

FILED
SUPREME COURT
STATE OF WASHINGTON
10/1/2018 8:08 AM
BY SUSAN L. CARLSON
CLERK

No. 96034-8
COA #48855-8-II

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Respondent,

v.

RICHARD I. SVALESON, JR.

Petitioner/Appellant.

ON REVIEW FROM
THE COURT OF APPEALS
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON,
DIVISION TWO
and
THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON,
PIERCE COUNTY

SUPPLEMENTAL PETITION FOR REVIEW
BASED ON INTERVENING AUTHORITY

KATHRYN RUSSELL SELK, No. 23879
Appointed Counsel for Petitioner

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RULES, STATUTES AND CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

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A. SUPPLEMENTAL ISSUES PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

Legal financial obligations of a \$200 filing fee were improperly imposed on Petitioner Richard Svaleson, Jr., despite his indigence at sentencing and he is entitled to relief under this Court's recent decision in State v. Ramirez, __ Wn.2d __, __ P.3d __ (No. 95249-3) (2018 W L 4499761) (September 20, 2018). A copy of that decision is attached hereto as Appendix B.

B. SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Mr. Svaleson, Jr., was found indigent prior to trial and for the purposes of appeal. See CP 104-10. At sentencing, the court waived all but the \$500 victim's fund fee, a \$200 filing fee and a \$100 DNA fee. CP 86. The judgment and sentence contained a preprinted "finding" that the court had considered the required information and found "the ability or likely future ability to pay" the legal financial obligations. CP 85. Payments were ordered to commence immediately and to be made at a rate of \$100 per month, with 12 percent interest imposed. CP 85-87. A copy of the judgment and sentence is attached as Appendix A.

In his opening brief on appeal, Mr. Svaleson, Jr., argued that the trial court erred in ordering these legal financial obligations without complying with the requirements of RCW 10.01.160, as interpreted by this Court in State v. Blazina. 182 Wn.2d 827, 344 P.3d 680 (2015). See Brief of Appellant ("BOA" at 2, 49-50).

In its unpublished opinion, regarding legal financial

obligations, Division Two held that the sentencing court did not err in imposing the LFOs because they were “mandatory” under the sentencing statutes. App. A to Initial Petition for Review (Opinion) at 33-3

On September 20, 2018, this Court decided Ramirez, supra.

This Supplemental Petition follows.

C. SUPPLEMENTAL ARGUMENT REGARDING REVIEW

REVIEW SHOULD BE GRANTED AND THE CASE
REMANDED TO STRIKE THE LEGAL FINANCIAL
OBLIGATIONS UNDER RAMIREZ

In Ramirez, supra, this Court recently held that the changes to our state’s legal financial obligation system made by the 2018 Legislature applied to all cases still pending on direct review. App. A at 2. In addition to the other grounds for review raised in her initial Petition for Review, this Court should also grant Mr. Svaleson, Jr., review and relief under Ramirez.

In that case, the Court held that the amendments made by the Legislature in Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (“Bill”) 1783 now “prohibit[] the imposition of certain LFOs on indigent defendants.” App. A at 2, 6-7; see Laws of 2018, ch. 269. Further, the Court noted, the Bill eliminates the authority to impose a criminal filing fee of \$200 on an indigent defendant, eliminates “interest accrual” on all nonrestitution LFOs, “establishes that the DNA database fee is no longer mandatory in some situations and provided new limits to remedies for failure to pay. App. A at 17-18.

In Ramirez, the defendant had raised a Blazina argument in the court of appeals and this Court had granted review on that issue *before* the Bill was passed. App. A at 6, 21. The unanimous Court held that the amendments wrought by the Bill, however, applied. App. A at 6, 21. The Court found that the “precipitating event” for a statute “concerning attorney fees and costs” was the termination of the defendant’s case - which meant the end of the appeal. App. A at 21-22 (citations omitted). Because the Bill’s amendments concerned “the court’s ability to impose costs on a criminal defendant following conviction,” and because Ramirez’ case was still on appeal as a matter of right and was “thus not yet final under RAP 12.7” when the Bill was enacted, the Court held, Ramirez was entitled to benefit from the statutory change. App. A at 21-22.

Similarly, here, Mr. Svaleson, Jr., is entitled to relief from the statutory changes of the Bill. Like Ramirez, Svaleson, Jr., was sentenced well before the Bill was enacted in 2018, and his case is still on direct appeal. Further, like Ramirez, Mr. Svaleson, Jr., was subjected to the \$200 filing fee, no longer authorized under Ramirez, and interest, also no longer authorized under the Bill (Laws of 2018, ch. 269, § 1). This Court should grant review and should grant Mr. Svaleson, Jr., relief from the improperly imposed legal financial obligations under Ramirez.

D. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated herein and in the original Petition for Review, this Court should grant review and grant Mr. Svaleson, Jr., relief.

DATED this 1st day of October, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY MAIL/EFILING

Under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, I hereby declare that I sent a true and correct copy of the attached Petition for Review to opposing counsel at Pierce County Prosecutor's Office, at pcpat@co.pierce.wa.us and to Richard Svaleson, Jr., at DOC 389546, WSP 1313 N. 13th Ave., Walla Walla, WA. 99362.

DATED this 1st day of October, 2018.

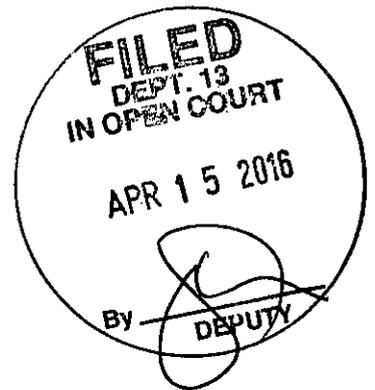


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APPENDIX A



15-1-00660-8 46729932 JDSWCD 04-18-16



SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR PIERCE COUNTY

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Plaintiff,

CAUSE NO: 15-1-00660-8

vs.

RICHARD IVER SVALESON, JR,

Defendant.

WARRANT OF COMMITMENT

- 1) County Jail
- 2) Dept. of Corrections
- 3) Other Custody

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO THE DIRECTOR OF ADULT DETENTION OF PIERCE COUNTY:

WHEREAS, Judgment has been pronounced against the defendant in the Superior Court of the State of Washington for the County of Pierce, that the defendant be punished as specified in the Judgment and Sentence/Order Modifying/Revoking Probation/Community Supervision, a full and correct copy of which is attached hereto.

- [] 1. YOU, THE DIRECTOR, ARE COMMANDED to receive the defendant for classification, confinement and placement as ordered in the Judgment and Sentence. (Sentence of confinement in Pierce County Jail).
- 2. YOU, THE DIRECTOR, ARE COMMANDED to take and deliver the defendant to the proper officers of the Department of Corrections; and

YOU, THE PROPER OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, ARE COMMANDED to receive the defendant for classification, confinement and placement as ordered in the Judgment and Sentence. (Sentence of confinement in Department of Corrections custody).

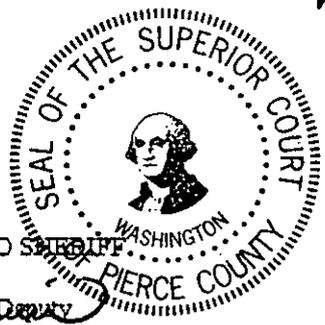
[] 3. YOU, THE DIRECTOR, ARE COMMANDED to receive the defendant for classification, confinement and placement as ordered in the Judgment and Sentence. (Sentence of confinement or placement not covered by Sections 1 and 2 above).

Dated: 4/15/16

By direction of the Honorable
Kathryn J. Nelson

JUDGE
Kathryn J. Nelson
KEVIN STOCK

CLERK



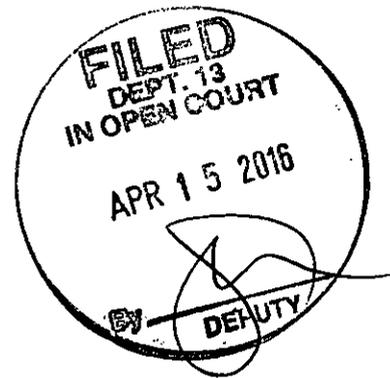
By: *Bucky Alquist*

DEPUTY CLERK

CERTIFIED COPY DELIVERED TO SHERIFF

APR 18 2016
Date 8 2016 By *Bucky Alquist*

DEPUTY



STATE OF WASHINGTON

ss:

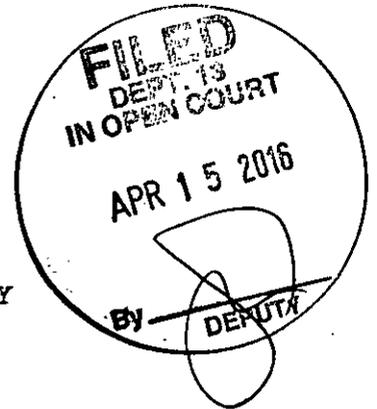
County of Pierce

I, Kevin Stock, Clerk of the above entitled Court, do hereby certify that this foregoing instrument is a true and correct copy of the original now on file in my office.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and the Seal of Said Court this _____ day of _____, _____.

KEVIN STOCK, Clerk
By: _____ Deputy

cjc

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SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON FOR PIERCE COUNTY

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Plaintiff,

CAUSE NO. 15-1-00660-8

vs.

JUDGMENT AND SENTENCE (J/S)

RICHARD IVER SVALESON, JR

Defendant.

- Prison
- RCW 9.94A.712/9.94A.507 Prison Confinement
- Jail One Year or Less
- First-Time Offender
- Special Sexual Offender Sentencing Alternative
- Special Drug Offender Sentencing Alternative
- Alternative to Confinement (ATC)
- Clerk's Action Required, para 4.5 (SDOSA), 4.7 and 4.8 (SSOSA) 4.15.2, 5.3, 5.6 and 5.8
- Juvenile Decline Mandatory Discretionary

SID: WA27942121
DOB: 09/08/1946

I HEARING

1.1 A sentencing hearing was held and the defendant, the defendant's lawyer and the (deputy) prosecuting attorney were present.

II FINDINGS

There being no reason why judgment should not be pronounced, the court FINDS:

2.1 CURRENT OFFENSE(S): The defendant was found guilty on 3/3/16 by plea jury-verdict bench trial of:

COUNT	CRIME	RCW	ENHANCEMENT TYPE*	DATE OF CRIME	INCIDENT NO.
I	CHILD MOLESTATION IN THE FIRST DEGREE (139)	9A.44.083	NONE	12/30/14	TPD 143641019

* (F) Firearm, (D) Other deadly weapons, (V) VUCSA in a protected zone, (VH) Veh. Horn, See RCW 46.61.520, (JP) Juvenile present, (SM) Sexual Motivation, (SCF) Sexual Conduct with a Child for a Fee. See RCW 9.94A.533(8). (If the crime is a drug offense, include the type of drug in the second column.)

as charged in the ORIGINAL Information

14-9-03160-0

- Current offenses encompassing the same criminal conduct and counting as one crime in determining the offender score are (RCW 9.94A.589):
- Other current convictions listed under different cause numbers used in calculating the offender score are (list offense and cause number):

2.2 CRIMINAL HISTORY (RCW 9.94A.525):

NONE KNOWN OR CLAIMED

2.3 SENTENCING DATA:

COUNT NO.	OFFENDER SCORE	SERIOUSNESS LEVEL	STANDARD RANGE (not including enhancements)	PLUS ENHANCEMENTS	TOTAL STANDARD RANGE (including enhancements)	MAXIMUM TERM
1	0	X	51-68 MONTHS TO LIFE	NONE	51-68 MONTHS TO LIFE	LIFE

2.4 **EXCEPTIONAL SENTENCE.** Substantial and compelling reasons exist which justify an exceptional sentence:

within below the standard range for Count(s) _____.

above the standard range for Count(s) _____.

The defendant and state stipulate that justice is best served by imposition of the exceptional sentence above the standard range and the court finds the exceptional sentence furthers and is consistent with the interests of justice and the purposes of the sentencing reform act.

Aggravating factors were stipulated by the defendant, found by the court after the defendant waived jury trial, found by jury by special interrogatory.

Findings of fact and conclusions of law are attached in Appendix 2.4. Jury's special interrogatory is attached. The Prosecuting Attorney did did not recommend a similar sentence.

2.5 ABILITY TO PAY LEGAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS. The court has considered the total amount owing, the defendant's past, present and future ability to pay legal financial obligations, including the defendant's financial resources and the likelihood that the defendant's status will change. The court finds that the defendant has the ability or likely future ability to pay the legal financial obligations imposed herein. RCW 9.94A.753.

The following extraordinary circumstances exist that make restitution inappropriate (RCW 9.94A.753):

The following extraordinary circumstances exist that make payment of nonmandatory legal financial obligations inappropriate:

2.6 **FELONY FIREARM OFFENDER REGISTRATION.** The defendant committed a felony firearm offense as defined in RCW 9A.10.010.

The court considered the following factors:

the defendant's criminal history.

whether the defendant has previously been found not guilty by reason of insanity of any offense in this state or elsewhere.

evidence of the defendant's propensity for violence that would likely endanger persons.

other: _____

[] The court decided the defendant [] should [] should not register as a felony firearm offender.

III JUDGMENT

3.1 The defendant is GUILTY of the Counts and Charges listed in Paragraph 2.1.

3.2 [] The court DISMISSES Counts _____ [] The defendant is found NOT GUILTY of Counts

IV. SENTENCE AND ORDER

IT IS ORDERED:

4.1 Defendant shall pay to the Clerk of this Court: (Pierce County Clerk, 930 Tacoma Ave #110, Tacoma WA 98402)

JASS CODE

RTN/RJN \$ TBD Restitution to: _____

\$ _____ Restitution to: _____

(Name and Address--address may be withheld and provided confidentially to Clerk's Office).

PCV \$ 500.00 Crime Victim assessment

DNA \$ 100.00 DNA Database Fee

PUB \$ Court-Appointed Attorney Fees and Defense Costs *waived by court, inability to pay*

FRC \$ 200.00 Criminal Filing Fee

FCM \$ _____ Fine

OTHER LEGAL FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS (specify below)

\$ _____ Other Costs for: _____

\$ _____ Other Costs for: _____

\$ 800.00 TOTAL

The above total does not include all restitution which may be set by later order of the court. An agreed restitution order may be entered. RCW 9.94A.753. A restitution hearing:

shall be set by the prosecutor.

[] is scheduled for _____

[] RESTITUTION. Order Attached

[] The Department of Corrections (DOC) or clerk of the court shall immediately issue a Notice of Payroll Deduction. RCW 9.94A.7602, RCW 9.94A.760(8).

All payments shall be made in accordance with the policies of the clerk, commencing immediately, unless the court specifically sets forth the rate herein: Not less than \$ per CCo per month commencing per CCo. RCW 9.94.760. If the court does not set the rate herein, the defendant shall report to the clerk's office within 24 hours of the entry of the judgment and sentence to set up a payment plan.

The defendant shall report to the clerk of the court or as directed by the clerk of the court to provide financial and other information as requested. RCW 9.94A.760(7)(b)

[] COSTS OF INCARCERATION. In addition to other costs imposed herein, the court finds that the defendant has or is likely to have the means to pay the costs of incarceration, and the defendant is ordered to pay such costs at the statutory rate. RCW 10.01.160.

JUDGMENT AND SENTENCE (JS)

(Felony) (7/2007) Page 3 of 12

COLLECTION COSTS The defendant shall pay the costs of services to collect unpaid legal financial obligations per contract or statute. RCW 36.18.190, 9.94A.780 and 19.16.500.

INTEREST The financial obligations imposed in this judgment shall bear interest from the date of the judgment until payment in full, at the rate applicable to civil judgments. RCW 10.82.090

COSTS ON APPEAL An award of costs on appeal against the defendant may be added to the total legal financial obligations. RCW. 10.73.160.

4.1b **ELECTRONIC MONITORING REIMBURSEMENT.** The defendant is ordered to reimburse _____ (name of electronic monitoring agency) at _____ for the cost of pretrial electronic monitoring in the amount of \$ _____.

4.2 **DNA TESTING.** The defendant shall have a blood/biological sample drawn for purposes of DNA identification analysis and the defendant shall fully cooperate in the testing. The appropriate agency, the county or DOC, shall be responsible for obtaining the sample prior to the defendant's release from confinement. RCW 43.43.754.

HIV TESTING. The Health Department or designee shall test and counsel the defendant for HIV as soon as possible and the defendant shall fully cooperate in the testing. RCW 70.24.340.

4.3 **NO CONTACT**

The defendant shall not have contact with E.B. 5/24/04 (name, DOB) including, but not limited to, personal, verbal, telephonic, written or contact through a third party for Life years (not to exceed the maximum statutory sentence).

Domestic Violence No-Contact Order, Antiharassment No-Contact Order, or Sexual Assault Protection Order is filed with this Judgment and Sentence.

4.4 **OTHER:** Property may have been taken into custody in conjunction with this case. Property may be returned to the rightful owner. Any claim for return of such property must be made within 90 days. After 90 days, if you do not make a claim, property may be disposed of according to law.

• Psycho-sexual evaluation + follow-up treatment
• No contact with minors
• Conditions per CWO + in Appendices F + H.
• Law abiding behavior
• Register as a sex offender pursuant to statute

4.4a Property may have been taken into custody in conjunction with this case. Property may be returned to the rightful owner. Any claim for return of such property must be made within 90 days unless forfeited by agreement in which case no claim may be made. After 90 days, if you do not make a claim, property may be disposed of according to law.

4.4b **BOND IS HEREBY EXONERATED**

4.5 **CONFINEMENT OVER ONE YEAR.** The defendant is sentenced as follows:

(a) **CONFINEMENT.** RCW 9.94A.589. Defendant is sentenced to the following term of total confinement in the custody of the Department of Corrections (DOC):

_____ months on Count	I	_____ months on Count
_____ months on Count		_____ months on Count
_____ months on Count		_____ months on Count

CONFINEMENT. RCW 9.94A.⁵⁰⁷~~72~~ Defendant is sentenced to the following term of confinement in the custody of the Department of Corrections (DOC):

Count I Minimum Term: 51 Months Maximum Term: Life

Count _____ Minimum Term _____ Months Maximum Term: _____

Count _____ Minimum Term _____ Months Maximum Term: _____

* The Indeterminate Sentencing Review Board may increase the minimum term of confinement. Actual number of months of total confinement ordered is: 51 months to life subject to ISRB

(Add mandatory firearm, deadly weapons, and sexual motivation enhancement time to run consecutively to other counts, see Section 2.3, Sentencing Data, above).

[] The confinement time on Count(s) _____ contain(s) a mandatory minimum term of _____

CONSECUTIVE/CONCURRENT SENTENCES. RCW 9.94A.589. All counts shall be served concurrently, except for the portion of those counts for which there is a special finding of a firearm, other deadly weapon, sexual motivation, VUCSA in a protected zone, or manufacture of methamphetamine with juvenile present as set forth above at Section 2.3, and except for the following counts which shall be served consecutively: _____

The sentence herein shall run consecutively to all felony sentences in other cause numbers imposed prior to the commission of the crime(s) being sentenced. The sentence herein shall run concurrently with felony sentences in other cause numbers imposed after the commission of the crime(s) being sentenced except for the following cause numbers. RCW 9.94A.589: _____

Confinement shall commence immediately unless otherwise set forth here: _____

(c) The defendant shall receive credit for time served prior to sentencing if that confinement was solely under this cause number. RCW 9.94A.505. The time served shall be computed by the jail unless the credit for time served prior to sentencing is specifically set forth by the court: to be calculated by DOC

4.6 [] COMMUNITY PLACEMENT (pre 7/1/00 offenses) is ordered as follows:

Count _____ for _____ months;

Count _____ for _____ months;

Count _____ for _____ months;

[] COMMUNITY CUSTODY (To determine which offenses are eligible for or required for community custody see RCW 9.94A.701)

The defendant shall be on community custody for:

Count(s) _____ 36 months for Serious Violent Offenses

Count(s) _____ 18 months for Violent Offenses

Count(s) _____ 12 months (for crimes against a person, drug offenses, or offenses involving the unlawful possession of a firearm by a street gang member or associate)

0911
1708
19/2016

Note: combined term of confinement and community custody for any particular offense cannot exceed the statutory maximum. RCW 9.94A.701.

COMMUNITY CUSTODY is Ordered for counts sentenced under RCW 9.94A.701⁵⁰⁷, from time of release from total confinement until the expiration of the maximum sentence:

Count I until years from today's date for the remainder of the Defendant's life.

Count until years from today's date [] for the remainder of the Defendant's life.

Count until years from today's date [] for the remainder of the Defendant's life.

(B) While on community placement or community custody, the defendant shall: (1) report to and be available for contact with the assigned community corrections officer as directed; (2) work at DOC-approved education, employment and/or community restitution (service); (3) notify DOC of any change in defendant's address or employment; (4) not consume controlled substances except pursuant to lawfully issued prescriptions; (5) not unlawfully possess controlled substances while in community custody; (6) not own, use, or possess firearms or ammunition; (7) pay supervision fees as determined by DOC; (8) perform affirmative acts as required by DOC to confirm compliance with the orders of the court; (9) abide by any additional conditions imposed by DOC under RCW 9.94A.704 and .706 and (10) for sex offenses, submit to electronic monitoring if imposed by DOC. The defendant's residence location and living arrangements are subject to the prior approval of DOC while in community placement or community custody.

Community custody for sex offenders not sentenced under RCW 9.94A.712 may be extended for up to the statutory maximum term of the sentence. Violation of community custody imposed for a sex offense may result in additional confinement.

The court orders that during the period of supervision the defendant shall:

[] consume no alcohol.

have no contact with: E.B. minor

remain within outside of a specified geographical boundary, to wit: per CCD

[] not serve in any paid or volunteer capacity where he or she has control or supervision of minors under 13 years of age

participate in the following crime-related treatment or counseling services: psycho-sex

[] undergo an evaluation for treatment for [] domestic violence [] substance abuse

[] mental health [] anger management and fully comply with all recommended treatment.

comply with the following crime-related prohibitions: per CCD

Other conditions:

Appendices F+H, any per CCD, psycho-sexual eval + follow-up treatment, law abiding behavior, sex offender registration

[] For sentences imposed under RCW 9.94A.702, other conditions, including electronic monitoring, may be imposed during community custody by the Indeterminate Sentence Review Board, or in an emergency by DOC. Emergency conditions imposed by DOC shall not remain in effect longer than seven working days.

Court Ordered Treatment: If any court orders mental health or chemical dependency treatment, the defendant must notify DOC and the defendant must release treatment information to DOC for the duration of incarceration and supervision. RCW 9.94A.562.

PROVIDED: That under no circumstances shall the total term of confinement plus the term of community custody actually served exceed the statutory maximum for each offense

4.7 [] WORK ETHIC CAMP. RCW 9.94A.690, RCW 72.09.410. The court finds that the defendant is eligible and is likely to qualify for work ethic camp and the court recommends that the defendant serve the sentence at a work ethic camp. Upon completion of work ethic camp, the defendant shall be released on community custody for any remaining time of total confinement, subject to the conditions below. Violation of the conditions of community custody may result in a return to total confinement for the balance of the defendant's remaining time of total confinement. The conditions of community custody are stated above in Section 4.6.

4.8 OFF LIMITS ORDER (known drug trafficker) RCW 10.66.020. The following areas are off limits to the defendant while under the supervision of the County Jail or Department of Corrections: _____

CONFINEMENT. RCW 9.94A.712. Defendant is sentenced to the following term of confinement in the custody of the Department of Corrections (DOC):

Count I Minimum Term: 51 Months Maximum Term: LIFE

Count _____ Minimum Term _____ Months Maximum Term: _____

Count _____ Minimum Term _____ Months Maximum Term: _____

* The Indeterminate Sentencing Review Board may increase the minimum term of confinement COMMUNITY CUSTODY is Ordered for counts sentenced under RCW 9.94A.712, from time of release from total confinement until the expiration of the maximum sentence:

Count I until _____ years from today's date for the remainder of the Defendant's life.

Count _____ until _____ years from today's date [] for the remainder of the Defendant's life.

Count _____ until _____ years from today's date [] for the remainder of the Defendant's life.

V. NOTICES AND SIGNATURES

5.1 COLLATERAL ATTACK ON JUDGMENT. Any petition or motion for collateral attack on this Judgment and Sentence, including but not limited to any personal restraint petition, state habeas corpus petition, motion to vacate judgment, motion to withdraw guilty plea, motion for new trial or motion to arrest judgment, must be filed within one year of the final judgment in this matter, except as provided for in RCW 10.73.100. RCW 10.73.090.

5.2 LENGTH OF SUPERVISION. For an offense committed prior to July 1, 2000, the defendant shall remain under the court's jurisdiction and the supervision of the Department of Corrections for a period up to 10 years from the date of sentence or release from confinement, whichever is longer, to assure payment of all legal financial obligations unless the court extends the criminal judgment an additional 10 years. For an offense committed on or after July 1, 2000, the court shall retain jurisdiction over the offender, for the purpose of the offender's compliance with payment of the legal financial obligations, until the obligation is completely satisfied, regardless of the statutory maximum for the crime. RCW 9.94A.760 and RCW 9.94A.505. The clerk of the court is authorized to collect unpaid legal financial obligations at any time the

offender remains under the jurisdiction of the court for purposes of his or her legal financial obligations. RCW 9.94A.760(4) and RCW 9.94A.753(4).

- 5.3 **NOTICE OF INCOME-WITHHOLDING ACTION.** If the court has not ordered an immediate notice of payroll deduction in Section 4.1, you are notified that the Department of Corrections or the clerk of the court may issue a notice of payroll deduction without notice to you if you are more than 30 days past due in monthly payments in an amount equal to or greater than the amount payable for one month. RCW 9.94A.7602. Other income-withholding action under RCW 9.94A may be taken without further notice. RCW 9.94A.760 may be taken without further notice. RCW 9.94A.7606.

5.4 **RESTITUTION HEARING.**

Defendant waives any right to be present at any restitution hearing (sign initials): 

- 5.5 **CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT AND CIVIL COLLECTION.** Any violation of this Judgment and Sentence is punishable by up to 60 days of confinement per violation. Per section 2.5 of this document, legal financial obligations are collectible by civil means. RCW 9.94A.634.

- 5.6 **FIREARMS.** You must immediately surrender any concealed pistol license and you may not own, use or possess any firearm unless your right to do so is restored by a court of record. (The court clerk shall forward a copy of the defendant's driver's license, identicaid, or comparable identification to the Department of Licensing along with the date of conviction or commitment.) RCW 9.41.040, 9.41.047.

5.7 **SEX AND KIDNAPPING OFFENDER REGISTRATION.** RCW 9A.44.130, 10.01.200.

1. General Applicability and Requirements: Because this crime involves a sex offense or kidnapping offense (e.g., kidnapping in the first degree, kidnapping in the second degree, or unlawful imprisonment as defined in chapter 9A.40 RCW) where the victim is a minor defined in RCW 9A.44.130, you are required to register with the sheriff of the county of the state of Washington where you reside. If you are not a resident of Washington but you are a student in Washington or you are employed in Washington or you carry on a vocation in Washington, you must register with the sheriff of the county of your school, place of employment, or vocation. You must register immediately upon being sentenced unless you are in custody, in which case you must register at the time of your release and within three (3) business days from the time of release.

2. Offenders Who Leave the State and Return: If you leave the state following your sentencing or release from custody but later move back to Washington, you must register within three (3) business days after moving to this state. If you are under the jurisdiction of this state's Department of Corrections, you must register within three (3) business days after moving to this state. If you leave this state following your sentencing or release from custody but later while not a resident of Washington you become employed in Washington, carry out a vocation in Washington, or attend school in Washington, you must register within three (3) business days after starting school in this state or becoming employed or carrying out a vocation in this state.

3. Change of Residence Within State and Leaving the State: If you change your residence within a county, you must provide, by certified mail, with return receipt requested or in person signed written notice of your change of residence to the sheriff within three (3) business days of moving. If you change your residence to a new county within this state, you must register with that county sheriff within three (3) business days of moving, and must, within three (3) business days provide, by certified mail, with return receipt requested or in person, signed written notice of the change of address in the new county to the county sheriff with whom you last registered. If you move out of Washington State, you must send written notice within three (3) business days of moving to the county sheriff with whom you last registered in Washington State.

4. Additional Requirements Upon Moving to Another State: If you move to another state, or if you work, carry on a vocation, or attend school in another state you must register a new address, fingerprints, and photograph with the new state within three (3) business days after establishing residence, or after beginning to work, carry on a vocation, or attend school in the new state. You must also send written notice within three (3) days of moving to the new state or to a foreign country to the county sheriff with whom you last registered in Washington State.

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4/19/2016

5. Notification Requirement When Enrolling in or Employed by a Public or Private Institution of Higher Education or Common School (K-12): If you are a resident of Washington and you are admitted to a public or private institution of higher education, you are required to notify the sheriff of the county of your residence of your intent to attend the institution within three (3) business days prior to arriving at the institution. If you become employed at a public or private institution of higher education, you are required to notify the sheriff for the county of your residence of your employment by the institution within three (3) business days prior to beginning to work at the institution. If your enrollment or employment at a public or private institution of higher education is terminated, you are required to notify the sheriff for the county of your residence of your termination of enrollment or employment within three (3) business days of such termination. If you attend, or plan to attend, a public or private school regulated under Title 28A RCW or chapter 72.40 RCW, you are required to notify the sheriff of the county of your residence of your intent to attend the school. You must notify the sheriff within three (3) business days prior to arriving at the school to attend classes. The sheriff shall promptly notify the principal of the school.

6. Registration by a Person Who Does Not Have a Fixed Residence: Even if you do not have a fixed residence, you are required to register. Registration must occur within three (3) business days of release in the county where you are being supervised if you do not have a residence at the time of your release from custody. Within three (3) business days after losing your fixed residence, you must provide signed written notice to the sheriff of the county where you last registered. If you enter a different county and stay there for more than 24 hours, you will be required to register in the new county within three (3) business days after entering the new county. You must also report weekly in person to the sheriff of the county where you are registered. The weekly report shall be on a day specified by the county sheriff's office, and shall occur during normal business hours. You may be required to provide a list the locations where you have stayed during the last seven days. The lack of a fixed residence is a factor that may be considered in determining an offender's risk level and shall make the offender subject to disclosure of information to the public at large pursuant to RCW 4.24.550.

7. Application for a Name Change: If you apply for a name change, you must submit a copy of the application to the county sheriff of the county of your residence and to the state patrol not fewer than five days before the entry of an order granting the name change. If you receive an order changing your name, you must submit a copy of the order to the county sheriff of the county of your residence and to the state patrol within three (3) business days of the entry of the order. RCW 9A.44.130(7).

[X] The defendant is a sex offender subject to indeterminate sentencing under RCW 9.94A.712

FILED
DEPT. 13
IN OPEN COURT
APR 15 2016
DEPUTY

5.8 [] The court finds that Count _____ is a felony in the commission of which a motor vehicle was used. The clerk of the court is directed to immediately forward an Abstract of Court Record to the Department of Licensing, which must revoke the defendant's driver's license. RCW 46.20.285.

5.9 If the defendant is or becomes subject to court-ordered mental health or chemical dependency treatment the defendant must notify DOC and the defendant's treatment information must be shared with DOC for the duration of the defendant's incarceration and supervision. RCW 9.94A.562.

5.10 OTHER: per COO, Appendices F+H, no contact w/minors, psycho-sex
ual treatment, register as a sex offender, law abiding
behavior

DONE in Open Court and in the presence of the defendant this date: 4/15/16

JUDGE Kathryn J. Nelson
Print name Kathryn J. Nelson
D S Shaw

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Print name: Karen Sanchez
WSB # 35502

Attorney for Defendant
Print name: Daniel S Shea
WSB # 15994

Richard S. Slaughter
Defendant
Print name: RICHARD S. SLAUGHTER

Voting Rights Statement: I acknowledge that I have lost my right to vote because of this felony conviction. If I am registered to vote, my voter registration will be cancelled.

My right to vote is provisionally restored as long as I am not under the authority of DOC (not serving a sentence of confinement in the custody of DOC and not subject to community custody as defined in RCW 9.94A.030). I must re-register before voting. The provisional right to vote may be revoked if I fail to comply with all the terms of my legal financial obligations or an agreement for the payment of legal financial obligations

My right to vote may be permanently restored by one of the following for each felony conviction: a) a certificate of discharge issued by the sentencing court, RCW 9.94A.637; b) a court order issued by the sentencing court restoring the right, RCW 9.92.066; c) a final order of discharge issued by the indeterminate sentence review board, RCW 9.96.050; or d) a certificate of restoration issued by the governor, RCW 9.96.020. Voting before the right is restored is a class C felony, RCW 29A.84.660. Registering to vote before the right is restored is a class C felony, RCW 29A.84.140.

Defendant's signature: Richard S. Slaughter

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

CAUSE NUMBER of this case: 15-1-00660-8

I, KEVIN STOCK Clerk of this Court, certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Judgment and Sentence in the above-entitled action now on record in this office.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the said Superior Court affixed this date:

Clerk of said County and State, by: _____, Deputy Clerk

IDENTIFICATION OF COURT REPORTER

Dana Ely
Court Reporter

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11708
11/19/2016

APPENDIX "F"

The defendant having been sentenced to the Department of Corrections for a:

- sex offense
- serious violent offense
- assault in the second degree
- any crime where the defendant or an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon
- any felony under 69.50 and 69.52

The offender shall report to and be available for contact with the assigned community corrections officer as directed:

The offender shall work at Department of Corrections approved education, employment, and/or community service;

The offender shall not consume controlled substances except pursuant to lawfully issued prescriptions:

An offender in community custody shall not unlawfully possess controlled substances;

The offender shall pay community placement fees as determined by DOC:

The residence location and living arrangements are subject to the prior approval of the department of corrections during the period of community placement.

The offender shall submit to affirmative acts necessary to monitor compliance with court orders as required by DOC.

The Court may also order any of the following special conditions:

(I) The offender shall remain within, or outside of, a specified geographical boundary: per CCO

(II) The offender shall not have direct or indirect contact with the victim of the crime or a specified class of individuals: E.B., minors

(III) The offender shall participate in crime-related treatment or counseling services;

(IV) The offender shall not consume alcohol;

(V) The residence location and living arrangements of a sex offender shall be subject to the prior approval of the department of corrections; or

(VI) The offender shall comply with any crime-related prohibitions.

(VII) Other: per CCO, Appendix H

IDENTIFICATION OF DEFENDANT

SID No. WA27942121
(If no SID take fingerprint card for State Patrol)

Date of Birth 09/08/1946

FBI No. 64163EH7

Local ID No. 872360056

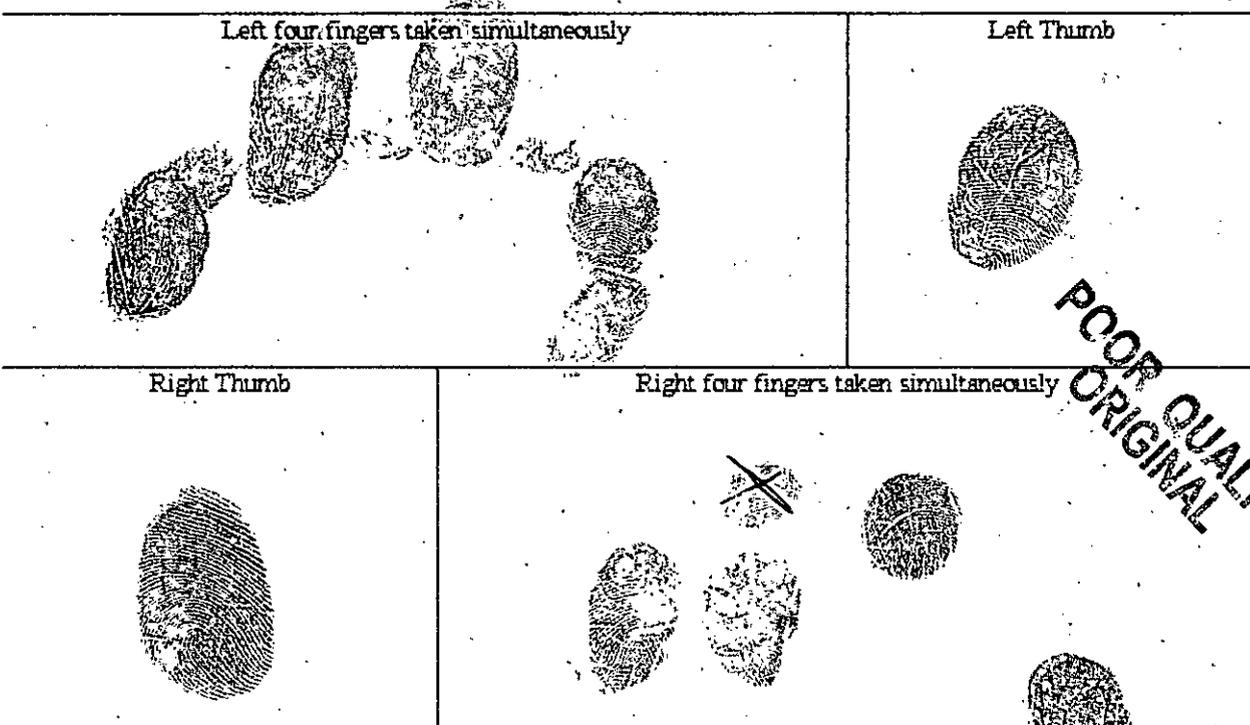
PCN No. UNKNOWN

Other

Alias name, SSN, DOB:

Race:					Ethnicity:		Sex:
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander	<input type="checkbox"/> Black/African-American	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caucasian	<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male			
<input type="checkbox"/> Native American	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic	<input type="checkbox"/> Female			

FINGERPRINTS



I attest that I saw the same defendant who appeared in court on this document affix his or her fingerprints and signature thereto. Clerk of the Court, Deputy Clerk, Angela Ebert

Dated: 4/15/16

DEFENDANT'S SIGNATURE:

X Richard Suban

DEFENDANT'S ADDRESS:

DOC

0019
11708
4/19/2016

APPENDIX B

FILE
IN CLERKS OFFICE
SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WASHINGTON
DATE SEP 20 2018
Fairhurst, CJ
CHIEF JUSTICE

This opinion was filed for record
at 8:00am on Sept 20, 2018

Susan L. Carlson
SUSAN L. CARLSON
SUPREME COURT CLERK

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Respondent,

v.

DAVID ANGEL RAMIREZ,

Petitioner.

NO. 95249-3

EN BANC

Filed SEP 20 2018

STEPHENS, J.—In *State v. Blazina*, 182 Wn.2d 827, 839, 344 P.3d 680 (2015), we held that under former RCW 10.01.160(3) (2015), trial courts have an obligation to conduct an individualized inquiry into a defendant’s current and future ability to pay before imposing discretionary legal financial obligations (LFOs) at sentencing. This case provides an opportunity to more fully describe the nature of such an inquiry. An adequate inquiry must include consideration of the mandatory factors set forth in *Blazina*, including the defendant’s incarceration and other debts, and the court rule GR 34 criteria for indigency. *Id.* at 838. The trial court should also address what we described in *Blazina* as other “important factors” relating to

the defendant's financial circumstances, including employment history, income, assets and other financial resources, monthly living expenses, and other debts. *Id.*

The trial court in David A. Ramirez's case failed to conduct an adequate individualized inquiry before imposing LFOs on Ramirez. While this *Blazina* error would normally entitle Ramirez to a resentencing hearing on his ability to pay discretionary LFOs, such a limited resentencing is unnecessary in this case. Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1783, 65th Leg., Reg. Sess. (Wash. 2018) (House Bill 1783), which amended two statutes at issue and now prohibits the imposition of certain LFOs on indigent defendants, applies prospectively to Ramirez's case on appeal. We reverse the Court of Appeals and remand for the trial court to strike the improperly imposed LFOs from Ramirez's judgment and sentence.

FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

A jury convicted Ramirez of third degree assault and possession of a controlled substance, and found by special verdict that he committed the assault with sexual motivation and displayed an egregious lack of remorse. Clerk's Papers (CP) at 63-66.

At sentencing, the State sought an exceptional sentence of 10 years based on Ramirez's prior record and offender score. 2 Verbatim Report of Proceedings (Mar. 7, 2016) (VRP) at 346. Following the State's argument for imposing an exceptional

sentence, Ramirez took the opportunity to directly address the trial court. Ramirez explained to the court that despite the State's representations, he "was doing everything right" before his arrest. *Id.* at 360. Ramirez shared that prior to his arrest, he was working a minimum wage job at Weyerhaeuser as part of a "temporary service team" and paying all his household bills, including a DirecTV subscription that included Seattle Seahawks games. *Id.* at 359-60, 362-63. Ramirez had opened a bank account for the first time in his life, was planning on getting his driver's license, and had moved into his own apartment with the help of his wife. *Id.* at 360, 362. Ramirez discussed these favorable aspects of his life in an effort to show that despite his criminal history, he did not deserve an exceptional sentence. Suppl. Br. of Pet'r at 3. He lamented that because of his drug relapse and arrest, "I missed out on all of that." VRP at 363.¹

The trial court sentenced Ramirez to five years for the third degree assault conviction and two years for possession of a controlled substance, to be served consecutively. *Id.* at 372-73. The trial court also imposed \$2,900 in LFOs, including a \$500 victim assessment fee, a \$100 DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) collection fee, a \$200 criminal filing fee, and discretionary LFOs of \$2,100 in attorney fees, and set

¹ Ramirez's full statement was, "I missed out on all of that because I screwed up before even the first Seahawk game. That was the weekend that I screwed up. It was the Saturday before the first Seahawk game." VRP at 363.

a monthly payment amount of \$25. *Id.* at 375-76. After the court announced the sentence, Ramirez presented a notice of appeal and a motion for an order of indigency, which the court granted. *Id.* at 373; Suppl. CP at 1-4. According to the financial statement in his declaration of indigency, Ramirez had no source of income or assets and no savings, and owed more than \$10,000 at the time of sentencing (apparently previously imposed court costs and fees). Suppl. CP at 2-4.

Prior to imposing LFOs, the trial court asked only two questions relating to Ramirez's current and future ability to pay, both of which were directed to the State. First, the court asked, "And when he is not in jail, he has the ability to make money to make periodic payments on his LFOs, right?" VRP at 348. The State responded that Ramirez had the ability to pay his LFOs "[w]hen he's not in jail and when he is in jail," noting that Ramirez could work while incarcerated. *Id.* The trial court then asked the State to once more confirm that LFOs were appropriate in Ramirez's case: "But as far as you are concerned, the LFOs should be imposed." *Id.* The State answered, "Yes." *Id.*

The trial court did not directly ask Ramirez or his counsel about his ability to pay at any point during sentencing. The only statement made by Ramirez concerning his ability to pay came after the trial court announced its decision to impose discretionary costs. After finding that Ramirez had "the ability to earn money and

make small payments on his financial obligations,” the court listed the specific costs imposed and ordered Ramirez to pay “25 bucks a month starting [in] 60 days.” *Id.* at 375-76. Ramirez then asked, “How am I going to do that from inside?” *Id.* at 376. Ramirez’s counsel responded, “I will explain.” *Id.* The discussion then moved on to a different subject.²

On appeal, Ramirez argued that the trial court failed to make an adequate individualized inquiry into his ability to pay before imposing discretionary LFOs, contrary to *Blazina*, 182 Wn.2d at 837-38.³ In a 2-1 unpublished opinion, Division Two of the Court of Appeals affirmed the trial court, holding that the court “conducted an adequate individualized inquiry and did not err in imposing the discretionary LFOs.” *State v. Ramirez*, No. 48705-5-II, slip op. at 13 (Wash. Ct. App. Oct. 24, 2017) (unpublished), <https://www.courts.wa.gov/opinions/pdf/D2%2048705-5-II%20Unpublished%20Opinion.pdf>. In reviewing the trial court’s decision to impose discretionary LFOs on Ramirez, the Court of Appeals majority applied an overall abuse of discretion standard; it cited the information

² Ramirez’s counsel made only one mention of LFOs, in correcting the trial court’s original estimate of the amount of attorney fees. The court initially stated that these discretionary costs totaled \$900, but Ramirez’s counsel clarified that \$2,100 was the correct amount. VRP at 375.

³ Ramirez’s appeal additionally raised several guilt-phase claims of error, which the Court of Appeals rejected. *State v. Ramirez*, No. 48705-5-II, slip op. at 7-11, 13-15 (Wash. Ct. App. Oct. 24, 2017) (unpublished), <https://www.courts.wa.gov/opinions/pdf/D2%2048705-5-II%20Unpublished%20Opinion.pdf>. These issues are not before us.

offered by Ramirez in his statement to the trial court as sufficient grounds for finding Ramirez able to pay LFOs. *Id.* at 12-13.

In dissent, Chief Judge Bjorgen argued that the question of whether a trial court made an adequate inquiry into a defendant's ability to pay discretionary LFOs should be reviewed de novo, not for an abuse of discretion. *Id.* at 16 (Bjorgen, C.J., dissenting). Applying the de novo standard, Chief Judge Bjorgen concluded that the trial court's inquiry into Ramirez's financial status fell short of the *Blazina* standards. *Id.* at 19.

On March 7, 2018, we granted Ramirez's petition for review "only on the issue of discretionary [LFOs]." Order Granting Review, No. 95249-3 (Wash. Mar. 7, 2018). On March 27, 2018, just weeks after we granted Ramirez's petition, House Bill 1783 became law. LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269. House Bill 1783's amendments relate to Washington's system for imposing and collecting LFOs and are effective as of June 7, 2018. House Bill 1783 is particularly relevant to Ramirez's case because it amends the discretionary LFO statute to prohibit trial courts from imposing discretionary LFOs on defendants who are indigent at the time of sentencing. *Id.* at § 6(3).

ANALYSIS

This case concerns Washington's system of LFOs, specifically the imposition of discretionary LFOs on individuals who lack the current and future ability to pay them. State law requires that trial courts consider the financial resources of a defendant and the nature of the burden imposed by LFOs before ordering the defendant to pay discretionary costs. *See* RCW 10.01.160(3).

We addressed former RCW 10.01.160(3) in *Blazina* and held that the statute requires trial courts to conduct an individualized inquiry into the financial circumstances of each offender before levying any discretionary LFOs. 182 Wn.2d at 839. As Ramirez's case demonstrates, however, costs are often imposed with very little discussion. We granted review in this case to articulate specific inquiries trial courts should make in determining whether an individual has the current and future ability to pay discretionary costs.

After we granted review, the legislature enacted House Bill 1783, which amends former RCW 10.01.160(3) to categorically prohibit the imposition of any discretionary costs on indigent defendants. LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269, § 6(3). House Bill 1783 also amends the criminal filing fee statute, former RCW 36.18.020(2)(h) (2015), to prohibit courts from imposing the \$200 filing fee on indigent defendants. LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269, § 17(2)(h). According to Ramirez's motion for an order of

indigency, which the trial court granted, Ramirez unquestionably qualified as indigent at the time of sentencing: Ramirez had no source of income or assets and no savings, and owed more than \$10,000 at the time of sentencing. Suppl. CP at 3-4.

This case presents two issues. The primary issue is whether the trial court conducted an adequate individualized inquiry into Ramirez's ability to pay, as required under *Blazina* and former RCW 10.01.160(3). A separate but related issue is whether House Bill 1783's statutory amendments apply to Ramirez's case on appeal.

I. The Trial Court Did Not Conduct an Adequate Individualized Inquiry into Ramirez's Current and Future Ability To Pay LFOs

The threshold issue in this case is whether the trial court performed an adequate inquiry into Ramirez's present and future ability to pay before imposing discretionary LFOs. In addressing this issue, we must decide what standard of review applies to a trial court's decision to impose discretionary LFOs. The Court of Appeals was seemingly split on this question, with the majority applying an overall abuse of discretion standard and the dissenting judge applying de novo review. We address the proper standard of review before turning to the merits of Ramirez's argument.

A. *The Adequacy of the Trial Court's Individualized Inquiry into a Defendant's Ability To Pay Discretionary LFOs Should Be Reviewed De Novo*

As Ramirez correctly points out, the question of whether the trial court adequately inquired into his ability to pay discretionary LFOs involves both a factual and a legal component. Suppl. Br. of Pet'r at 16. On the factual side, the reviewing court determines what evidence the trial court actually considered in making the *Blazina* inquiry. Chief Judge Bjorgen aptly observed that the factual determination can be decided by simply examining the record for supporting evidence.⁴ *Ramirez*, slip op. at 17 (Bjorgen, C.J., dissenting). On the legal side, the reviewing court decides whether the trial court's inquiry complied with the requirements of *Blazina*. Both the majority and dissenting opinions below recognized that this legal inquiry merits de novo review. *See id.* at 13 n.4 (“[w]hether or not a trial court makes an individualized inquiry is reviewed de novo”), 17 (Bjorgen, C.J., dissenting) (describing this as “an unalloyed legal question”).

⁴ Ramirez criticizes Chief Judge Bjorgen for embracing a “clearly erroneous” standard of review for factual determinations, based on prior appellate decisions. *See* Suppl. Br. of Pet'r at 17 & n.6. Ramirez insists that “substantial evidence” is the correct Washington standard, while “clear error” applies in federal courts. *Id.* We believe the distinction is semantic in this context. The very case Ramirez cites as identifying different state and federal standards says, “[W]e review [factual findings] for substantial evidence, which is analogous to the ‘clear error’ test applied by the federal courts.” *Steele v. Lundgren*, 85 Wn. App. 845, 850, 935 P.2d 671 (1997).

Given their shared recognition that de novo review applies to the question of whether the trial court complied with *Blazina*, the split in the Court of Appeals may be more a difference in emphasis than in substance. *Blazina* establishes what constitutes an adequate inquiry into a defendant's ability to pay under state law, and the standard of review for an issue involving questions of law is de novo. *State v. Hanson*, 151 Wn.2d 783, 784-85, 91 P.3d 888 (2004). Ramirez is correct that the *Blazina* inquiry is similar to other inquiries trial judges make that are subject to de novo review. See Suppl. Br. of Pet'r at 16-17 (citing *State v. Vicuna*, 119 Wn. App. 26, 30-31, 79 P.3d 1 (2003) (applying de novo review to determination of whether a conflict exists between attorney and client); *State v. Ramirez-Dominguez*, 140 Wn. App. 233, 239, 165 P.3d 391 (2007) (applying de novo review to determination of whether the defendant knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily waived his right to a jury trial)).

That said, the trial court's ultimate decision whether to impose discretionary LFOs is undoubtedly discretionary. The trial court must balance the defendant's ability to pay against the burden of his obligation, which is an exercise of discretion. *State v. Baldwin*, 63 Wn. App. 303, 312, 818 P.2d 1116 (1991). But, discretion is necessarily abused when it is manifestly unreasonable or based on untenable grounds or reasons. *State v. Stenson*, 132 Wn.2d 668, 701, 940 P.2d 1239 (1997). If the trial

court fails to conduct an individualized inquiry into the defendant's financial circumstances, as RCW 10.01.160(3) requires, and nonetheless imposes discretionary LFOs on the defendant, the trial court has per se abused its discretionary power. Stated differently, the court's exercise of discretion is unreasonable when it is premised on a legal error. The focus of Ramirez's argument for de novo review is squarely on the trial court's legal error in failing to conduct an individualized inquiry. Thus, while the State is correct that the abuse of discretion standard of review is relevant to the broad question of whether discretionary LFOs were validly imposed, de novo review applies to the alleged error in this case: the failure to make an adequate inquiry under *Blazina*.

B. The Trial Court's Inquiry into Ramirez's Ability To Pay Discretionary LFOs Was Inadequate under Blazina

The legal question before us is whether the trial court's inquiry into Ramirez's current and future ability to pay discretionary LFOs was adequate under *Blazina*. In *Blazina*, we held that former RCW 10.01.160(3) requires the trial court to conduct an individualized inquiry on the record concerning a defendant's current and future ability to pay before imposing discretionary LFOs. 182 Wn.2d at 839. We explained that "the court must do more than sign a judgment and sentence with boilerplate language stating that it engaged in the required inquiry." *Id.* at 838. As part of this inquiry, the trial court is required to consider "important factors," such as

incarceration and the defendant's other debts, when determining a defendant's ability to pay. *Id.* Additionally, we specifically instructed courts to look for additional guidance in the comment to court rule GR 34, which lists the ways a person may prove indigent status for the purpose of seeking a waiver of filing fees and surcharges. *Id.*; *City of Richland v. Wakefield*, 186 Wn.2d 596, 606-07, 380 P.3d 459 (2016). As we further clarified, "if someone does meet the GR 34 standard for indigency, courts should seriously question that person's ability to pay LFOs." *Blazina*, 182 Wn.2d at 839.

Here, the record shows that the trial court asked only two questions concerning Ramirez's ability to pay LFOs, both of which were directed to the State. First, the court asked, "And when he is not in jail, he has the ability to make money to make periodic payments on his LFOs, right?" VRP at 348. The State responded, "When he's not in jail and when he is in jail," noting that Ramirez could work while incarcerated. *Id.* The court then asked the State for clarification on the LFO issue: "But as far as you are concerned, the LFOs should be imposed." *Id.* In response, the State simply answered, "Yes." *Id.* The record reflects that these two questions, directed to the State, are the only questions asked by the trial court relating to Ramirez's ability to pay discretionary LFOs before ordering him to pay \$25 per month starting in 60 days. When Ramirez asked, "How am I going to do that from

inside?” *id.* at 376, the trial court said nothing. Ramirez’s counsel said, “I will explain,” and the court moved on. *Id.*

The court made no inquiry into Ramirez’s debts, which his declaration of indigency listed as exceeding \$10,000 at the time of sentencing (apparently previously imposed court costs and fees). Suppl. CP at 4. Nor does the record reflect that the trial court inquired into whether Ramirez met the GR 34 standard for indigency. Had the court looked to GR 34 for guidance, as required under *Blazina*, it would have confirmed that Ramirez was indigent at the time of sentencing—his income fell below 125 percent of the federal poverty guideline. As we explained in *Blazina*, “if someone does meet the GR 34 standard for indigency, courts should seriously question that person’s ability to pay LFOs.” 182 Wn.2d at 839; *Wakefield*, 186 Wn.2d at 607. The record does not reflect that the trial court meaningfully inquired into any of the mandatory *Blazina* factors.

The trial court also failed to consider other “important factors” relating to Ramirez’s current and future ability to pay discretionary LFOs, such as Ramirez’s income, his assets and other financial resources, his monthly living expenses, and his employment history. *Blazina*, 182 Wn.2d at 838. In *Blazina*, we held that “[t]he record must reflect that the trial court made an individualized inquiry into the defendant’s current and future ability to pay,” which requires the court to consider

“important factors,” in addition to the mandatory factors discussed above. *Id.* The only information in the record about Ramirez’s financial situation came during Ramirez’s allocution and was offered to show how he had been putting his life in order prior to his arrest. The court made no inquiry.

Consistent with *Blazina*’s instruction that courts use GR 34 as a guide for determining whether someone has an ability to pay discretionary costs, we believe the financial statement section of Ramirez’s motion for indigency would have provided a reliable framework for the individualized inquiry that *Blazina* and RCW 10.01.160(3) require. In determining a defendant’s indigency status, the financial statement section of the motion for indigency asks the defendant to answer questions relating to five broad categories: (1) employment history, (2) income, (3) assets and other financial resources, (4) monthly living expenses, and (5) other debts. *See* Suppl. CP at 2-4. These categories are equally relevant to determining a defendant’s ability to pay discretionary LFOs.

Regarding employment history, a trial court should inquire into the defendant’s present employment and past work experience. The court should also inquire into the defendant’s income, as well as the defendant’s assets and other financial resources. Finally, the court should ask questions about the defendant’s monthly expenses, and as identified in *Blazina*, the court must ask about the

defendant's other debts, including other LFOs, health care costs, or education loans. To satisfy *Blazina* and RCW 10.01.160(3)'s mandate that the State cannot collect costs from defendants who are unable to pay, the record must reflect that the trial court inquired into all five of these categories before deciding to impose discretionary costs. That did not happen here.

The State argues, and the Court of Appeals majority agreed, that despite any lack of inquiry by the trial court into Ramirez's ability to pay, statements by Ramirez during his allocution were adequate to support the imposition of discretionary LFOs. Resp't's Br. at 4. In opposing the State's request for an exceptional sentence, Ramirez told the court he was "doing everything right" prior to his arrest—he was working a minimum wage job at Weyerhaeuser on a "temporary service team," his wife had helped him get his own apartment, he was paying his household bills, including a DirecTV subscription, and he had opened a bank account for the first time in his life and was hoping to get a driver's license. VRP at 359-363. Ramirez did not offer this information in the context of assessing his current and future ability to pay LFOs, but rather in an effort to "counter the State's negative portrayal of him and direct the court's attention to his accomplishments in order to persuade the court he was deserving of a lesser sentence." Suppl. Br. of Pet'r at 19.

Notably, while the Court of Appeals majority viewed Ramirez's statements as supporting imposition of discretionary costs, there is no indication in the record that the trial court actually relied on any of Ramirez's statements. *See Ramirez*, slip op. at 13.⁵ Nor would reliance on Ramirez's statements be reasonable, given that Ramirez was describing his circumstances and the positive strides he had made in the months *prior* to his arrest. As his statements at sentencing and his declaration of indigency make clear, all of that changed. Indeed, Ramirez lamented that after being on the right track, he "screwed up" and lost everything. VRP at 363.

RCW 10.01.160(3) requires the trial court to inquire into a person's present and future ability to pay LFOs. This inquiry must be made on the record, and courts should be cautious of any after-the-fact attempt to justify the imposition of LFOs based on information offered by a defendant for an entirely different purpose. Judges understand that defendants want to appear in their best light at sentencing. It

⁵ The Court of Appeals inferred that the trial court's decision was based on Ramirez's statements:

Here, the court considered that Ramirez had recently been released from custody, was working in a minimum wage job, and had been paying his household bills. Ramirez also told the court that he had opened a bank account for the first time in his life and "was just getting on track[.]" He added that although he was working a minimum wage job "it was fine because it took care of everything." Thus, we hold that the court conducted an adequate individualized inquiry and did not err in imposing the discretionary LFOs.

Ramirez, slip op. at 13 (citations omitted).

is precisely for this reason that the judge's obligation is to engage in an on-the-record individualized inquiry into the defendant's ability to pay discretionary LFOs.

We hold that the trial court failed to make an adequate individualized inquiry into Ramirez's current and future ability to pay prior to imposing discretionary LFOs. Normally, this *Blazina* error would entitle Ramirez to a full resentencing hearing on his ability to pay LFOs. The timing of Ramirez's appeal, however, makes this case somewhat unusual. After we granted review, the legislature passed House Bill 1783, which amends two LFO statutes at issue. LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269. House Bill 1783 amends the discretionary LFO statute, former RCW 10.01.160, to prohibit courts from imposing discretionary costs on a defendant who is indigent at the time of sentencing as defined in RCW 10.101.010(3)(a) through (c). LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269, § 6(3). House Bill 1783 also amends the criminal filing fee statute, former RCW 36.18.020(h), to prohibit courts from imposing the \$200 filing fee on indigent defendants. LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269, § 17(2)(h).

Ramirez argues that House Bill 1783's amendments apply to his case on appeal because he qualified as indigent at the time of sentencing and his case was not yet final when House Bill 1783 was enacted. Suppl. Br. of Pet'r at 8-10. As for the remedy, Ramirez asks us to strike the discretionary LFOs and the \$200 criminal filing fee from his judgment and sentence rather than remand his case for

resentencing. For the reasons discussed below, we agree that House Bill 1783 applies on appeal to invalidate Ramirez's discretionary LFOs (and the \$200 criminal filing fee) and that resentencing is unnecessary in this case.

II. House Bill 1783 Applies Prospectively to Ramirez's Case Because the Statutory Amendments Pertain to Costs and His Case on Direct Review Is Not Yet Final

House Bill 1783's amendments modify Washington's system of LFOs, addressing some of the worst facets of the system that prevent offenders from rebuilding their lives after conviction. For example, House Bill 1783 eliminates interest accrual on the nonrestitution portions of LFOs, it establishes that the DNA database fee is no longer mandatory if the offender's DNA has been collected because of a prior conviction, and it provides that a court may not sanction an offender for failure to pay LFOs unless the failure to pay is willful. LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269, §§ 1, 18, 7. Relevant here, House Bill 1783 amends the discretionary LFO statute, former RCW 10.01.160, to prohibit courts from imposing discretionary costs on a defendant who is indigent at the time of sentencing. LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269, § 6(3). It also prohibits imposing the \$200 filing fee on indigent defendants. *Id.* § 17. Because House Bill 1783 was enacted *after* we granted Ramirez's petition for review, we must decide whether House Bill 1783's amendments apply to Ramirez's case on appeal. We hold that House Bill 1783 applies prospectively to Ramirez

because the statutory amendments pertain to costs imposed on criminal defendants following conviction, and Ramirez's case was pending on direct review and thus not final when the amendments were enacted.

At the time of Ramirez's sentencing in 2016, the discretionary cost statute provided that "[t]he court shall not order a defendant to pay costs unless the defendant is or will be able to pay them." Former RCW 10.01.160(3). In making this determination, the statute instructed the trial court to "take account of the financial resources of the defendant and the nature of the burden that payment of costs will impose." *Id.* The statutory language directs that the trial court must consider a defendant's current and future ability to pay before deciding to impose discretionary costs on the defendant.

House Bill 1783 amends former RCW 10.01.160(3) to expressly prohibit courts from imposing discretionary costs on defendants who are indigent at the time of sentencing: "The court shall not order a defendant to pay costs if the defendant at the time of sentencing is indigent as defined in RCW 10.101.010(3)(a) through (c)." LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269, § 6(3). Under RCW 10.101.010(3)(a) through (c), a person is "indigent" if the person receives certain types of public assistance, is involuntarily committed to a public mental health facility, or receives an annual income after taxes of 125 percent or less of the current federal poverty level. If the defendant is not

indigent, the amendment instructs the court to engage in the same individualized inquiry into the defendant's ability to pay as previously required under former RCW 10.01.160(3), i.e., to assess "the financial resources of the defendant and the nature of the burden that payment of costs will impose." *Id.* In this case, there is no question that Ramirez satisfied the indigency requirements of RCW 10.101.010(3)(c) at the time of sentencing. Accordingly, if House Bill 1783 applies to Ramirez's case, the trial court impermissibly imposed discretionary LFOs on Ramirez.

As noted, House Bill 1783 also amends the criminal filing fee statute, former RCW 36.18.020(2)(h), to prohibit charging the \$200 criminal filing fee to defendants who are indigent at the time of sentencing. LAWS OF 2018, ch. 269, § 17. Thus, if House Bill 1783's amendments apply to Ramirez's case on appeal, the trial court improperly imposed both the discretionary costs of \$2,100 and the criminal filing fee.

This is not our first occasion to consider the prospective application of cost statutes to criminal cases on appeal. In *State v. Blank*, 131 Wn.2d 230, 249, 930 P.2d 1213 (1997), we held that a statute imposing appellate costs applied prospectively to the defendants' cases on appeal. In *Blank*, the defendants' appeals were pending when the legislature enacted a statute providing for recoupment of

appellate defense costs from a convicted defendant. *Id.* at 234. In determining whether the statute applied to the defendants' cases, we clarified that "[a] statute operates prospectively when the precipitating event for [its] application . . . occurs after the effective date of the statute." *Id.* at 248 (alterations in original) (quoting *Aetna Life Ins. Co. v. Wash. Life & Disability Ins. Guar. Ass'n*, 83 Wn.2d 523, 535, 520 P.2d 162 (1974)). We concluded that the "precipitating event" for a statute "concerning attorney fees and costs of litigation" was the termination of the defendant's case and held that the statute therefore applied prospectively to cases that were pending on appeal when the costs statute was enacted. *Id.* at 249 (citing *Kilpatrick v. Dep't of Labor & Indus.*, 125 Wn.2d 222, 232, 883 P.2d 1370, 915 P.2d 519 (1994) (holding that the right to attorney fees is governed by the statute in force at the termination of the action)).

Similar to the statute at issue in *Blank*, House Bill 1783's amendments concern the court's ability to impose costs on a criminal defendant following conviction. House Bill 1783 amends former RCW 10.01.160(3) by expressly prohibiting the imposition of discretionary LFOs on defendants like Ramirez who are indigent at the time of sentencing; the amendment conclusively establishes that courts do not have discretion to impose such LFOs. And, like the defendants in *Blank*, Ramirez's case was on appeal as a matter of right and thus was not yet final

under RAP 12.7 when House Bill 1783 became effective. Because House Bill 1783's amendments pertain to costs imposed upon conviction and Ramirez's case was not yet final when the amendments were enacted, Ramirez is entitled to benefit from this statutory change.

Applying House Bill 1783 to the facts of this case, we hold that the trial court impermissibly imposed discretionary LFOs of \$2,100, as well as the \$200 criminal filing fee, on Ramirez. We reverse the Court of Appeals and remand for the trial court to amend the judgment and sentence to strike the improperly imposed LFOs.

CONCLUSION

In *Blazina*, we held that under former RCW 10.73.160(3), trial courts have an obligation to conduct an individualized inquiry into a defendant's current and future ability to pay discretionary LFOs before imposing them at sentencing. Today, we articulate specific inquiries trial courts should make in determining whether an individual has the current and future ability to pay discretionary costs. Trial courts must meaningfully inquire into the mandatory factors established by *Blazina*, such as a defendant's incarceration and other debts, or whether a defendant meets the GR 34 standard for indigency. Trial courts must also consider other "important factors" relating to a defendant's financial circumstances, including employment history, income, assets and other financial resources, monthly living expenses, and other

debts. Under this framework, trial courts must conduct an on-the-record inquiry into the mandatory *Blazina* factors and other “important factors” before imposing discretionary LFOs.

We reverse the Court of Appeals and hold that the trial court failed to conduct an adequate *Blazina* inquiry into Ramirez’s current and future ability to pay. Although this *Blazina* error would normally entitle Ramirez to a resentencing hearing on his ability to pay, resentencing is unnecessary in this case. House Bill 1783, which prohibits the imposition of discretionary LFOs on an indigent defendant, applies on appeal to invalidate Ramirez’s discretionary LFOs (and the \$200 criminal filing fee). We remand for the trial court to strike the \$2,100 discretionary LFOs and the \$200 filing fee from Ramirez’s judgment and sentence.

Stipan, J.

WE CONCUR:

Fairhurst, C.J.

Johnson

Madden, J.

Owens, J.

Wiggins, J.

Gonzalez, J.

Robt. McCool, J.

Jr., J.

RUSSELL SELK LAW OFFICE

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