

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

No. 24-60505
Summary Calendar

United States Court of Appeals
Fifth Circuit

FILED

December 5, 2025

Lyle W. Cayce
Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff—Appellee,

versus

CHERI JESSICA COX,

Defendant—Appellant.

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the Southern District of Mississippi
USDC No. 2:19-CR-41-1

Before WIENER, WILLETT, and WILSON, *Circuit Judges*.

PER CURIAM:*

Plaintiff-Appellant Cheri Jessica Cox, federal prisoner # 21628-043, appeals the district court's denial of her motion for compassionate release under 18 U.S.C. § 3582(c)(1)(A)(i). Cox requested a sentence reduction to correct unwarranted sentence disparities between sentences involving actual methamphetamine and those involving methamphetamine mixtures. She

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

No. 24-60505

also argued that her rehabilitation and prison conditions due to the COVID-19 pandemic warranted a reduction.

In addition to denying Cox’s motion based on her failure to demonstrate extraordinary and compelling reasons, the district court also denied relief on the basis that a weighing of the 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) factors did not warrant relief. Cox’s assertion before this court that her post-sentencing rehabilitation, low risk of recidivism, reentry plan, and the future need to avoid unwarranted sentencing disparities amounts to a disagreement with the district court’s balancing of the § 3553(a) factors, which does not warrant reversal. *See United States v. Chambliss*, 948 F.3d 691, 694 (5th Cir. 2020). Because the § 3553(a) factor analysis independently supports the district court judgment, we need not address whether Cox established “extraordinary and compelling” reasons to reduce her sentence. *See United States v. Jackson*, 27 F.4th 1088, 1093 n.8 (5th Cir. 2022) (noting this court routinely affirms the denial of a compassionate release motion “where the district court’s weighing of the [§] 3553(a) factors can independently support its judgment”).

AFFIRMED.