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Court of Appeals
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State of Washington
1/22/2025 4:19 PM

Supreme Court No. (COA No. 85196-9-I) Case #: 1038186

THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Respondent,

v.

SIDNEY SMITH,

Petitioner.

ON APPEAL FROM THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR KING COUNTY

PETITION FOR REVIEW

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A. INTRODUCTION

When the court sentenced Sidney Smith to a stipulated exceptional sentence above the standard range, it included an unconstitutional conviction in his offender score. As a result, Mr. Smith's standard range was higher than it should have been. Mr. Smith filed a CrR 7.8 motion and the court agreed he made a substantial showing he was entitled to relief.

Nevertheless, it refused to resentence him believing his offender score was irrelevant to the sentence.

The Court of Appeals affirmed, misunderstanding the relevance of this Court's decision in *In re Fletcher*, 3 Wn.3d. 356, 552 P.3d 302 (2024). As in *Fletcher*, Mr. Smith's judgment and sentence is facially invalid and his motion for resentencing was timely. Moreover, *Fletcher* rejected the notion that because the parties stipulated to an exceptional sentence, Mr. Smith's offender score calculation was irrelevant. Instead, the error resulted in a complete miscarriage of justice and entitled Mr. Smith to resentencing. Because the Court of

Appeals failed to apply binding precedent, this Court should grant review.

B. IDENTITY OF PETITIONER

Sidney Smith, the petitioner here and appellant below, asks this Court to accept review of the Court of Appeals' decision terminating review. RAP 13.3, RAP 13.4.

C. COURT OF APPEALS DECISION

Mr. Smith seeks review of the Court of Appeals' decision dated December 23, 2024, attached as Appendix A.

D. ISSUES PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

This Court held that a defendant who pleads guilty and stipulates to an exceptional sentence above the standard range based on an inaccurate offender score and inflated standard range is entitled to resentencing. *Fletcher*, 3 Wn.3d at 368. The Court of Appeals recognized Mr. Smith's offender score included a point for an unconstitutional and void conviction of possession of a controlled substance. It also recognized that Mr. Smith pleaded guilty and stipulated to an exceptional sentence

based on an inaccurate and inflated standard range. This Court made clear in *Fletcher* that a defendant like Mr. Smith is entitled to resentencing. Because the Court of Appeals' decision to affirm plainly misapprehends this Court's recent precedent, this Court should accept review. RAP 13.4(b)(1).

E. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

In 2015, Sidney Smith pleaded guilty to two counts of vehicular assault. CP 21, 30; RP 6. As part of his plea agreement, the parties jointly requested an aggravated exceptional sentence of 95 months for each count and asked the court to impose consecutive terms of imprisonment for a total of 190 months. CP 14, 30, 32; RP 8-11, 10, 24.

At the time, Mr. Smith's offender score of 9 included one point for possession of a controlled substance and resulted in a standard range sentence of 51-68 months. CP 34-35; RCW 9.94A.510. However, the parties stipulated that a sentence above the standard range served the interests of justice because Mr. Smith had two prior strike offenses and faced prosecution

for a third. CP 31-32, 34-35, 43; RP 23-24; RCW 9.94A.535(2)(a). One of those prior strike offenses was robbery in the second degree.

The court accepted the agreed recommendation, finding the exceptional sentence furthered the interests of justice and was consistent with the purposes of the Sentencing Reform Act. RP 19, 28; CP 37-39, 43.

After this Court's decision in *State v. Blake*, 197 Wn.2d 170, 481 P.3d 521 (2021), Mr. Smith filed a CrR 7.8 motion to be resentenced based on a correct offender score of 8 and reduced presumptive standard range of 43-57 months. RP 34; CP 64-72; RCW 9.94A.510.

The trial court correctly acknowledged that Mr. Smith made a substantial showing he was entitled to relief under CrR 7.8 because "it is undisputed that the standard range included in the Judgment and Sentence included a conviction under a statute found to be unconstitutional and it was 'used' to calculate the standard range." CP 178. In fact, the plea

agreement expressly stated, "[a]n essential term of this agreement is the parties' understanding of the standard sentencing range" CP 30.

However, the court refused to resentence Mr. Smith believing the standard range was essentially irrelevant to Mr. Smith's sentence. It said, "[t]here is no evidence that the judge even considered imposing a standard range sentence." CP 180.

Mr. Smith appealed, arguing he was entitled to resentencing under the plain language of CrR 7.8 and this Court's recent decision in *Fletcher*. The Court of Appeals agreed Mr. Smith's CrR 7.8 motion was properly retained by the trial court as timely. App. A. at 5. It acknowledged *Fletcher* and its obvious parallels, but observed that Mr. Smith's miscalculated standard range was less egregiously inflated than in *Fletcher*. App. A. at 9-10. For that reason, the Court of Appeals held the error did not constitute a complete miscarriage of justice and it affirmed. App. A. at 10-11.

F. LAW AND ARGUMENT

Mr. Smith is entitled to resentencing under this Court's decision in *Fletcher* where his miscalculated offender score resulted in a complete miscarriage of justice.

In *Fletcher*, this Court reaffirmed the longstanding principle that "a sentence that is based upon an incorrect offender score is a fundamental defect that inherently results in a miscarriage of justice." 3 Wn.3d at 380 (citing *In re Pers. Restraint of Goodwin*, 146 Wn.2d 861, 868, 50 P.3d 618 (2002)). The Court of Appeals recognized that Mr. Smith's sentence was based on an inaccurate offender score and inflated standard range, and yet refused to adhere to this Court's clear and binding precedent. Review is thus warranted under RAP 13.4(b)(1).

In *Fletcher*, the defendant stipulated to an exceptional sentence based on improper sentencing calculations. 3 Wn.3d at 362. This Court concluded there was a high probability that the mistake affected the original sentence. *Id.* at 381. The Court has consistently reached the same conclusion in cases involving

inaccurately high offender scores and sentences that exceed the court's statutory authority. *See e.g., Goodwin*, 146 Wn.2d 861 (inflated standard range); *In re Call*, 144 Wn.2d 315, 28 P.3d 709 (2001) (same); *In re West*, 154 Wn.2d 204, 110 P.3d 1122 (2005) (barring early release time without statutory authority).

Despite this Court's binding precedent, the Court of Appeals refused to reach the same conclusion here. Here, the sentencing court inaccurately believed Mr. Smith's offender score was 9 and his standard range was 51–68 months. RP 8–11; CP 14, 15, 31–32. His standard range based on a correct offender score of 8 is 43–57 months. RCW 9.94A.510. Because the standard range is the statutorily required departure point, there is a "great likelihood that the judge relied, at least in part, on the incorrect standard ranges" in calculating an exceptional sentence. *State v. Parker*, 132 Wn.2d 182, 190, 937 P.2d 575 (1997). Where, as here, the court relied on a standard range with a top range sentence nearly a year above the statutorily

authorized standard range, there is a high probability the mistake affected the original sentence.

The Court of Appeals misapplied this Court's precedent by focusing on the magnitude of the difference between the incorrect and correct standard range. App. A. at 9-10. It emphasized that the miscalculated standard range in *Fletcher* was "more than three times what was allowed under the correct score[,]" and quoted this Court's description of the error as "dramatic" and "significant." App. A. at 9-10.

But *Fletcher* did not establish a baseline for how excessive a standard range calculation must be in order for a defendant to show a fundamental defect resulting in a complete miscarriage of justice. The Court of Appeals was wrong to construe this Court's commentary on the egregious miscalculation in *Fletcher* as legal basis for denying Mr. Smith resentencing. App. A. at 11.

Fletcher makes clear the Court of Appeals should have reversed the trial court and remanded Mr. Smith's case for

resentencing. Because it affirmed in conflict with this Court's binding precedent, this Court should grant review and reiterate the standard for showing a fundamental defect resulting in a complete miscarriage of justice. RAP 13.4(b)(1).

G. CONCLUSION

Mr. Smith's sentence is based on an incorrect offender score and he is entitled to resentencing under this Court's clear precedent. He respectfully requests that this Court grant the petition.

This petition is 1,354 words long and complies with RAP 18.7.

DATED this 22nd day of January 2025.

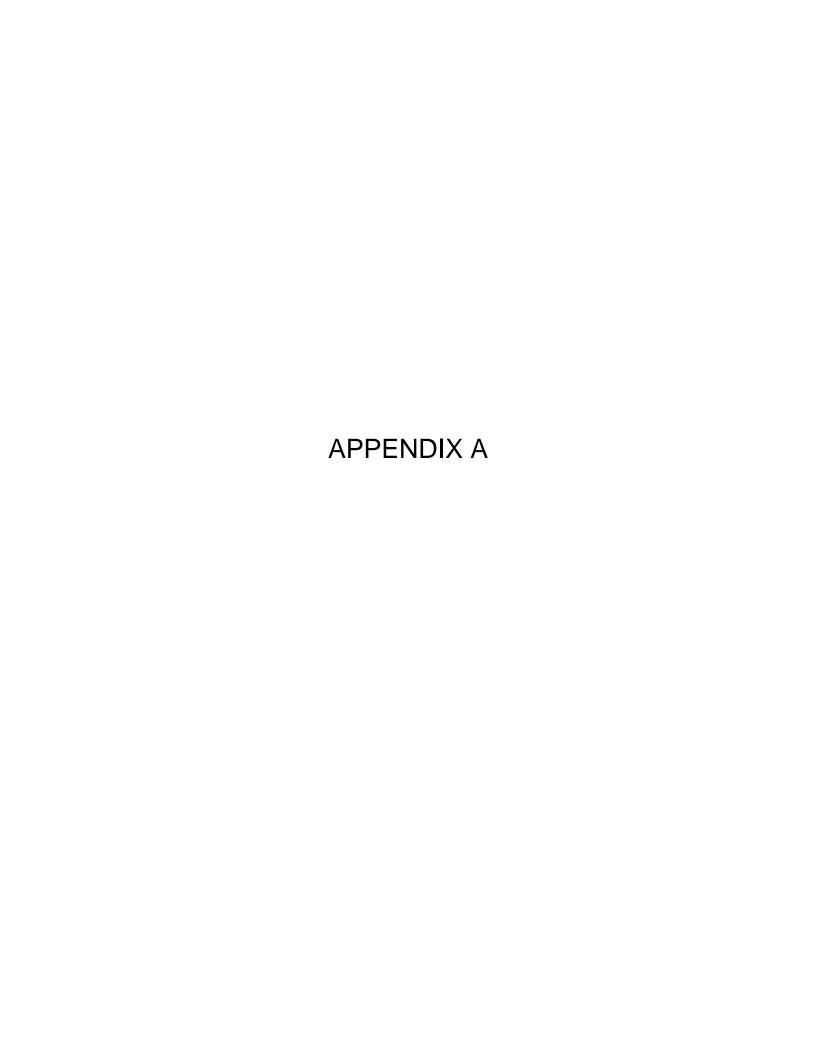
Respectfully submitted,

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FILED 12/23/2024 Court of Appeals Division I State of Washington

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON,

Respondent,

٧.

SIDNEY GUY SMITH,

Appellant.

No. 85196-9-I

DIVISION ONE

UNPUBLISHED OPINION

MANN, J. — Sidney Smith pleaded guilty to two counts of vehicular assault and was sentenced using an offender score calculated to include a prior conviction of possession of a controlled substance. Convictions for possession of a controlled substance have since been invalidated by State v. Blake, 197 Wn.2d 170, 481 P.3d 521 (2021). Smith unsuccessfully moved for resentencing under CrR 7.8 arguing his offender score was incorrectly calculated to include the possession conviction. On appeal, Smith argues that he is entitled to resentencing under the plain language of CrR 7.8(c), and that his miscalculated score amounts to a fundamental defect resulting in a complete miscarriage of justice. We affirm.

Ι

On January 1, 2013, Smith was driving a stolen car at a high rate of speed while evading police when he crossed into an oncoming lane and struck another vehicle head

on. The occupants of the other vehicle, three sisters, suffered serious injuries including a fractured leg and a fractured pelvis. A subsequent blood test revealed Smith had consumed methamphetamine and cannabis. Smith was charged with two counts of vehicular assault for driving while under the influence. Such an assault is considered a "most serious offense" and is a strike offense under Washington's Persistent Offender Accountability Act. RCW 9.94A.030(32)(p), .030(37), .570; State v. Reynolds, 2 Wn.3d 195, 200, 535 P.3d 427 (2023).

Smith was previously convicted of several felonies in California including second degree robbery and second degree rape—both considered strike offenses in 2015—and one conviction for possession of a controlled substance. In light of his criminal history, Smith was facing a third strike and punishment of life without the possibility of parole if he proceeded to trial. Instead, Smith pleaded guilty to two counts of the non-strike crime of vehicular assault with disregard for the safety of others.

Smith's offender score of 9 was calculated by adding his prior seven felony convictions and the two vehicular assault offenses. Using that score, the standard range on each count was 51 to 68 months with a maximum of 120 months. As part of the felony plea agreement, however, Smith agreed that an exceptional sentence of 190 months was justified:

There are substantial and compelling reasons, considering the purposes of the Sentencing Reform Act (SRA),^[1] that justify an exceptional sentence. Specifically, to promote [j]ustice and respect for the law, to have sentences commensurate with similar offenders, to protect the public, to provide opportunities for self-improvement to offenders, to ensure the frugal use of State and [l]ocal resources, and to reduce the risk of reoffending. RCW 9.94A.535.

¹ Sentencing Reform Act of 1981, ch. 9.94A RCW.

The three sisters each submitted victim impact statements to the trial court to consider for sentencing which described their respective experiences of ongoing physical and emotional injuries suffered as a result of the collision. On February 6, 2015, the trial court sentenced Smith to two consecutive terms of 95 months. The court explained its reasoning for the sentence:

Well, the Court was affected, I have to say, by the letters by the three young women who were injured in this and the seriousness of their injuries. I do think that the way the parties worked through a solution to this case, considering Mr. Smith's history, considering the seriousness of the injuries and considering the type of criminal conduct, is an appropriate resolution of the case. I do find that the agreed aggravator does exist, and the Court will adopt that as the parties have submitted, and I will impose the exceptional sentence of 95 months on each count to run consecutive, with community custody for 12 months.

In December 2022, Smith filed a CrR 7.8 motion for resentencing. Smith argued that his motion was timely and that, following Blake, his offender score was incorrectly calculated based on an unconstitutional felony conviction for possession of a controlled substance. The State responded that the motion was untimely, and that Smith failed to make a substantial showing that he was entitled to relief under CrR 7.8(c). The State also asserted that Smith failed to establish he was entitled to relief under CrR 7.8(b) because the judgment was not void under subsection (b)(4). In reply, Smith asserted he was entitled to relief under the CrR 7.8(b)(5) "catchall" provision because the miscalculation resulted in a fundamental defect.

The trial court found that Smith's motion was timely under RCW 10.73.090 and that Smith made a substantial showing for relief under CrR 7.8(c)(2). As to relief on the merits, the trial court determined the judgment was not void by inclusion of the

possession offense in calculating the offender score and thus, Smith was not entitled to relief under CrR 7.8(b)(4). The trial court also concluded that, under CrR 7.8(b)(5), Smith failed to show the outcome would more likely than not have been different absent the incorrect score or that the trial court would have imposed a different sentence had the standard range been properly calculated. Accordingly, the trial court denied Smith's motion for resentencing.

Smith timely appealed.

Ш

We review a trial court's denial of a CrR 7.8 motion for abuse of discretion. <u>State v. Frohs</u>, 22 Wn. App. 2d 88, 92, 511 P.3d 1288 (2022). "A trial court abuses its discretion if its decision rests on untenable factual grounds or was made for untenable legal reasons." <u>Frohs</u>, 22 Wn. App. 2d at 92.

Α

We first address whether Smith's CrR 7.8 motion was timely. A CrR 7.8 motion for resentencing is a collateral attack. State v. Molnar, 198 Wn.2d 500, 509, 497 P.3d 858 (2021). A collateral attack of a judgment and sentence must be brought within one year after the judgment becomes final—if the judgment is valid on its face and was entered by a court of competent jurisdiction. RCW 10.73.090(1).²

If a trial court determines that the judgment and sentence is valid on its face, then a CrR 7.8 motion brought more than one year after the final judgment is untimely and it

² Under RCW 10.73.090(1): "No petition or motion for collateral attack on a judgment and sentence in a criminal case may be filed more than one year after the judgment becomes final if the judgment and sentence is valid on its face and was rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction."

must be transferred to this court without reaching the merits. Molnar, 198 Wn.2d at 509; CrR 7.8(c)(2).

A sentence is invalid on its face, however, "if the sentencing court lacked or exceeded its statutory authority to impose the sentence." In re Pers. Restraint of Dove, 196 Wn. App. 148, 156, 381 P.3d 1280 (2016). "A sentencing court 'acts without statutory authority' when it imposes a sentence based on an offender score that was miscalculated upward." In re Pers. Restraint of Fletcher, 3 Wn.3d 356, 373, 552 P.3d 302 (2024) (quoting In re Pers. Restraint of Goodwin, 146 Wn.2d 861, 868, 50 P.3d 618 (2002)). And even if a defendant has agreed to an exceptional sentence, "the sentencing judge remains the one responsible for deciding whether to depart from the standard range and, if so, by how much." Fletcher, 3 Wn.3d at 374.

Smith's offender score was miscalculated upward. Thus, the judgment and sentence is invalid on its face. Because the judgment and sentence is invalid, the one-year time bar does not apply and the trial court properly retained Smith's CrR 7.8 motion as timely.

В

Smith argues that because his motion was timely, the plain language of CrR 7.8(c) entitles him to relief and resentencing is required. We disagree.

If the trial court determines that a CrR 7.8 motion is not barred as untimely by RCW 10.73.090, then the trial court must decide:

either (i) the defendant has made a substantial showing that they are entitled to relief or (ii) resolution of the motion will require a factual hearing. A defendant is entitled to relief under subsection (i) where the person (A) is serving a sentence for a conviction under a statute determined to be void, invalid, or unconstitutional by the United States

Supreme Court, the Washington Supreme Court, or an appellate court where review either was not sought or was denied or (B) is serving a sentence that was calculated under RCW 9.94A.525 using a prior or current conviction based on such a statute.

CrR 7.8(c)(2).

Contrary to Smith's assertion, the plain language of CrR 7.8(c)(2) does not entitle him to relief. CrR 7.8(c)(2) provides the procedure a trial court must follow when presented with a CrR 7.8 motion, and then, once those procedural requirements are satisfied, CrR 7.8(b) provides the basis for deciding whether Smith is entitled to relief on the merits. See Molnar, 198 Wn.2d at 509 (describing procedures required by CrR 7.8(c) and explaining that a decision on the merits can be made only after the procedural requirements have been met).

Smith is not entitled to relief based on the plain language of CrR 7.8(c).

C

Once the procedural requirements of CrR 7.8(c) are satisfied, a trial court may provide relief on the merits if the judgment is void or for any other reason justifying relief. CrR 7.8(b)(4), (5). "A void judgment is one entered by a court 'which lacks jurisdiction of the parties or of the subject matter, or which lacks the inherent power to make or enter the particular order involved." State v. Zavala-Reynoso, 127 Wn. App. 119, 122, 110 P.3d 827 (2005) (quoting Dike v. Dike, 75 Wn.2d 1, 7, 448 P.2d 490 (1968)). In Zavala-Reynoso, the defendant argued his sentence was void because it was based on an incorrect offender score. The court decided the defendant's argument fell outside subsection (b)(4) because he did not contest the trial court's jurisdiction or inherent power. Zavala-Reynoso, 127 Wn. App. at 123.

Smith does not argue that the trial court lacked jurisdiction or the inherent power to enter the judgment and sentence. Below, Smith relied on <u>Frohs</u> to argue that Smith's miscalculated score rendered the judgment void. <u>Frohs</u> is distinguishable. In that case, the defendant did not seek resentencing but to vacate his conviction for possession because it was void under <u>Blake</u>. <u>Frohs</u>, 22 Wn. App. 2d at 96-97. Here, Smith is not seeking to vacate his possession conviction but is seeking resentencing for a different conviction. Smith provides no argument to persuade that the trial court abused its discretion by denying relief under subsection (b)(4).

The "catchall" provision of CrR 7.8(b)(5) allows for relief in situations not covered by other subsections of the rule and in circumstances where the interests of justice most urgently require. State v. Lamb, 175 Wn.2d 121, 128, 285 P.3d 27 (2012). And a defendant seeking relief by collateral attack must show either that a constitutional error resulted in actual prejudice or that a nonconstitutional error was a fundamental defect resulting in a complete miscarriage of justice. State v. Pascuzzi, 29 Wn. App. 2d 528, 533, 541 P.3d 415 (2024). Miscalculation of an offender score is a nonconstitutional error. Pascuzzi, 29 Wn. App. 2d at 533-34 (citing Goodwin, 146 Wn.2d at 867). At oral argument, the parties agreed that the collateral attack standard falls within subsection (b)(5).³ Accordingly, Smith needed to show, by a preponderance of the evidence, that his miscalculated score amounted to a fundamental defect resulting in a complete miscarriage of justice. In re Pers. Restraint of Sylvester, 24 Wn. App. 2d 769, 777, 520 P.3d 1123 (2022).

³ Wash. Ct. of Appeals oral argument, <u>State v. Smith</u>, No. 85196-9 (Sept. 25, 2024) at 3 min., 9 sec.; 9 min., <u>video recording by TVW</u>, Washington State's Public Affairs Network, https://tvw.org/video/division-1-court-of-appeals-2024091264/?eventID=2024091264

While "there are few cases elaborating on the 'complete miscarriage of justice' standard . . . [I]t is well established that the standard . . . is more demanding than the 'actual and substantial prejudice' standard for constitutional error, which already presents a high barrier to relief." State v. Drake, 32 Wn. App. 2d 395, 556 P.3d 170, (2024). A "defendant may not rely on bald assertions and conclusory allegations" to prove a complete miscarriage of justice. Drake, 32 Wn. App. 2d at 396.

Here, the trial court concluded that Smith failed to establish prejudice and denied relief under CrR 7.8(b)(5):

There is no evidence in the record that the judge in this case would have imposed a lower sentence had the offender score been an 8, rather than a 9. There is no evidence that the judge even considered imposing a standard range sentence. A vague reference to Defendant's criminal history is not enough. This was charged as a three-strikes case, where ultimately the Court found that "the parties agreed to amend the charges to a non-strike charges and recommended an exceptional sentence above the standard range." Based on these findings, the Court concluded that "justice was best served by an exceptional sentence above the standard range." The Court's findings are adequate to support the exceptional sentence. These facts distinguish this case from other cases where resentencing was granted, including State v. Fletcher, 19 Wn. App. 2d 566, [497 P.3d 886] (2021), <a href="State v.] Chambers, 176 Wn.2d 573, [293 P.3d 1185] (2013), Goodwin, 146 Wn.2d 861], and <a href="State v.] Parker, 132 Wn.2d [182, 937 P.2d 575] (1997).

. . . Mr. Smith has not pointed to any evidence in the record suggesting that the trial court would not have sentenced Mr. Smith the same term of confinement with a corrected offender score. A vague reference to criminal history in light of the Court's detailed findings in this three-strikes case is not enough.

Smith argues that the record is not "expressly clear" that the trial court would have imposed the same sentence with a correct offender score because it is likely the judge relied in part on the incorrect standard range. Smith relies on <u>Parker</u>, 132 Wn.2d at 192. But <u>Parker</u> is distinguishable because it involved a direct appeal of sentencing,

not a collateral attack, and the court applied a constitutional harmless error standard which is not at issue here.

Smith also relies on <u>Sylvester</u> and <u>Fletcher</u>. In <u>Sylvester</u>, the defendant pleaded guilty to four crimes and his offender score of 7 included one point for possession of a controlled substance. 24 Wn. App. 2d at 771. The trial court imposed low-end standard range sentences for each charge and required the defendant to serve them consecutively resulting in an exceptional sentence of 133 months. <u>Sylvester</u>, 24 Wn. App. 2d at 773. Following <u>Blake</u>, the defendant unsuccessfully sought resentencing under an offender score that did not include the point for the possession conviction. On appeal, the court found the evidence showed that the trial court would not have imposed the same sentence with a corrected score:

Although Sylvester pleaded guilty and stipulated to an exceptional sentence, the result was four consecutive sentences, each at the bottom of the standard range, including one for 0 days. As discussed above, sentencing Sylvester in the same manner with the corrected offender score would reduce his term of confinement by 32 months. Reducing the offender score would lower the bottom of the standard range for each conviction, and the low end of the range was a central factor in the negotiated plea agreement and the trial court's sentence.

<u>Sylvester</u>, 24 Wn. App. 2d at 778. The court concluded that Sylvester demonstrated a complete miscarriage of justice and remanded for resentencing. <u>Sylvester</u>, 24 Wn. App. 2d at 778.

In <u>Fletcher</u>, a recent and similar case, our Supreme Court addressed a collateral attack based on a miscalculated offender score. 3 Wn.3d at 356. At issue was a miscalculated standard range that was more than three times what was allowed under the correct score. <u>Fletcher</u>, 3 Wn.3d at 373. The incorrect score of 8 resulted in a

standard range of 53 to 70 months while the correct score of 4 resulted in a standard range of 15 to 20 months. <u>Fletcher</u>, 3 Wn.3d at 365. The court held that the "dramatically" incorrect offender score constituted a complete miscarriage of justice:

In Fletcher's case . . . the exceptional sentence was based on improper sentencing calculations, the mistake had a dramatic impact on the standard sentencing range, and there is a high probability that the mistake affected the original sentence. It is noteworthy that the resentencing court, faced with correct information, imposed a far lower sentence than the original sentencing court, which was using incorrect information.

<u>Fletcher</u>, 3 Wn.3d at 381. The court concluded that "such significant sentencing calculation errors" resulted in a fundamental defect and remanded for resentencing based on the correct offender score. <u>Fletcher</u>, 3 Wn.3d at 383 (citing <u>Goodwin</u>, 146 Wn.2d at 868).

In <u>Goodwin</u>, the defendant's criminal history used to calculate his offender score of 4 included three juvenile convictions and one adult conviction. The trial court imposed a sentence at the high end of the standard range. <u>Goodwin</u>, 146 Wn.2d at 864. Goodwin filed a personal restraint petition seeking to vacate the sentence and argued that his offender score was miscalculated because his three "washed out" juvenile convictions should not have been counted. Our Supreme Court agreed that his sentence exceeded what was statutorily permitted and remanded for resentencing. Goodwin, 146 Wn.2d at 875-76; 877-78.

Here, Smith's incorrect score resulted in a standard range of 51 to 68 months while under a correct score of 8 the standard range is 43 to 57 months. RCW 9.94A.510. But unlike <u>Goodwin</u>, Smith received an exceptional sentence not a standard range sentence. Accordingly, the trial court had discretion, within the parameters of the

SRA, in departing from the standard range and imposing the exceptional sentence. Further, unlike <u>Sylvester</u>, the miscalculated standard range was not a central factor in the negotiated plea agreement and there is no evidence that the trial court expressly relied on the incorrect standard range when it imposed the two consecutive 95-month terms. We agree with the trial court that a vague reference to Smith's criminal history is not enough. There is no evidence that the correct score would have altered Smith's sentence.

Additionally, the incorrectly calculated range overlaps with the correct range with the difference between the high end of the ranges and the low end of the ranges being less than one year. The number of months between the correct range and the exceptional sentence is not significantly different from the number of months between the incorrect range and the exceptional sentence. Such a miscalculation is not so dramatic or egregious as the miscalculation in Fletcher where the difference between ranges was several years. Here, the trial court based the exceptional sentence on the seriousness of the crime, the impact on the victims, and the stipulated aggravating factors. There is no evidence that the trial court would have decided differently had Smith's offender score been calculated correctly.

Smith failed to establish a fundamental defect resulting in a complete miscarriage of justice. Thus, the trial court did not abuse its discretion by denying Smith's motion.

Affirmed.4

Mann, J.

WE CONCUR:

Seldm, J.

Smill, C.g.

⁴ Smith also argues, for the first time, that the plea agreement was made on an incorrect presumption because in 2021 the Washington Legislature removed second degree robbery from the list of strike offenses and made the change retroactive. Because our review is limited to whether the trial court's denial of Smith's CrR 7.8 motion was an abuse of discretion, we do not consider a challenge to the underlying judgment and sentence raised for the first time in a direct appeal from the denial of that motion. See State v. Larranaga, 126 Wn. App. 505, 509, 108 P.3d 833 (2005); State v. Gaut, 111 Wn. App. 875, 881-82, 46 P.3d 832 (2002).

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The undersigned certifies under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that on the below date, the original document **Petition for Review to the Supreme Court** to which this declaration is affixed/attached, was filed in the **Court of Appeals** under **Case No. 85196-9-I**, and a true copy was mailed with first-class postage prepaid or otherwise caused to be delivered to the following attorney(s) or party/parties of record at their regular office or residence address as listed on ACORDS:

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