United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

No. 23-10005 Summary Calendar United States Court of Appeals Fifth Circuit

June 7, 2023

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Lyle W. Cayce Clerk

Plaintiff—Appellee,

versus

CHRISTOPHER LEE GONZALES,

Defendant—Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas USDC No. 5:16-CR-27-2

Before KING, HIGGINSON, and WILLETT, *Circuit Judges*. PER CURIAM:^{*}

Christopher Lee Gonzales, federal prisoner # 54338-177, appeals the denial of his second motion for a reduction of his sentence (commonly known as a motion for compassionate release), filed pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A)(i). Gonzales contends that the district court erred because it failed to consider whether his family circumstances, a change in the law

^{*} This opinion is not designated for publication. See 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.

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affecting his sentencing, his medical conditions, and his rehabilitation, when considered in the conjunctive, constituted extraordinary and compelling reasons warranting a sentence reduction.

Here, in addition to determining that Gonzales had failed to establish extraordinary and compelling reasons, the district court denied relief on the alternative ground that a sentence reduction was not warranted based on an application of the sentencing factors of 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a). We routinely affirm the denial of a compassionate release motion "where the district court's weighing of the [§] 3553(a) factors can independently support its judgment." *United States v. Jackson,* 27 F.4th 1088, 1092 (5th Cir. 2022).

As Gonzales raises no argument challenging the district court's independent determination that the § 3553(a) factors did not warrant a sentence reduction in his case, he has abandoned the issue. *See Yohey v. Collins*, 985 F.2d 222, 224-25 (5th Cir. 1993). Accordingly, the decision of the district court is AFFIRMED.