

No. \_\_\_\_\_

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IN THE  
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

\_\_\_\_\_  
JEREMIAH LEE GUERRA,

*Petitioner*

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

*Respondent*

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPENDIX  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Appendix A Judgment and Opinion of Fifth Circuit

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## APPENDIX A

**IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT**

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No. 19-10429  
Summary Calendar

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United States Court of Appeals  
Fifth Circuit

**FILED**

January 16, 2020

Lyle W. Cayce  
Clerk

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee

v.

JEREMIAH LEE GUERRA,

Defendant-Appellant

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Appeal from the United States District Court  
for the Northern District of Texas  
USDC No. 5:18-CR-103-1

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Before KING, DENNIS, and WILLETT, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM:\*

Jeremiah Lee Guerra challenges the 175-month sentence imposed following his guilty plea conviction for possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine (actual). He contends that his sentence is procedurally unreasonable because the district court did not adequately explain its reasons for rejecting his arguments for a sentence at the low end of the applicable advisory guidelines range of 140 to 175 months.

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\* Pursuant to 5TH CIR. R. 47.5, the court has determined that this opinion should not be published and is not precedent except under the limited circumstances set forth in 5TH CIR. R. 47.5.4.

Because Guerra did not object to the sufficiency of the district court's reasons for the sentence it imposed, our review is for plain error. *See United States v. Mondragon-Santiago*, 564 F.3d 357, 361 (5th Cir. 2009). For sentences within the guidelines range, little explanation is necessary; however, when parties present nonfrivolous or legitimate reasons for imposing a different sentence, "the judge will normally go further and explain why he has rejected those arguments." *Rita v. United States*, 551 U.S. 338, 356-57 (2007).

Here, the district court did not plainly err with respect to the sufficiency of its explanation for the sentence it imposed. The record reflects that the court considered Guerra's arguments for a sentence at the low end of the guidelines range based on his assertion that the methamphetamine coming from Mexico was very cheap, very pure, and very much available, which he asserted was not the case when the Guidelines were written. When imposing the 175-month sentence, the court expressly noted that its sentence "does adequately address the sentencing objectives of punishment and deterrence." Thus, the record reflects that the court considered all the evidence and arguments but simply found the circumstances insufficient to warrant a lesser sentence in light of the Guidelines and the 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) factors. *See Rita*, 551 U.S. at 358-59. The district court's failure to give additional reasons does not constitute clear or obvious error. *See id.*; *Puckett v. United States*, 556 U.S. 129, 135 (2009). In addition, to show that the purported failure to give adequate reasons affected his substantial rights, Guerra must show that it affected the outcome, i.e., that further explanation would have resulted in a lesser sentence. *See United States v. Martinez*, 872 F.3d 293, 303 (5th Cir. 2017); *Mondragon-Santiago*, 564 F.3d at 364-65. He makes no such showing.

AFFIRMED.

## APPENDIX B

**United States District Court****Northern District of Texas**

Lubbock Division

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

JEREMIAH LEE GUERRA  
Defendant.Case Number: 5:18-CR-00103-C(01)  
USM No. 57942-177**JUDGMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE**

(For Offenses Committed On or After November 1, 1987)

The defendant, JEREMIAH LEE GUERRA, was represented by David E. Sloan. On motion of the United States, the court has dismissed the remaining counts of the indictment as to the defendant.

The defendant pleaded guilty to count 1 of the indictment filed October 10, 2018. Accordingly, the court has adjudicated that the defendant is guilty of the following offenses:

| <u>Title &amp; Section</u>                    | <u>Nature of Offense</u>  | <u>Date of Offense</u> | <u>Count Number</u> |
|---|---|------------------------|---------------------|
| 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1),<br>841(b)(1)(A)(viii) | Possession with Intent to Distribute 50<br>Grams or More Of Methamphetamine<br>(Actual) | 10/7/2017              | 1                   |

As pronounced on April 5, 2019, the defendant is sentenced as provided in pages 1 through 4 of this judgment. The sentence is imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.

It is ordered that the defendant shall pay to the United States a special assessment of \$100.00, for count 1 of the indictment, which shall be due immediately. Said special assessment shall be made to the Clerk, U.S. District Court.

It is further ordered that the defendant must notify the United States attorney for this district within 30 days of any change of name, residence, or mailing address until all fines, restitution, costs, and special assessments imposed by this judgment are fully paid. If ordered to pay restitution, the defendant must notify the court and United States attorney of material change in the defendant's economic circumstances.

Signed this the 5th day of April, 2019.



SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGE SAM R. CUMMINGS  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DEFENDANT: JEREMIAH LEE GUERRA  
CASE NUMBER: 5:18-CR-00103-C(01)

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### IMPRISONMENT

The defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of 175 months as to count 1 to run concurrent with the sentence imposed in Case No. 6630 pending in the 121<sup>st</sup> District Court of Terry County, Texas.

The defendant shall remain in the custody of the U.S. Marshal Service.

The Court recommends incarceration at FCI Big Spring, Texas.

### RETURN

I have executed this judgment as follows:

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Defendant delivered on \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_, with a certified copy of this judgment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
UNITED STATES MARSHAL

By \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY UNITED STATES MARSHAL



DEFENDANT: JEREMIAH LEE GUERRA  
CASE NUMBER: 5:18-CR-00103-C(01)

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### SUPERVISED RELEASE

Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant shall be on supervised release for a term of: 5 years.

The defendant must report to the probation office in the district to which the defendant is released within 72 hours of release from the custody of the Bureau of Prisons.

The defendant shall not commit another federal, state, or local crime.

The defendant shall not illegally possess a controlled substance.

*For offenses committed on or after September 13, 1994:*

The defendant shall refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled substance. The defendant shall submit to one drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment and at least two periodic drug tests thereafter, as directed by the probation officer.

The defendant shall not unlawfully possess a controlled substance. The defendant shall refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled substance. The defendant shall submit to one drug test within 15 days of release from imprisonment and at least two periodic drug tests thereafter, as determined by the court.

- ☐ The above drug testing condition is suspended, based on the court's determination that the defendant poses a low risk of future substance abuse.
- ☒ The defendant shall not possess a firearm, ammunition, destructive device, or any other dangerous weapon.
- ☒ The defendant shall cooperate in the collection of DNA as directed by the probation officer.
- ☐ The defendant shall comply with the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (34 U.S.C. § 20901, *et seq.*) as directed by the probation officer, the Bureau of Prisons, or any state sex offender registration agency in which he or she resides, works, is a student, or was convicted of a qualifying offense.
- ☐ The defendant shall participate in an approved program for domestic violence.
- ☐ The defendant must make restitution in accordance with 18 U.S.C. §§ 3663 and 3663A or any other statute authorizing a sentence of restitution.

If this judgment imposes a fine or a restitution obligation, it shall be a condition of supervised release that the defendant pay any such fine or restitution that remains unpaid at the commencement of the term of supervised release in accordance with the Fine and Restitution sheet of the judgment.

The defendant shall comply with the standard conditions that have been adopted by this court (set forth below). The defendant shall also comply with the additional conditions on the attached page.

### STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION

- 1) The defendant shall not leave the judicial district without the permission of the court or probation officer.
- 2) The defendant shall report to the probation officer in a manner and frequency directed by the court or probation officer.
- 3) The defendant shall answer truthfully all inquiries by the probation officer and follow the instructions of the probation officer.
- 4) The defendant shall support his or her dependents and meet other family responsibilities.
- 5) The defendant shall work regularly at a lawful occupation unless excused by the probation officer for schooling, training, or other acceptable reasons.
- 6) The defendant shall notify the probation officer at least ten days prior to any change in residence or employment.
- 7) The defendant shall refrain from excessive use of alcohol and shall not purchase, possess, use, distribute, or administer any controlled substance or any paraphernalia related to any controlled substances, except as prescribed by a physician.
- 8) The defendant shall not frequent places where controlled substances are illegally sold, used, distributed, or administered.
- 9) The defendant shall not associate with any persons engaged in criminal activity, and shall not associate with any person convicted of a felony unless granted permission to do so by the probation officer.
- 10) The defendant shall permit a probation officer to visit him or her at any time at home or elsewhere and shall permit confiscation of any contraband observed in plain view by the probation officer.
- 11) The defendant shall notify the probation officer within seventy-two hours of being arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer.
- 12) The defendant shall not enter into any agreement to act as an informer or a special agent of a law enforcement agency without the permission of the court.
- 13) As directed by the probation officer, the defendant shall notify third parties of risks that may be occasioned by the defendant's criminal record or personal history or characteristics, and shall permit the probation officer to make such notifications and to confirm the defendant's compliance with such notification requirement.

DEFENDANT: JEREMIAH LEE GUERRA  
CASE NUMBER: 5:18-CR-00103-C(01)

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### **SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION**

1. The defendant shall abstain from the use of alcohol and all other intoxicants during the term of supervision.
2. The defendant shall participate in a program (inpatient and/or outpatient) approved by the U.S. Probation Office for treatment of narcotic, drug, or alcohol dependency, which will include testing for the detection of substance use or abuse. The defendant shall contribute to the costs of \$40.00 per month.