# FAYETTE LEGAL JOURNAL

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## FAYETTE LEGAL JOURNAL

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Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary or of administration have been granted to the following estates. All persons indebted to said estates are required to make payment, and those having claims or demands to present the same without delay to the administrators or executors named.

## **Third Publication**

ROY E. EVANS, late of Luzerne Township,

Fayette County, PA (3)

Executrix: Darlene J. Ferguson

908 Lewis Street

Brownsville, PA 15417

c/o P.O. Box 488

California, PA 15419

Attorney: Lisa J. Buday

## DOLORES A. FRANCZYK, late of German

Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

Executrix: Carol M. Dupont

c/o 51 East South Street Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: Webster & Webster

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Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

Executor: Robert J. Kollar

1374 Langport Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15241

c/o 3 Gateway Center

401 Liberty Avenue, 22 FL

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Attorney: Heidi Rai Stewart

## DOROTHY ANN GRUBER, A/K/A DOROTHY GRUBER, late of German

Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

Executor: Donald F. Gruber c/o 556 Morgantown Road

Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: John A. Kopas, III

## PAUL COWELL HONSAKER, A/K/A PAUL C. HONSAKER, A/K/A PAUL HONSAKER, late of Masontown, Fayette

County, PA (3)

Administrator: Richard Paul Honsaker

c/o Proden & O'Brien

99 East Main Street

Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: Wendy L. O'Brien

### IRENE KEBLIS A/K/A IRENE S. KEBLIS,

late of Menallen Township, Fayette County, PA

Executor: Paul Keblis (3)

c/o Fieschko & Associates Inc

436 7th Avenue, Suite 2230

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Attorney: Joseph E.Fieschko, Jr., Esquire

## IRMA L. MOSER, late of South Union

Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

Executor: Ronald C. Howarth

c/o Higinbotham Law Offices

45 East Main Street, Suite 500

Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: James E. Higinbotham, Jr.

## STEPHEN PAPTICK, JR., A/K/A STEPHEN

PAPTICK, late of South Union Township,

Fayette County, PA (3)

Executrix: Donna Oplko

c/o Proden & O'Brien

99 East Main Street

Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: Wendy L. O'Brien

#### BARBARA J. RUSH, A/K/A BARBARA

JANE RUSH, late of South Union Township,

Fayette County, PA (3)

Executor: Raymond P. Rush

352 Walnut Hill Road

Uniontown, PA 15401

c/o Mears, Smith, Houser & Boyle, P.C.

127 North Main Street

Greensburg, PA 15601

Attorney: Jon M. Lewis

## **DONNIE R. SUTTON**, late of Georges

Township, Fayette County, PA (3) Administrator: Benny Sutton c/o 556 Morgantown Road Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: John A. Kopas, III

## THOMAS E. SWEENEY, A/K/A THOMAS E. SWEENEY, SR., late of Dunbar Township,

Fayette County, PA (3)

Personal Representative:

Thomas E. Sweeney, Jr. c/o Watson Mundorff Brooks & Sepic 720 Vanderbilt Road Connellsville, PA 15425 Attorney: Charles W. Watson

## AGNES M. UNETICH, late of South Union

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## **Second Publication**

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Township, Fayette County, PA (2) Executor: Alex W McCann c/o 51 East South Street Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: Webster & Webster

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Township, Fayette County, PA (2) Executor: Clarence Michael Sarver c/o Haiduk & Associates 77 South Gallatin Avenue PO Box 1206 Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: Mary Lenora Hajduk

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Executrix: Deborah M. Esposito

c/o Davis & Davis

107 East Main Street

Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: James T. Davis

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Fayette County, PA (2)

Executors: Monzella V. King and Cecil Walters, Jr.

c/o George Port & George 92 East Main Street

Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: Wayne H. Port

## First Publication

## PAULINE A. DYNES. late of South

Connellsville, Fayette County, PA (1) Executor: Charlene Ringer 1917 First Street

South Connellsville, PA 15425

### DOROTHY H. GRISHKAT, late of Dunbar

Township, Fayette County, PA (1)

Personal Representative: Frank J. Grishkat c/o Watson Mundorff Brooks & Sepic, LLP 720 Vanderbilt Road

Connellsville, PA 15425

Attorney: Charles W. Watson

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Favette County, PA (1)

Administrator: Donald E. Lehman, Jr.

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96 East Main Street

Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: Simon B. John

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Connellsville Township, Fayette County, PA (1)

Executrix: Christine A. Scott
2414 Springfield Pike
Connellsville, PA 15425
c/o Stewart, McArdle, Sorice, Whalen,
Farrell, Finoli Cavanaugh, LLC
229 South Maple Avenue
Greensburg, PA 15601
Attorney: Vincent J. Finoli

## KAREN D. SAMPEY, A/K/A KAREN DAWN SAMPEY, late of Dunbar Township,

Fayette County, PA (1)

Personal Representative: Kevin R. Sampey c/o Watson Mundorff Brooks & Sepic, LLP 720 Vanderbilt Road Connellsville, PA Attorney: Charles W. Watson

## **BEATRICE YOUNG**, late of South Union

Township, Fayette County, PA (1)

Executrix: Irene Hegyes Campagna c/o Davis & Davis 107 East Main Street Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: James T. Davis

## LEGAL NOTICES

#### NOTICE OF DISBARMENT

Notice is hereby given that by Order of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania dated April 27, 2017, JASON R. TAYLOR (#93330) is Disbarred on Consent from the Bar of this Commonwealth to be effective May 27, 2017.

Marcee D. Sloan Prothonotary The Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

#### NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to Amber M. Lilley that on the 3rd day of March, 2017, a custody action was filed in the Fayette County Court of Common Pleas, requesting Primary Physical Custody of minor child, Zayden Isaiah Lilley, at Docket Number 459 of 2017, G.D. Mediation Conference has hereby been scheduled for the 12th day of June, 2017, at 9:15 a.m., at the Child Custody Office in the Fayette County Courthouse.

### PECK LAW OFFICES

By: Brent Eric Peck, Esquire

111 East Main Street Uniontown, PA 15401 Ph: 724-430-0514 In the Court of Common Pleas of Fayette County, Pennsylvania Civil Action No. 250 of 2017 GD Judge Cordaro

Ronald Fetsco and Connie Fetsco. husband and wife. Plaintiffs.

Carol A. Shoop, an individual, her heirs, successors and assigns, Defendant.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT. HER HEIRS, SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS:

On February 6, 2017, Plaintiff filed the above action to declare that they are the sole owners of a portion of the lot known as 136 Breakneck Road, Connellsville, Fayette County, PA, 15425, being acquired by Defendant by deed dated and recorded August 24, 2006, in the Recorder's Office of Fayette County, PA, in Record Book 2997, page 2319. Listed as a potion of Fayette County Tax Map No. 06-05-0072.

It appears from the chain of title that you may have an interest in this property. Plaintiff has asked that the Court declare that you, the Defendant, be forever barred from asserting any right, lien, title or interest in the property. Unless you defend this action, the Plaintiff will take a judgment by default.

#### NOTICE

If you wish to defend, you must enter a written appearance personally or by attorney and file your defenses or objections in writing with the court. You are warned that if you fail to do so the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you without further notice for the relief requested by the Plaintiffs. You may lose the property or other rights important to you.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS NOTICE TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP.

Pennsylvania Lawyer Referral Service Pennsylvania Bar Association P.O. Box 186 100 South Street Harrisburg, PA 17108 Telephone: 800-932-0311

Gary N. Altman Attorney for the Plaintiffs 206 Derrick Avenue Uniontown, PA 15401 724-438-0910

> IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL DIVISION No. 1791 of 2015, G.D. JUDGE JOSEPH M. GEORGE

RICHARD LEWIS, Plaintiff.

R. IAN FLEMING, and the heirs, Personal representatives, successors and assigns, generally of RONALD E. FLEMING, deceased and all persons, firms or associates claiming title or interest from or under Ronald E. Fleming, deceased.

Defendants.

You are hereby notified that Richard Lewis filed a Complaint on September 8, 2015 at the above number and term in the above-mentioned court in an Action of Ouiet Title wherein it is alleged that the Richard Lewis is the owner of property situate in Wharton Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, being more fully described in deed from Fayette County Tax Claim Bureau to Richard Lewis dated December 2, 2014 and of record in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in Record Book Volume 3265, page 720. The property which is the subject of said Quiet Title Action is identified as Lots 140 and 141 William Penn Trail, Deer Lake Park, Farmington, Pennsylvania and has Tax Map Parcel Number 42-12-0045. Subsequent to filing the above referenced Quiet Title Action, Richard Lewis sold Lots 140 and 141 William Penn Trail to Fred McLaughlin and Nancy McLaughlin by deed dated October 10, 2016 and recorded in the Recorder's Office aforesaid in Record Book

Volume 3321, page 1626.

Said Complaint sets forth that the Plaintiff owns the above-described premises in fee simple. A Complaint was filed for the purpose of barring all of your right, title and interest or claim in and to all or a portion of said premises.

#### NOTICE

You are hereby notified that you have been sued in Court. If you wish to defend against the claim set forth in the Complaint and in the within advertisement, you must take action within twenty (20) days after the last advertisement of this notice by entering a written appearance personally or by attorney and filing in writing with the Court your defenses or objections to the claim set forth against you. You are warned that if you fail to do so, the case may proceed without you and a judgment may be entered against you by the Court without further notice or any money claimed in the complaint, or for any other claim or relief requested by the plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS NOTICE TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP.

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James E. Higinbotham, Jr., Esquire Counsel for Fred and Nancy McLaughlin Successors in Interest to Richard Lewis, Plaintiff 45 East Main Street Suite 500 Uniontown, PA 15401

Date: May 2, 2017

## JUDICIAL OPINION

## IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CRIMINAL ACTION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,

V.

CHRISTOPHER GREER,

: NO. 1322 OF 2016

Appellant. : JUDGE JOSEPH M. GEORGE, JR.

## ATTORNEYS AND LAW FIRMS

Jennifer M. Casini, Esquire, Assistant District Attorney, For the Commonwealth Mary Campbell Spegar, Esquire, Assistant Public Defender, For the Appellant

## OPINION AND ORDER

GEORGE, J. May 3, 2017

Following a trial by jury, Appellant, Christopher Greer, was convicted of aggravated assault by vehicle, aggravated assault, criminal mischief, simple assault, recklessly endangering another person, fleeing or attempting to elude an officer and several summary traffic offenses, including driving while operating privilege is suspended or revoked. On March 22, 2017, Appellant was sentenced on his conviction for driving while operating privilege is suspended or revoked to a term of imprisonment of not less than thirty (30) days nor more than six (6) months and sentenced consecutively on the aggravated assault conviction of not less than six (6) years nor more than twenty (20) years. Appellant filed a timely post-sentence motion for modification of sentence and the Court denied same. Subsequently Appellant filed an appeal with the Pennsylvania Superior Court. This Opinion is in support of the verdict of the jury and the sentencing order

## **CONCISE ISSUES**

Appellant filed the following Statement of Errors Complained of on Appeal:

- 1. Was the evidence insufficient to sustain conviction based upon the testimony and evidence presented at trial by the Commonwealth and evidence was insufficient to show that [Appellant] committed the crimes beyond a reasonable [doubt?]
  - 2. Was the sentence excessive[?]

<sup>{1}75</sup> Pa. C.S. § 3732.1(a), 18 Pa. C.S. § § 2702(a)(2), 3304(a)(5), 2701(a)(1), 2705, and 75 Pa. C.S. § 3733(a), respectively.

<sup>{2}75</sup> Pa. C.S. § 1543(a).

### **FACTS**

On April 21, 2016, Corporal Delbert DeWitt of the Uniontown City Police Department (UPD) was on patrol in the early morning hours in Uniontown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. During his patrol, Corporal DeWitt observed a dark colored Chevrolet pick-up truck on Berkeley Street cross the double yellow line and swerve back into the lane of travel on multiple occasions. {3} Corporal DeWitt activated the cruiser's overhead lights with the intent to effectuate a traffic stop. The operator of the truck, later identified as Appellant, slowed down and turned on the right turn signal. Nevertheless, when Corporal DeWitt turned on the cruiser's siren, Appellant turned the signal off and accelerated southbound on Derrick Avenue.

Corporal DeWitt followed Appellant and called out over the radio that he was in pursuit of a truck occupied by one person who failed to yield to him. Appellant slowed down as he approached the Uniontown Country Club, made an abrupt left turn over the double yellow lines and drove onto the country club's golf course. With the assistance of Officer Kurt Defoor and Tyler Garlick, an intern with the UPD, Corporal DeWitt proceeded very slowly to Cinder Road, the suspected area of Appellant's location. As Corporal DeWitt continued on Cinder Road, he looked to his right and saw the truck accelerate towards him. Appellant struck Corporal DeWitt's vehicle in the front passenger area. Trooper Todd Stevenson, a collision analyst and reconstruction specialist with the Pennsylvania State Police, testified in his expert opinion that there was no evasive steering or braking to avoid the collision.

Corporal DeWitt testified that he smashed his head off the long gun rack in the police cruiser after the impact forced him out of the driver's seat and up over the center console where he ended up in the passenger side with his lower body stretched on the driver's side of the vehicle. Corporal DeWitt exited his police cruiser and approached the truck with his firearm drawn. He opened the driver's side door of the truck and observed Appellant lying across the bench seat with his head towards the passenger side of the truck. {4} Corporal DeWitt pulled Appellant out of the truck and Mr. Garlick handcuffed him.

After Appellant was handcuffed, Corporal DeWitt testified that he fell to the ground due to an extreme amount of pain. He radioed for two ambulances, one for Appellant and one for himself. As a result of the crash, Corporal DeWitt was diagnosed with a closed head injury and a whiplash injury of the neck and received chiropractic treatment for muscle soreness.

<sup>{3}</sup> He called the registration on the vehicle into the Fayette County 9-1-1 Center to obtain the vehicle's information. The 9-1-1 Center responded that the information provided to them was registered to a Subaru not a Chevrolet.

<sup>{4}</sup> Evidence was presented at trial that Appellant has a prosthetic leg and that a black walking cane was taped to the clutch of the truck.

Appellant testified that he purchased the truck prior to April 21, 2016 from Derrick Hudock. He testified that around 11:45 p.m. on April 20, 2016, he was waiting in a private driveway on Cinder Road for the truck to be delivered to him by a friend, Michael Metts. {5} Once the truck was delivered, he taped his cane to the clutch and began to drive the truck out of the private driveway. Appellant testified that he did hit the police cruiser but only because the cruiser's headlights were not on and when he saw the cruiser it was too late to avoid impact. He testified that he was not involved in the police pursuit.

### DISCUSSION

Appellant's first concise issue addresses the sufficiency of the evidence presented at trial. Appellant's first issue in his 1925(b) statement is too vague to address. "In order to preserve a challenge to the sufficiency of the evidence on appeal, an appellant's Rule 1925(b) statement must state with specificity the element or elements upon which the appellant alleges that the evidence was insufficient." Commonwealth v. Garland, 63 A.3d 339, 344 (Pa. Super. 2013); see also Commonwealth v. Gibbs, 981 A.2d 274, 281 (Pa. Super. 2009). Appellant was convicted of three felony offenses, three misdemeanor offenses and four summary offenses. In his 1925(b) statement, not only did Appellant fail to state what specific element(s) he wanted the courts to address, but he also failed to state of the ten crimes he was convicted of, which one(s) he was challenging. Instead, Appellant's statement generally challenged his convictions without more. See Garland, 63 A.3d at 344. The wording of Appellant's first concise issue would require this Court to guess as to which convictions and elements to address. Therefore, Appellant waived his right to contest the sufficiency of the evidence. See Pa.R.A.P. 1925(b) (4); Commonwealth v. Hansley, 24 A.3d 410, 415 (Pa. Super. 2011).

Appellant's last issue is that his sentence is excessive. Appellant's claim of error is a challenge to the discretionary aspects of the sentence.

Imposition of a sentence is vested in the discretion of the sentencing court and will not be disturbed absent a manifest abuse of discretion. Commonwealth v. Vasquez, 560 Pa. 381, 384-85, 744 A.2d 1280, 1282 (2000). An abuse of discretion is not shown merely by an error in judgment; rather, the Appellant must establish, by reference to the record, that the sentencing court ignored or misapplied the law, exercised its judgment for reasons of partiality, prejudice, bias or ill will, or arrived at a manifestly unreasonable decision. Commonwealth v. Mastromarino, 2 A.3d 581, 589 (Pa. Super. 2010). A sentence imposed is not excessive if it does not exceed statutory limits and the sentencing colloquy clearly demonstrates that the sentencing court carefully considered all evidence relevant to the determination of a proper sentence. Commonwealth v. Burtner, 453 A.2d 10, 12 (Pa. Super. 1982). Finally, in considering whether a sentence is excessive and harsh, the appellate court must give great weight to the sentencing judge's discretion, as he is in the best position to measure various factors. Commownealth v. Ellis, 700 A.2d 948, 958 (Pa. Super. 1997).

<sup>{5}</sup> The Commonwealth called Michael Metts on rebuttal. He testified that he knew Appellant and that he did not drive the truck on April 21, 2016 because he was incarcerated at SCI-Fayette from April 4, 2016 to December 28, 2016.

First, Appellant was sentenced on his conviction for driving while operating privilege was suspended or revoked for a period of incarceration of not less than thirty days nor more than six months. The minimum sentence Appellant received, thirty days, is mandatory for a person convicted of a sixth or subsequent offense under section 1543(a) of the Vehicle Code, a category Appellant fits into based on his eleven convictions of this offense. See 75 Pa. C.S. § 6503(a.1). Furthermore, Appellant's maximum sentence on this conviction is six months, within the maximum amount required by law. Id.

Second, Appellant was sentenced on his aggravated assault conviction for a period of incarceration of not less than six years nor more than twenty years. Under the provisions of the Pennsylvania Sentencing Guidelines, aggravated assault – causing bodily injury carries an offense gravity score of eleven. Taking into consideration Appellant's prior record score of three, the guidelines called for a standard range minimum of 54 to 72 months. {6} Appellant was sentenced at the minimum of 72 months, within the standard range. Moreover, Appellant's maximum sentence on this conviction is twenty years, falling within the maximum sentence. See 18 Pa. C.S. §§ 2702(b), 1103(1).

In imposing a sentence, the Superior Court held that the trial court must state its reasoning for the sentence on the record. Commonwealth v. Ventura, 975 A.2d 1128, 1135 (Pa. Super. 2009). The Superior Court further ruled that the trial court must "consider the particular circumstances of the offense and the character of the defendant. The trial court should refer to the defendant's prior criminal record, age, personal characteristics, and potential for rehabilitation." Id. Upon sentencing Appellant, this Court took into consideration the presentence investigative report prepared by the Fayette County Adult Probation Office, the nature and seriousness of the offenses  $\{7\}$  and the rehabilitative needs of Appellant.

<sup>{6}</sup> At the time of sentencing, this Court was informed that Appellant's prior record score was four. That called for a standard range minimum of 60 to 78 months. This Court was later advised by the Fayette County Adult Probation Office that Appellant's prior record score was three, with a standard range minimum of 54 to 72 months. Therefore, this Court's assertion at sentencing of the wrong prior record score was harmless error since Appellant's minimum sentence of 72 months was within the standard range of both a prior record score of three or four.

<sup>{7}</sup> The evidence presented at trial shows that Appellant fled from the police after violating several traffic violations. Two police cruisers subsequently chased Appellant. Ultimately, Appellant drove his truck into Corporal DeWitt's police cruiser. Appellant's actions were reckless, thereby resulting in serious bodily injury to Corporal DeWitt and the destruction of city property.

In order to challenge the discretionary aspects of a sentence, an appellant must show actions by the sentencing court that were either: (1) inconsistent with a specific provision of the sentencing code; or (2) contrary to the fundamental norms underlying the sentencing process. Commonwealth v. Hornoman, 920 A.2d 1282, 1284 (Pa. Super. 2007). Appellant's sentence was pursuant to the mandatory minimum, the standard range of the guidelines and the maximum amount allowed by law. After reviewing the pre-sentence investigation report and considering the facts and circumstances of the case, Appellant's sentence was neither inconsistent with the sentencing code provisions nor contrary to the fundamental norms underlying the sentencing process. Accordingly, Appellant's last concise issue is without merit.

BY THE COURT: JOSEPH M. GEORGE, JR., JUDGE

ATTEST: CLERK OF COURTS

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