

No. _____

IN THE
Supreme Court of the United States

PEDRO GARCIA,
Petitioner,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Respondent.

**On Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the
United States Court of Appeals
for the Eleventh Circuit**

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

Donna Lee Elm
Federal Defender

Jenny L. Devine, Counsel of Record
Research and Writing Attorney
Appellate Division
Office of the Federal Defender
400 N. Tampa Street, Suite 2700
Tampa, FL 33602
Telephone: (813) 228-2715
Facsimile: (813) 228-2562
E-mail: jenny_devine@fd.org

QUESTION PRESENTED

Whether 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) is facially unconstitutional because it exceeds Congress's authority under the Commerce Clause, and is unconstitutional as applied to the intrastate possession of a firearm?

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PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

The Petitioner, Pedro Garcia, respectfully petitions for a writ of certiorari to review the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

OPINION BELOW

The opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, No. 17-10890, 2018 WL 2356406 (11th Cir. May 24, 2018), is provided in the petition appendix at 1a-9a (“Pet. App.”).

JURISDICTION

The opinion and judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit was entered on May 24, 2018. *Id.* The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. § 1254.

CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS INVOLVED

Article I, § 8, cl. 3 of the U.S. Constitution provides:

Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

18 U.S.C. § 922(g) provides:

It shall be unlawful for any person . . . who has been convicted in any court of, a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year . . . to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce, or possess in or affecting commerce, any firearm or ammunition; or to receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Petitioner was charged by indictment with possessing a firearm “in and affecting interstate and foreign commerce,” after being convicted of felony offenses, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). Doc. 1 at 1-2. Petitioner entered a guilty plea, without a plea agreement. As the factual basis for the plea, the commerce element was based on the manufacture of the firearm outside of Florida, and its interstate travel to Florida, prior to Petitioner’s possession. Doc. 39 at 3.

The firearm's connection to interstate commerce thus ended well before Petitioner's criminal activity—his constructive possession of the firearm in his home in Manatee County, Florida. PSR ¶¶10-11. State and local law enforcement officers found the firearm during a state probation compliance search of Petitioner's residence. *Id.*

On appeal, Petitioner challenged the constitutionality of § 922(g)(1), facially and as applied. The Eleventh Circuit affirmed Petitioner's conviction based on binding circuit precedent. That precedent upholds § 922(g)(1) convictions resting on a "minimal nexus" to interstate commerce, including the manufacture of the firearm outside of Florida before its possession (the criminal activity) by the defendant. Pet. App. 8a-9a.

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT

The Felon-in-Possession Statute, 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1), is Unconstitutional Because it Does Not Require that the Criminal Activity—Possession—Substantially Affect Interstate Commerce.

Petitioner Pedro Garcia's conviction cannot stand, as Congress's enumerated powers do not allow it to criminalize the purely intrastate possession of a firearm simply because the firearm crossed state lines at some time in the past. That is what 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1) accomplishes, usurping the states' rightful police power.

This Court's modern Commerce Clause cases create important limitations on Congress's commerce power. *See United States v. Lopez*, 514 U.S. 549 (1995); *United States v. Morrison*, 529 U.S. 598 (2000). Congress's commerce power is limited to three categories: (1) "channels of interstate commerce," (2) "instrumentalities of interstate commerce," and (3) "activities that substantially affect interstate commerce." *Lopez*, 514 U.S. at 558-59. This Court used that framework to strike down the Gun-Free School Zones Act, 18 U.S.C. § 922(q), which forbade

possession of a firearm in a school zone. *See id.* at 551-52. Under *Lopez*, the Commerce Clause does not give Congress the “general police power” the states exercise. *Id.* at 567.

The *Lopez* framework is thus the obvious place to start when analyzing the constitutionality of other federal gun possession statutes. But instead, many circuits (including the Eleventh Circuit) have affirmed § 922(g)(1) under *Scarborough v. United States*, 431 U.S. 563 (1977), a much older precedent that construed § 922(g)(1)’s predecessor.¹ Contrary to what lower courts often hold, *Scarborough* did not survive *Lopez*, and § 922(g)(1) does not pass muster under *Lopez*. The *Scarborough* Court decided, as a matter of statutory interpretation, that Congress did not intend “to require any more than the *minimal* nexus that the firearm have been, at some time, in interstate commerce”—a standard well below *Lopez*’s *substantial* effects test. *Scarborough*, 431 U.S. at 575 (emphasis added); *id.* at 564, 577; *Lopez*, 514 U.S. at 559. Given its incompatibility with *Lopez*, *Scarborough* is no longer good law.

This petition presents an issue only this Court can resolve—how to reconcile the statutory interpretation decision in *Scarborough* with the constitutional decision in *Lopez*. *See Alderman v. United States*, 131 S. Ct. 700, 703 (2011) (Thomas, Scalia, JJ., dissenting from the denial of certiorari) (“If the *Lopez* [constitutional] framework is to have any ongoing vitality, it is up to this Court to prevent it from being undermined by a 1977 precedent [*Scarborough*] that does not squarely address the constitutional issue.”). Because the courts of appeals cannot overrule this

¹ See, e.g., *United States v. Smith*, 101 F.3d 202, 215 (1st Cir. 1996); *United States v. Santiago*, 238 F.3d 213, 216-17 (2d Cir. 2001); *United States v. Gateward*, 84 F.3d 670, 671-72 (3d Cir. 1996); *United States v. Rawls*, 85 F.3d 240, 242-43 (5th Cir. 1996); *United States v. Lemons*, 302 F.3d 769, 772-73 (7th Cir. 2002); *United States v. Shelton*, 66 F.3d 991, 992-93 (8th Cir. 1995); *United States v. Hanna*, 55 F.3d 1456, 1461-62 & n.2 (9th Cir. 1995); *United States v. Dorris*, 236 F.3d 582, 584-86 (10th Cir. 2000); *United States v. Wright*, 607 F.3d 708, 715 (11th Cir. 2010).

Court's precedent, the *Lopez* test will disappear for intrastate possession crimes without this Court's intervention.

Thousands of defendants are convicted under § 922(g) every year.² In Petitioner Garcia's case, his federal conviction rests on his purely local activity of possessing the firearm in his home in Florida. The only connection between the firearm and interstate commerce had occurred *before* Mr. Garcia's possession; the firearm had been manufactured outside of the State of Florida and therefore would have crossed state lines at some point in the past. Mr. Garcia's case thus squarely presents the issue of whether Congress may criminalize intrastate activity—possession—based on the historical connection between the firearm and interstate commerce. Because the federal government's authority to prosecute such cases raises an important and recurring question, Mr. Garcia, like other Petitioners, respectfully seeks this Court's review. *See, e.g.*, Petition for a Writ of Certiorari, *Dixon v. United States*, No. 17-8853 (May 9, 2018).

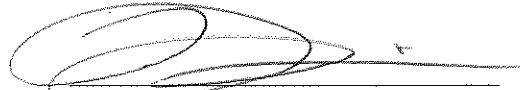
² *See* U.S. Sentencing Comm'n, *Quick Facts: Felon in Possession of a Firearm* (2018), https://www.ussc.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/research-and-publications/quick-facts/Felon_in_Possession_FY17.pdf

CONCLUSION

For these reasons, the petition should be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Lee Elm
Federal Defender

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenny L. Devine', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jenny L. Devine
Research and Writing Attorney
Appellate Division
Office of the Federal Defender
400 N. Tampa Street, Suite 2700
Tampa, FL 33602
Telephone: (813) 228-2715
Facsimile: (813) 228-2562
E-mail: jenny_devine@fd.org
Counsel of Record for Petitioner

Appendix

2018 WL 2356406

Only the Westlaw citation
is currently available.

This case was not selected for
publication in West's Federal Reporter.

See Fed. Rule of Appellate Procedure

32.1 generally governing citation
of judicial decisions issued on or
after Jan. 1, 2007. See also U.S.

Ct. of App. 11th Cir. Rule 36-2.

United States Court of
Appeals, Eleventh Circuit.

UNITED STATES of
America, Plaintiff-Appellee,

v.

Pedro GARCIA, Defendant-Appellant.

No. 17-10890

|

Non-Argument Calendar

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(May 24, 2018)

Synopsis

Background: Defendant entered a guilty plea, in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, No. 8:16-cr-00143-VMC-TGW-1, to being a felon in possession of firearm, and was sentenced to 78 months in prison. Defendant appealed.

Holdings: The Court of Appeals held that:

[1] assignment of three criminal history points, for prior Florida offense for which defendant received four-year youthful-

offender sentence which was later modified to probation, was not plain error, and

[2] district court's statements that defendant received a benefit by entering a guilty plea without having to sign a plea agreement, and by pleading to original indictment and not superseding indictment, were not clearly erroneous.

Affirmed.

West Headnotes (3)

[1] Sentencing and Punishment



District court's adoption of Sentencing Guidelines calculation that assigned to defendant three criminal history points for prior Florida offense for which defendant received four-year youthful-offender sentence, which was later modified to probation, was not plain error; Guidelines did not specifically address, and no binding precedent held, that once a Florida youthful-offender sentence was modified to probation the probationary sentence replaced the original sentence of imprisonment for purposes of calculating a defendant's criminal history score, and if defendant's original sentence remained valid, then application of Guidelines was clear, i.e., defendant's original four-year

sentence for Florida offense, plus 364-day term imposed when his probation was later revoked, was in excess of 13 months, and sentence was imposed within 15 years of offense of federal conviction, so it was assigned three criminal history points. Fla. Stat. Ann. § 958.045(1), (5)(c); U.S.S.G. §§ 4A1.1(a), 4A1.2(e)(1), (k)(1) & cmt. n.11.

Cases that cite this headnote

[2] Sentencing and Punishment



Sentencing court's statements that defendant received a benefit by entering a guilty plea without having to sign a plea agreement, and by pleading to original indictment and not superseding indictment, were not clearly erroneous, which statements were made when sentencing court questioned whether government should have requested a sentence above the middle of Sentencing Guidelines range; defendant did plead guilty to original federal indictment without signing a plea agreement, and this benefited defendant because by pleading without a plea agreement he did not waive any appellate rights, and because by pleading to original indictment for being a felon in possession of firearm he did not have to admit that he possessed

ammunition. 18 U.S.C.A. §§ 922(g)(1), 924(a).

Cases that cite this headnote

[3] Weapons



Federal criminal statute prohibiting a felon from possessing a firearm was not an unconstitutional exercise of Congress's power under Commerce Clause, as applied to defendant who possessed a firearm in Florida, where government demonstrated at least a minimal nexus with interstate commerce; government submitted a factual basis that the firearm in question was manufactured outside of Florida, and defendant admitted at change of plea hearing that the firearm was manufactured outside of Florida. U.S. Const. art. 1, § 8, cl. 3; 18 U.S.C.A. § 922(g)(1).

Cases that cite this headnote

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, D.C. Docket No. 8:16-cr-00143-VMC-TGW-1

Attorneys and Law Firms

David Charles Waterman, Arthur Lee Bentley, III, James A. Muench, Kaitlin R.

O'Donnell, U.S. Attorney's Office, Tampa, FL, for Plaintiff-Appellee

Howard C. Anderson, Jenny L. Devine, Federal Public Defender's Office, Tampa, FL, Rosemary Cakmis, Donna Lee Elm, Federal Public Defender's Office, Orlando, FL, for Defendant-Appellant

Before MARTIN, JULIE CARNES, and HULL, Circuit Judges.

Opinion

PER CURIAM:

*1 Pedro Garcia appeals his 78-month sentence after pleading guilty to a single count of being a felon in possession of a firearm. Garcia raises three arguments on appeal. First, he contends that the district court erred in adopting a guidelines calculation that assigned him three criminal history points based on a June 2001 offense for which he received a four-year youthful-offender sentence that was later modified to probation. Second, he argues that his sentence was both procedurally and substantively unreasonable because it was based on erroneous facts and failed to account for mitigating factors. Finally, he asserts that 18 U.S.C. § 922(g) is unconstitutional both on its face and as applied to him. We address each argument in turn.

I.

On March 31, 2016, Garcia was charged in a one-count indictment with knowingly

possessing a firearm after a felony conviction in violation of 18 U.S.C. §§ 922(g)(1) and (924)(a). The government later filed a superseding indictment, which added language charging him with possession of ammunition as well.

On November 1, 2016, Garcia pled guilty, without a written plea agreement, to the original indictment. Because the original indictment did not charge possession of ammunition, the magistrate judge accepting the plea did not ask Garcia about any ammunition. Nevertheless, the government asked that it be considered relevant conduct at sentencing. Garcia admitted during the plea hearing that the firearm was made outside of Florida, and therefore must have traveled across state lines to Florida.

The probation office prepared a presentence investigation report (“PSR”) which recommended a criminal history score of 14. This score included three criminal history points for a 2001 conviction for robbery and aggravated battery. The PSR noted that Garcia had been sentenced as a youthful offender to four years imprisonment, followed by two years of probation. In 2004, his probation for this sentence was revoked, and Garcia was sentenced to 11 months and 29 days imprisonment. The PSR also listed criminal convictions for armed vehicular burglary, possession of cocaine, racketeering, and a previous conviction for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Based on this criminal history and the relevant offense level, the PSR

recommended an advisory sentence guideline range of 63 to 78 months imprisonment. The PSR also stated that “[t]he defendant suffers from significant mental health problems,” and noted that Garcia had allegedly been sexually assaulted as a minor and had attempted suicide. The PSR mentioned Garcia’s “significant substance abuse problems associated with cocaine and marijuana.”

Neither party objected to the facts contained in the PSR or to the application of the sentencing guidelines. At sentencing, the district court adopted the findings of fact in the PSR and concluded that the advisory guideline range was 63 to 78 months.

The government argued for a sentence in the middle of the guideline range. The district court asked “Why do you think a sentence in the mid-range is your recommendation? He didn’t plead with a plea agreement. He just pled, right?” The government agreed. The district court again asked why a mid-range sentence would be appropriate, stating:

*2 Why would you cut someone some slack and say middle of the range? When you have somebody with this kind of history, why wouldn’t you go for the high end of the guidelines? You already let him plead to the initial indictment as opposed to the Superseding Indictment. Isn’t that enough of a benefit? And

he didn’t even sign a plea agreement.

The district court stated it was “a little surprised” by the government’s position, and that it was “kind of taken aback that’s what you’ve asked for because I think this is somebody with a very significant criminal history.” After the government finished its argument, the district court remarked:

I think what you have said supports a sentence at the high end, not at the middle of the range.... I’m surprised that’s what you’re asking for. And I’ve been sentencing at the bottom of the range and I’ve been departing downwards quite a few times, but this gentleman has a very significant criminal history. I’m thinking about the safety of the public.

Garcia’s counsel argued for a sentence “towards the low end.” He highlighted mitigating factors such as substance abuse and “some issues that happened to Mr. Garcia when he was younger,” apparently alluding to the PSR’s statement that Garcia had been sexually assaulted in his youth. He also argued that Garcia had merely allowed a friend to store the firearm in his house, and that it did not belong to Garcia.

The district court told Garcia that it had “reevaluated” how it sentenced defendants and that it had been “imposing lower

sentences” where possible. However, given Garcia’s criminal history, the court said “I just feel that if I don’t give a significant sentence, I’m not doing my job to protect the public.” After hearing a statement from Garcia, the district court sentenced him to 78 months imprisonment. The district court reached its decision “[a]fter considering the Advisory Sentencing Guidelines and all of the factors identified in [18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)].” Finally, the district court explained to Garcia, “I have given consideration to your mental health problems, your personal characteristics, but your extensive criminal conduct does not warrant and downward variance and, furthermore, warrants a sentence at the highest end of the guidelines.” Neither party objected to the sentence.

Garcia appealed.

II.

We ordinarily review a district court’s interpretation of the sentencing guidelines *de novo* and its factual determinations for clear error. See United States v. Monzo, 852 F.3d 1343, 1348 (11th Cir. 2017). An argument raised for the first time on appeal, however, is reviewed for plain error. United States v. Clark, 274 F.3d 1325, 1326 (11th Cir. 2001) (per curiam). A “plain error” is any deviation from a legal rule that is “clearly established at the time the case is reviewed on direct appeal.” United States v. Hesser, 800 F.3d 1310, 1325 (11th Cir. 2015) (per curiam). “[W]here the explicit language of a statute or rule does not specifically resolve an issue, there can be no plain error where there

is no precedent from the Supreme Court or this Court directly resolving it.” United States v. Lejarde-Rada, 319 F.3d 1288, 1291 (11th Cir. 2003) (per curiam). The error must “affect substantial rights,” meaning “[i]t must have affected the outcome of the district court proceedings.” United States v. Olano, 507 U.S. 725, 734, 113 S.Ct. 1770, 1777–78, 123 L.Ed.2d 508 (1993) (quotation omitted and alteration adopted). We may correct the error if it “seriously affects the fairness, integrity, or public reputation of judicial proceedings.” United States v. McKinley, 732 F.3d 1291, 1296 (11th Cir. 2013) (per curiam) (quotation omitted).

III.

*3 Garcia argues the district court erred by assigning three criminal history points to his 2001 conviction for robbery and aggravated battery because his sentence was reduced to probation when he completed a youthful offender program.

In calculating a defendant’s criminal history category, three points are assigned “for each prior sentence of imprisonment exceeding one year and one month.” United States Sentencing Guidelines § 4A1.1(a). “[C]riminal history points are based on the sentence pronounced, not the length of time actually served.” Id. § 4A1.2 cmt. n.2. All sentences imposed within ten years of the offense of conviction are counted, as are any sentences imposed or served within fifteen years of the offense if the sentence exceeded thirteen months imprisonment. Id. § 4A1.2(e)(1)–(2). Any sentence falling

outside these time periods is not counted. Id. § 4A1.2(e)(3).

Where a sentence is imposed as the result of a probation violation, the guidelines instruct as follows: “[A]dd the original term of imprisonment to any term of imprisonment imposed upon revocation. The resulting total is used to compute the criminal history points....” Id. § 4A1.2(k)(1). That is, instead of counting the original sentence and sentence after revocation separately, “the sentence given upon revocation should be added to the original sentence of imprisonment ... and the total should be counted as if it were one sentence.” Id. § 4A1.2 cmt. n.11.

Under Florida law, defendants sentenced as youthful offenders can participate in a basic training program lasting at least 120 days, not counting time served prior to the program. Fla. Stat. § 958.045(1), (5) (c). “If the youthful offender’s performance is satisfactory, the court shall issue an order modifying the sentence imposed and place the offender on probation subject to the offender successfully completing the remainder of the basic training program.” Id. § 958.045(5)(c). We have not addressed how a Florida youthful-offender sentence modified to probation upon completion of a training program impacts a defendant’s criminal history score. We have, however, held that other youthful-offender convictions count toward a defendant’s criminal history score and sentencing enhancements. See United States v. Wilks, 464 F.3d 1240, 1242–44 (11th Cir. 2006) (holding that Florida youthful-offender

convictions “can qualify as a predicate offenses for sentence enhancement[s]”); United States v. Pinion, 4 F.3d 941, 945 (11th Cir. 1993) (discussing South Carolina’s youthful-offender program).

[1] The district court did not plainly err in adopting a guideline calculation that assigned Garcia three criminal history points for the June 2001 offense. The guidelines do not specifically address, and no binding precedent holds, that once a Florida youthful-offender sentence is modified to probation, the probationary sentence replaces the original sentence of imprisonment for purposes of calculating a defendant’s criminal history score. See Lejarde-Rada, 319 F.3d at 1291. If the original sentence remains valid, then application of the guidelines is clear: Garcia’s original four-year sentence—plus a 364-day term imposed when Garcia’s probation was later revoked—was in excess of thirteen months, and imposed within fifteen years of the offense of conviction, so it is assigned three criminal history points. See USSG §§ 4A1.1(a), 4A1.2(e)(1), (k)(1). Therefore the district court did not plainly err in assigning three criminal history points to this conviction.

IV.

*4 Garcia next argues his sentence was procedurally and substantively unreasonable.

A.

In examining procedural reasonableness, we must “ensure that the district court committed no significant procedural error, such as failing to calculate (or improperly calculating) the Guidelines range, treating the Guidelines as mandatory, failing to consider the [18 U.S.C.] § 3553(a) factors, selecting a sentence based on clearly erroneous facts, or failing to adequately explain the chosen sentence.” Gall v. United States, 552 U.S. 38, 51, 128 S.Ct. 586, 597, 169 L.Ed.2d 445 (2007). “A factual finding is clearly erroneous when, although there is evidence to support it, we are left with the definite and firm conviction, after review of the entire evidence, that a mistake has been made.” United States v. Hill, 783 F.3d 842, 846 (11th Cir. 2015) (per curiam).

[2] Garcia argues the sentence was procedurally unreasonable because the district court relied on three erroneous facts, namely: (1) that he received a benefit by entering a guilty plea without having to sign a plea agreement; (2) that he received a benefit from pleading to the original indictment and not the superseding indictment; and (3) that he received a benefit from being prosecuted in federal court, rather than state court. We are not persuaded. The district court’s statements were accurate. Garcia did plead guilty to the original federal indictment, without signing a plea agreement. Indeed, this did benefit Garcia in a couple of ways. First, by pleading without a plea agreement he did not waive any appellate rights. Also, by pleading to the

original indictment he did not have to admit that he possessed ammunition. Finally, the district court did not characterize his federal prosecution as a benefit. At sentencing, the district court said: “I’m looking here at protecting the public. It’s just paramount in this kind of case. It’s why the U.S. Attorney’s Office took this case as opposed to letting the state handle it, where he would have gotten a less significant sentence.” Because the district court did not characterize Garcia’s federal prosecution as a benefit to him, this argument fails as well.

Additionally, Garcia has not shown that any perceived “benefit” from these facts influenced the district court’s decision. The district court repeatedly stressed that the motivating factor behind the sentence was Garcia’s criminal history and the need to protect the public.

Viewing the sentencing record as a whole, Garcia has not shown plain error in the procedure that resulted in his sentence.

B.

In reviewing a sentence for substantive reasonableness, we consider the totality of the circumstances and will remand for resentencing only when “left with the definite and firm conviction that the district court committed a clear error of judgment in weighing the § 3553(a) factors by arriving at a sentence that lies outside the range of reasonable sentences dictated by the facts of the case.” United States v. Pugh, 515 F.3d 1179, 1191 (11th Cir. 2008) (quotation

omitted). The district court must impose a sentence that is “sufficient, but not greater than necessary, to comply with the purposes” of § 3553(a)(2), including the need to reflect the seriousness of the offense, provide just punishment, deter criminal conduct, and protect the public. 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)(2). It must also consider “the nature and circumstances of the offense and the history and characteristics of the defendant.” *Id.* § 3553(a)(1). The weight given to any particular factor “is a matter committed to the sound discretion of the district court,” and the court’s failure to discuss mitigating evidence does not mean that the court ignored or failed to consider it. *United States v. Amedeo*, 487 F.3d 823, 832–33 (11th Cir. 2007) (quotation omitted). Nevertheless, a district court abuses its discretion when it “(1) fails to afford consideration to relevant factors that were due significant weight, (2) gives significant weight to an improper or irrelevant factor, or (3) commits a clear error of judgment in considering the proper factors.” *United States v. Irey*, 612 F.3d 1160, 1189 (11th Cir. 2010) (en banc) (quotation omitted).

*5 Garcia first argues that the sentence is substantively unreasonable for the same reasons he says it is procedurally unreasonable. That is, he says the court relied on clearly erroneous facts. However, as discussed above, the sentence is not procedurally unreasonable, and hence this argument fails.

Garcia next argues the district court failed to afford weight to mitigating factors, such as his mental health problems,

his history of substance abuse, and the sexual assault he suffered as a minor. But, to the contrary, the district court expressly told Garcia that it had “given consideration to your mental health problems, your personal characteristics.” The court ultimately decided that “your extensive criminal conduct does not warrant a downward variance and, furthermore, warrants a sentence at the highest end of the guidelines.” The district court also indicated that it reached its decision “[a]fter considering the Advisory Sentencing Guidelines and all of the factors identified in [18 U.S.C. § 3553(a)].” Based on these statements, it appears the district court properly considered all of the relevant § 3553(a) factors, and we cannot say that it clearly erred in weighing each factor. Therefore Garcia has not shown plain error in the substantive reasonableness of his sentence.

V.

Finally, Garcia challenges the constitutionality of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g), both on its face and as applied to him.

[3] “We have repeatedly held that Section 922(g)(1) is not a facially unconstitutional exercise of Congress’s power under the Commerce Clause because it contains an express jurisdictional requirement” that is satisfied when the firearm involved in the offense has at least “minimal nexus” to interstate commerce. *United States v. Jordan*, 635 F.3d 1181, 1189 (11th Cir. 2011) (quotation omitted). The “minimal nexus”

requirement is met where the government demonstrates that the firearm in question has traveled in interstate commerce. Id. Here, the government submitted a factual basis, and Garcia admitted at the change of plea hearing, that the firearm in question was manufactured outside Florida, establishing the minimal nexus to interstate

commerce. Therefore Section 922(g)(1) is not unconstitutional as applied to Garcia.

AFFIRMED.

All Citations

--- Fed.Appx. ----, 2018 WL 2356406

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