ohio-6729
- State v. Pettorini, 2021-Ohio-1512, ¶ 16 (5th Dist.)
- State v. Taylor, 2024-Ohio-238 (5th Dist.)

OPINION

PER CURIAM.

[Cite as State v. Brady, 2026-Ohio-1784.] IN THE OHIO COURT OF APPEALS FIFTH APPELLATE DISTRICT DELAWARE COUNTY, OHIO STATE OF OHIO Case No. 25 CAA 11 0099 Plaintiff - Appellee Opinion And Judgment Entry -vs- Appeal from the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas, Case No. 22 CRI 10 ADRAIN BRADY 0546 Judgment: Affirmed Defendant - Appellant Date of Judgment Entry: May 14, 2026 BEFORE: William B. Hoffman, Robert G. Montgomery, and Kevin W. Popham, Judges APPEARANCES: Melissa A. Schiffel, Katheryn L. Munger, for Plaintiff-Appellee; Jonathan W. Klein, for Defendant-Appellant OPINION Popham, J., {¶1} Appellant Adrain M. Brady appeals the judgment entered by the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas.

Appellee is the State of Ohio. For the reasons below, we affirm. Facts & Procedural History {¶2} On June 2, 2022, Westerville police officers responded to a reported theft at a Meijer store in Westerville, Ohio. A store employee observed Brady exchange an old pair of shoes for a new pair and leave the store without paying for the new shoes. When officers made contact with Brady, he was wearing the new shoes.

Brady was arrested, and a search incident to arrest revealed a white crystalline substance in his pocket. Subsequent laboratory testing confirmed the substance contained methamphetamine. {¶3} On October 6, 2022, Brady was charged in a two-count indictment with aggravated possession of drugs (methamphetamine), in violation of R.C. 2925.11(A), a felony of the fifth degree, and petty theft, in violation of R.C.

2913.02(A)(1), a misdemeanor of the first degree. {¶4} Brady was released on a personal recognizance bond. On March 14, 2023, the State moved to revoke his bond - following his release from the Delaware County jail - after Brady failed to report to Adult Court Services for intake and drug testing on March 2 or 3.

On March 10, he also failed to report, and on March 15, 2023, the trial court revoked his bond and issued a warrant for his arrest. {¶5} On May 9, 2023, Brady filed a motion for intervention in lieu of conviction. On May 18, 2023, he was arrested again. At a June 6, 2023, hearing, Brady withdrew his prior not-guilty pleas.

The trial court referred him for an R.C. 2951.041 assessment and a presentence investigation and scheduled a hearing on his request for intervention in lieu of conviction. {¶6} The State filed a second motion to revoke bond, alleging Brady failed to report for drug testing on June 15 and could not be reached by phone, text, or email.

The trial court revoked his bond and on June 21, 2023, issued another warrant for his arrest. {¶7} On December 1, 2023, Brady was arrested again. At a December 27, 2023, hearing, the trial court granted his motion for intervention in lieu of conviction and issued a judgment entry specifying the conditions for the intervention in lieu. {¶8} On March 8, 2024, the State filed a motion to terminate intervention in lieu of conviction and impose sentence.

The State alleged Brady violated the following five conditions of his intervention in lieu of conviction: (1) Brady failed to engage in recommended treatment; (2) Brady failed to report to his primary supervisor on January 24, 2024, January 30, 2024, February 22, 2024, and March 7, 2024; (3) Brady verbally admitted to smoking methamphetamine on February 2, 2024, and February 26, 2024; (4) Brady failed to submit to random drug screens on February 29, 2024, and March 1, 2024; and (5) Brady failed to provide verification by that he enrolled in substance abuse treatment by March 7, 2024. {¶9} On May 8, 2024, the trial court issued a warrant for Brady's arrest, but he was not arrested until September 24, 2025. {¶10} On October 13, 2025, the trial court held a hearing, at which time Brady admitted to the violations as alleged in the State's motion to terminate intervention in lieu.

The State recommended the trial court sentence Brady to 180 days of local incarceration. The prosecutor and Brady's probation officer informed the trial court that Brady was not eligible for a community-based correctional facility ("CBDF") due to an outstanding Kentucky arrest warrant.

The trial court confirmed with the prosecutor that Brady was not eligible for the CBCF due to his outstanding warrant. Defense counsel for Brady concurred that treatment-related options, such as CBCF, were "not on the table, realistically," due to the Kentucky warrant. Brady spoke on his own behalf, stating he had returned home, was sober, and was caring for his elderly grandmother. {¶11} The trial court found Brady guilty of the counts in the indictment, and proceeded immediately to sentencing.

The trial judge stated she considered the entire record of the case, including the statements by all parties, and the pre-sentence investigation. Further, that she considered the principles and purposes

of sentencing pursuant to R.C. 2929.11 and the seriousness and recidivism factors contained in R.C. 2929.12.

The trial judge noted Brady's prior criminal history of misdemeanor convictions, but also noted that no physical harm resulted from the offenses in this case. The trial judge stated she was not going to sentence Brady to prison, but found he was amenable to community control.

However, due to his poor compliance while on intervention in lieu of conviction, the court imposed 120 days in jail as part of the community-control sanction. {¶12} In an October 15, 2025, judgment entry, the trial court stated it considered the statements of counsel and Brady, the principles and purposes of sentencing set forth in R.C. 2929.11, and the seriousness and recidivism factors set forth in R.C.

2929.12. The trial court sentenced Brady to community control, including 120 days of local incarceration. {¶13} Brady appeals from the October 15, 2025, judgment entry of the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas, and assigns the following as error: {¶14} "I. THE TRIAL COURT ERRED IN SENTENCING THE DEFENDANT TO JAIL IN VIOLATION OF THE OHIO SENTENCING PRINCIPLES IN R.C.

2929.11." I. {¶15} We review felony sentences using the standard of review set forth in R.C. 2953.08. *State v. Marcum*, 2016-Ohio-1002. R.C. 2953.08 provides we may either increase, reduce, modify, or vacate a sentence and remand for sentencing where we clearly and convincingly find either the record does not support the sentencing court's findings under R.C.

2929.13(B) or (D), R.C. 2929.14(B)(2)(e) or (C)(4), or R.C. 2929.20(I), or the sentence is otherwise contrary to law. *Id.* {¶16} Nothing in R.C. 2953.08 permits this Court to independently weigh the evidence in the record and substitute our own judgment for that of the trial court to determine a sentence which best reflects compliance with R.C. 2929.11 and R.C.

2929.12. *State v. Jones*, 2020-Ohio-6729. Instead, we may only determine if the sentence is contrary to law. A sentence is not clearly and convincingly contrary to law where the trial court "considers the principles and purposes of R.C. 2929.11, as well as the factors listed in R.C. 2929.12, properly imposes post-release control, and sentences the defendant within the permissible statutory range." *State v. Pettorini*, 2021-Ohio-1512, ¶ 16 (5th Dist.). {¶17} When sentencing a defendant, the trial court must consider the purposes and principles of felony sentencing set forth in R.C.

2929.11, and the seriousness and recidivism factors in R.C. 2929.12. *State v. Taylor*, 2024-Ohio-238 (5th Dist.). {¶18} "The overriding purposes of felony sentencing are to protect the public from future crime by the offender and others, to punish the offender, and to promote the effective rehabilitation of the offender using the minimum sanctions that the court determines accomplish

those purposes without imposing an unnecessary burden on state or local government resources.” R.C.

2929.11(A). In order to achieve these purposes, “the sentencing court shall consider the need for incapacitating the offender, deterring the offender and others from future crime, rehabilitating the offender, and making restitution to the victim of the offense, the public, or both.” Id. Further, the sentence imposed shall be “commensurate with and not demeaning to the seriousness of the offender’s conduct and its impact on the victim, and consistent with sentences imposed for similar crimes by similar offenders.” R.C.

2929.11(B). {¶19} R.C. 2929.12 lists general factors which must be considered by the trial court in determining the sentence to be imposed for a felony, and gives detailed criteria, which do not control the court’s discretion, but which must be considered for or against severity or leniency in a particular case.

The trial court retains discretion to determine the most effective way to comply with the purposes and principles of sentencing as set forth in R.C. 2929.11. R.C. 2929.12. {¶20} In this case, the judgment entry states the trial court considered the principles and purposes of sentencing under R.C. 2929.11 and balanced the seriousness and recidivism factors under R.C.

2929.12. The sentence imposed by the trial court is within the statutory guidelines. {¶21} Brady argues the trial court violated the sentencing principles contained in R.C. 2929.11. Specifically, Brady contends the trial court failed to consider nonresidential sanctions, such as day reporting, inpatient treatment, or house arrest, so Brady could address his drug addiction issues without being incarcerated.

The record does not support this claim. When determining the appropriate sanction, the trial court considered the record, the oral statements by the parties, the pre-sentence investigation, and Brady’s actions throughout the case, and determined the factors weighed in favor of local incarceration. {¶22} The record reflects that shortly after being granted intervention in lieu of conviction, Brady violated the terms by continuing the use of illicit drugs and failing to appear for mandatory appointments, demonstrating an unwillingness to participate in nonresidential sanctions.

Additionally, Brady’s disappearance at multiple points throughout the case (at one point, for over a year) also demonstrates Brady’s unwillingness to participate in nonresidential sanctions. The record reflects that Brady has not favorably responded to nonresidential sanctions. {¶23} Brady also argues the trial court improperly relied on outstanding Ohio warrants that the trial court knew about at the time of his pleas in determining his ineligibility for CBCF placement.

We disagree. The warrant the prosecutor and the probation officer informed the court disqualified Brady from the CBCF facility was the warrant out of Kentucky, which was not issued at the time

Brady entered his guilty pleas. Additionally, defense counsel concurred that CBCF was “not on the table, realistically.” {¶24} While Brady may disagree with the weight given to the R.C.

2929.11 and R.C. 2929.12 factors by the trial judge, we have no basis for concluding the sentence in the instant case is clearly and convincingly contrary to law. The record demonstrates the trial court heard statements from the prosecutor, defense counsel, and Brady himself. {¶25} We conclude the trial court did not commit error when it sentenced Brady. Upon review, we find the trial court’s sentencing complies with applicable rules and sentencing statutes. {¶26} Based on the foregoing, Brady’s assignment of error is overruled. {¶27} For the reasons stated in our Opinion, the judgment of the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas is affirmed. {¶28} Costs to Appellant Adrain Brady.

By: Popham, J. Hoffman, P.J. and Montgomery, J., concur