

No. _____

IN THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

SCOTT DWAYNE CHATMAN,
Petitioner,

vs.,

STATE OF IOWA,
Respondent.

**ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI
TO THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA**

APPENDIX

Scott D. Chatman, *Pro Se* Petitioner
2000 North 16th Street
Clarinda, IA. 51632

FILED MAY 1, 2019

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY

STATE OF IOWA, Plaintiff, v. SCOTT DWAYNE CHATMAN, Defendant.	Criminal No. FECR298293 SENTENCING ORDER
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Case Number	Count	Crime	In violation of Iowa Code section(s):
FECR298293	I	BURGLARY IN THE FIRST DEGREE (A Class B Forcible Felony)	713.1 & 713.3
	II	ROBBERY IN THE FIRST DEGREE (A Class B Forcible Felony)	711.1 & 711.2
	III	ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY (A Serious Misdemeanor)	708.1(2)(a) & 708.2(2)

THE COURT DENIES THE DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR A NEW TRIAL AND PROCEEDS WITH SENTENCING AT THIS TIME.

☒ **POST-PSI SENTENCING.** Defendant previously pled guilty to the charge(s) set out above. The court has received and studied the pre-sentence report and afforded counsel an opportunity to examine the report.

☒ **ALLOCATION.** Defendant was given an opportunity to speak in mitigation of the sentence. On inquiry made, no legal cause has been shown why sentence should not be pronounced.

☒ **DEFENDANT IS ADJUDGED GUILTY** of the charge(s), in violation of the Code sections set out above and is sentenced as follows, pursuant to Iowa Code sections 902.9 and 902.3:

Case Number	Count	Crime	Defendant shall be imprisoned for a period not to exceed:
FECR298293	I	BURGLARY IN THE FIRST DEGREE	TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS
	II	ROBBERY IN THE FIRST DEGREE	TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS
	III	ASSAULT CAUSING BODILY INJURY	ONE (1) YEAR

ECAD02809023010

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Appendix "A"

- ☒ **COUNT TWO - MINIMUM SENTENCE.** A minimum sentence of SEVENTEEN (17) YEARS & SIX (6) MONTHS is imposed in FECR298293-COUNT TWO pursuant to Iowa Code section(s):
- ☐ 902.7 (5 yr. forcible felony + weapon);
 - ☐ 902.8 (3 yr. habitual offender);
 - ☐ 902.11 (1/2 maximum sentence if prior forcible felony);
 - ☒ 902.12 (70% of maximum on certain felonies);
- ☒ **CONSECUTIVE SENTENCES.** Pursuant to Iowa Code §§ 901.5(9)(c) and 901.8, the sentence(s) of incarceration shall run:
- ☒ COUNTS ONE, TWO & THREE shall run CONSECUTIVE to each other for a total period of incarceration not to exceed FIFTY-ONE (51) YEARS.
 - ☒ The sentences are consecutive based upon:
 - ☒ the separate and serious nature of the offenses;
- ☒ **PROBATION IS DENIED.** Defendant is committed to the custody of the Director of the Iowa Department of Corrections for a determination of the appropriate place of confinement, all as provided by Iowa Code sections 901.7 and 902.5. Defendant shall be delivered by the sheriff to the designated reception center which is: (1) the Iowa Medical Classification Center in Oakdale, Iowa for adult males; (2) the Iowa Correctional Institution for Women for any females; and (3) the Anamosa State Penitentiary in Anamosa, Iowa if Defendant is a male under the age of 18. The sheriff shall transport Defendant to the State institution accompanied by a person of the same sex. Pending Defendant's transfer to the custody of the Director of the Iowa Department of Corrections (DOC) at the reception center, Defendant shall remain in the custody of the sheriff. Defendant's term of incarceration may be reduced from the maximum sentence because of statutory earned time, work credits and program credits. Defendant may be eligible for parole before the sentence is discharged subject to statutory restrictions or sentence reductions. Probation is denied based on the sentencing considerations set out herein.
- ☒ **SENTENCING CONSIDERATIONS.** The Court determines that the sentence set forth herein will provide maximum opportunity for rehabilitation of defendant and protection of the community from further offenses. Pursuant to Iowa Code section 907.5, the Court has considered the following factors:
- ☒ Defendant's age;
 - ☒ Defendant's prior record of convictions and deferments of judgment, if any;
 - ☐ Defendant's employment circumstances;
 - ☒ Defendant's family circumstances;
 - ☒ Defendant's mental health and substance abuse history and treatment options available in the community and the correctional system;
 - ☒ the nature of the offense committed;
 - ☐ the plea agreement;
 - ☒ statutory sentencing requirements;
 - ☒ other factors as follows: the PSI report & recommendation.
- ☒ **FINE.** Defendant shall pay a \$315 fine on COUNT THREE, plus 35% surcharge which is due immediately. (NO FINES as to COUNTS ONE & TWO because they are Class B Felonies.) Amounts due are delinquent 30 days after the stated due date. ☒ If checked, this fine is suspended due to Defendant's incarceration.

- ☒ **RESTITUTION.** Defendant is ordered to make restitution in the amount of \$TBD. Payment(s) shall be made to the Clerk of Criminal Court, Polk County Criminal Courts Building, 110 Sixth Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309. The Clerk shall forward payment(s) to TBD. If the amounts of restitution are not available at the time of sentencing, a supplemental order will follow.
- ☒ **VORP.** Defendant is ordered to participate in and cooperate with a VORP session to allow the victim to inform Defendant of the consequences of the crime, to determine the amount of restitution owed, and to establish a payment schedule. If restitution cannot be resolved in the VORP session, the County Attorney is ordered to file a statement of damages and Defendant shall have 30 days from the date of the filing to contest the amount of damages claimed. Defendant shall call 286-3057 within three (3) working days to make arrangements for this VORP session. (Session required only if victim wishes to participate).
- ☒ **DEFENDANT SHALL SUBMIT A DNA SAMPLE** to DCS pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 81. Failure to comply may constitute contempt, pursuant to Iowa Code section 81.4(3).
- ☒ **LAW ENFORCEMENT INITIATIVE SURCHARGE.** Pursuant to Iowa Code section 911.3, the defendant is assessed a law enforcement initiative surcharge (\$125) for each above-listed violation of Iowa Code Chapter 124, 155A, 453B, 713, 714, 715A, or 716, or section 719.7, 719.8, 725.1, 725.2 or 725.3. (**COUNTS ONE & TWO**)

ALL PARAGRAPHS BELOW APPLY

DISMISSAL OF OTHER COUNTS AND CASES. Upon the State's recommendation, the following counts/cases are dismissed: N/A.

Pursuant to the plea agreement Defendant is ordered to: 1) pay restitution if restitution is due on any of the dismissed counts/cases; and 2) pay court costs on any dismissed counts/cases.

Pursuant Iowa Code section 901C.1 allows a defendant to file a motion to request that a dismissed case be expunged (erased) from the clerk of court's public records. Before the expungement, Defendant must prove all of the following:

- 1) all charges in the case were dismissed;
- 2) at least 180 days have passed since the case was dismissed (or Defendant proves, and the court finds, good cause to expunge the records sooner such as when Defendant was the victim of an identity theft);
- 3) the dismissal was not based on a finding that Defendant was incompetent to stand trial or was not guilty by reason of insanity; and
- 4) all court costs, fees, or other financial obligations ordered by the court have been paid.

If the request is not resisted by the state, the motion may be granted without hearing, if Defendant motion includes two attachments: A) an affidavit swearing to the four matters set out above; and B) proof from the clerk of court that all costs, fees and other financial obligations have been paid.

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 815.9(5), if Defendant is receiving court-appointed legal assistance, the court finds upon inquiry, review of the case file and any other information provided by the parties, Defendant has the reasonable ability to pay restitution of fees and costs in the amount approved by the State Public Defender or \$ZERO, whichever is less.

Defendant has a right to appeal this judgment to the Iowa Supreme Court. To perfect an appeal, Defendant must file a written Notice of Appeal with the Clerk of Court no later than 30 days from the date of this Order. If Defendant fails to file the Notice of Appeal, Defendant waives and gives up his/her right to appeal this judgment. A copy of Defendant's Notice of Appeal must be delivered to the Iowa Attorney General with proof of service. If Defendant cannot afford an attorney or the cost of an appeal and qualifies for court appointed counsel, an attorney and necessary documents will be furnished at State expense.

NO BOND on appeal pursuant to Iowa Code section 811.1(1).

Court costs are taxed to Defendant. He does not have a reasonable ability to repay due to his lengthy incarceration.

- The Defendant was personally served with a copy of this order.
- In addition to all other persons entitled to a copy of this order, the clerk shall provide a copy to the following:
Felony Criminal Case Coordinator.



State of Iowa Courts

Case Number
FECR298293
Type:

Case Title
STATE VS SCOTT DWAYNE CHATMAN
ORDER FOR JUDGMENT

So Ordered

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeffrey Farrell".

Jeffrey Farrell, District Court Judge,
Fifth Judicial District of Iowa

Electronically signed on 2019-05-01 09:34:16

ORDER RE: POST-TRIAL MOTION

FILED MAY 2, 2019

E-FILED 2019 MAY 02 11:24 AM POLK - CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR POLK COUNTY

State of Iowa,	Case No. FECR298293
Plaintiff,	
v.	RULING ON DEFENDANT'S MOTION
Scott Dwayne Chatman,	FOR NEW TRIAL
Defendant.	

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The State of Iowa charged defendant Scott Chatman with burglary in the first degree, robbery in the first degree, and assault causing bodily injury. The case was tried to a jury beginning on March 4, 2019. On March 7, 2019, the jury returned a guilty verdict on all charges.

On April 16, 2019, defendant filed a motion for new trial with a supporting brief. The motion and brief raised several grounds: 1) prosecutorial misconduct regarding burden shifting, 2) violation of the motion in limine order by introducing evidence and argument from the alleged victim, who is now deceased and did not testify at trial, 3) insufficient evidence of a theft to support counts I and II, 4) due process issues surrounding a competency issue. The motion was set for hearing on May 1, 2019, prior to sentencing. The court entered a ruling on the record and provides this written order as a supplement.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The court can grant a new trial in a criminal case for any grounds listed in Iowa R. Crim.

P. 2.24(2)(b), including the following:

(5) When the court has misdirected the jury in a material matter of law, or has erred in the decision of any question of law during the course of the trial, or when the prosecuting attorney has been guilty of prejudicial misconduct during the trial thereof before a jury.

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF IOWA

No. 19-0856
Filed November 30, 2020

STATE OF IOWA,
Plaintiff-Appellee,

vs.

SCOTT DWAYNE CHATMAN,
Defendant-Appellant.

Appeal from the Iowa District Court for Polk County, Robert B. Hanson
(competency), William P. Kelly (competency), and Jeffrey D. Farrell
(trial/sentencing), Judges.

A defendant appeals his convictions for first-degree robbery, first-degree
burglary, and assault causing bodily injury. **CONVICTIONS AFFIRMED;
SENTENCE VACATED AND REMANDED FOR RESENTENCING.**

Martha J. Lucey, State Appellate Defender, and Bradley M. Bender,
Assistant Appellate Defender, for appellant.

Thomas J. Miller, Attorney General, and Louis S. Sloven, Assistant Attorney
General, for appellee.

Considered by Vaitheswaran, P.J., and Tabor and Schumacher, JJ.

Appendix "B"

TABOR, Judge.

A jury convicted Scott Chatman of burglary in the first degree, robbery in the first degree, and assault causing bodily injury. He now appeals those convictions, raising four issues: (1) incompetency; (2) ineffective assistance of counsel; (3) insufficient proof that he committed the crimes; and (4) sentencing error. In a pro se brief,¹ Chatman advances three more arguments: (5) insufficient evidence that he used a dangerous weapon while committing the crimes; (6) his alleged absence during the competency hearings; and (7) admission of “grisly misleading photos of the deceased victim to inflame the passion of the jury.”

On the first and sixth issues, we find no due process violation in the district court’s determination that Chatman was competent to stand trial under Iowa Code chapter 812 (2018). On the second and seventh issues, we preserve his claims of ineffective assistance of counsel for possible postconviction relief proceedings. On the third and fifth issues, viewing the evidence in the light most favorable to the jury’s verdicts, we affirm his convictions. And on the fourth issue, we remand for resentencing.

¹ Last year, the Iowa General Assembly enacted Senate File 589, an omnibus crime bill that foreclosed our ability to consider pro se filings when a defendant has an attorney. See 2019 Iowa Acts ch. 140 § 30 (codified at Iowa Code § 814.6A(1)). Because Chatman has appellate counsel, the State argues we cannot consider his pro se briefing. In *State v. Macke*, our supreme court determined other provisions of the same omnibus bill did not apply to appeals pending on July 1, 2019. 933 N.W.2d 226, 228 (Iowa 2019); see also *State v. Gordon*, 943 N.W.2d 1, 5 (Iowa 2020) (reiterating amendments did not apply retrospectively to appeals from judgments entered before statute’s effective date). Since then, we have consistently rejected the State’s argument on pro se filings. See *State v. Lindaman*, No. 19-1088, 2020 WL 5229188, at *1 n.1 (Iowa Ct. App. Sept. 2, 2020) (collecting cases). Because the district court entered judgment on May 1, 2019, we may consider Chatman’s pro se supplemental briefs.

I. Facts and Prior Proceedings

Felix Mandujano had a good neighbor in Brian Everson. Everson lived with his girlfriend Breanna George in the same Des Moines apartment complex as Mandujano. After Mandujano received a cancer diagnosis in 2015, Everson and George took him to chemotherapy appointments and ran other errands for him. Everson described the toll the disease took on his friend: "I watched him go from about 140 pounds to 106 pounds in a matter of weeks. . . . He could hardly move at all. He shuffled his feet when he walked. It was hard for him to stand. He got dizzy really easy."²

During his friendship with Mandujano, Everson met Chatman. In late spring 2016, Everson stopped by Mandujano's apartment when Chatman was visiting. They interacted "long enough to have a beer." After that first encounter, Everson noticed Chatman coming and going from Mandujano's apartment four or five other times. On those occasions, he recalled Chatman driving a green minivan. From conversations with Mandujano, Everson grew worried about Chatman's visits to his ailing friend's apartment.

One evening in July 2016, Everson and George were walking their basset hounds when they saw Chatman drive toward Mandujano's building in his minivan. Expecting trouble, Everson handed the dog's leash to George and took off running. By the time he reached the parked van, Everson saw Chatman "donkey kick" the door of Mandujano's apartment and force his way inside.

² Mandujano died in the summer of 2018.

When Everson reached the doorway, he could hear Chatman's demand: "Give me the money." Everson saw Chatman reaching out to threaten Mandujano. When he drew closer, Everson could see Chatman held a knife. Everson armed himself with a stick and crossed the threshold, only to have Chatman turn and charge at him. Everson back pedaled, falling off the stoop and into Mandujano's rose garden. Chatman commandeered the stick and started striking Everson. By this time, George, with the dogs in tow, had caught up with her boyfriend. She yelled for Chatman to stop hitting him. In reaction, Chatman stopped beating Everson and returned to the apartment—again demanding money from Mandujano. During this interlude, Everson reached through the open window of Chatman's parked van to grab the keys from the ignition. Seeing this move, Chatman rushed toward Everson with the knife. Everson ran to another neighbor's house, where he called 911. From Chatman's attack, Everson endured a broken finger, two broken toes, and gashes on his shins. Mandujano also suffered cuts to his right hand and left bicep and elbow.

The State charged Chatman with first-degree burglary, first-degree robbery, and assault causing bodily injury in a March 2018 trial information. The district court scheduled a jury trial for September. But before the parties completed jury selection, the court suspended proceedings and ordered a competency evaluation. After the evaluation, the court found Chatman incompetent to stand trial and sent him to the Iowa Medical and Classification Center (IMCC) for treatment. A few months later, the court found the IMCC had restored Chatman's competence. Chatman stood trial in March 2019. A jury convicted him as charged. He now appeals.

II. Scope and Standards of Review

The issues raised on appeal require varying standards of review. We review the district court's decision on Chatman's competency *de novo*. See *State v. Johnson*, 784 N.W.2d 192, 194 (Iowa 2010). Likewise, we review his claims of ineffective assistance of counsel *de novo*. See *State v. Shorter*, 945 N.W.2d 1, 6 (Iowa 2020). But we review his challenge to the sufficiency of the evidence for the correction of legal error. See *State v. Schiebout*, 944 N.W.2d 666, 670 (Iowa 2020). Viewing the record in the light most favorable to the State, we will uphold the verdicts if substantial evidence supports them. *Id.* We also review his sentence for correction of legal error and will not reverse unless Chatman can show an abuse of discretion or defect in the sentencing procedure. See *State v. Formaro*, 638 N.W.2d 720, 724 (Iowa 2002).

III. Analysis

A. Competency to Stand Trial

Chatman lodges three complaints about the district court's handling of the competency issue. First, he contends the court erred by concluding his time at the IMCC restored his competency to stand trial and by not monitoring the proceedings to ensure that Chatman remained competent. Second, he argues the district court missed a statutory deadline for holding a competency restoration hearing. Third, in his pro se filing, Chatman asserts he was not present at the unreported competency hearings in October 2018 and January 2019. And he claims his absence from those hearings violated due process. We will address each allegation in turn.

1. Restoration of Competency Standard

We start with the fundamentals. Criminal defendants cannot stand trial if they are “suffering from a mental disorder which prevents [them] from appreciating the charge, understanding the proceedings, or assisting effectively in the defense.” Iowa Code § 812.3(1); *State v. Lyman*, 776 N.W.2d 865, 874 (Iowa 2010), *overruled on other grounds by Alcala v. Marriott Int’l, Inc.*, 880 N.W.2d 699, 708 n.3 (Iowa 2016). Subjecting an incompetent defendant to trial violates due process. *Cooper v. Oklahoma*, 517 U.S. 348, 354 (1996). But we presume a defendant is competent to stand trial and place the burden on the defendant to prove otherwise by a preponderance of the evidence. *Lyman*, 776 N.W.2d at 874.

Chatman’s counsel met that burden when the court first set the case for trial. On the second day of jury selection in September 2018, counsel told the court:

My concern, Your Honor, in this case is that there are times when Mr. Chatman and I are able to communicate and we’re able to talk about matters, but there are other times when he is completely uncooperative, to say the least, with me, not listening to anything that I say and alleging things that are simply not true.

Following its dialogue with Chatman, the court ordered a competency evaluation.

After evaluating him, psychologist Michael Huston reported Chatman received treatment for bipolar disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and anxiety. Despite receiving treatment, Chatman continued to display “significant symptoms of paranoid thought and emotional reactivity,” according to Dr. Huston. Dr. Huston found “mild impairment” of Chatman’s ability to appreciate the charges against him and “minimal impairment” of his ability to understand the legal proceedings. But on the ability to assist effectively in his defense, Dr. Huston found

Chatman showed “substantial impairment.” To illustrate that third finding, Dr. Huston reported Chatman’s belief that his defense attorney was working with the prosecutor and judge without regard for justice. He recommended transferring Chatman to the IMCC for restoration of his competency to stand trial. The court accepted that recommendation and suspended proceedings. See Iowa Code § 812.6(2)(a).

Then, on November 30, 2018, psychiatrist Arnold Andersen notified the court that Chatman was “now competent to stand trial after completion of restoration at IMCC.” Dr. Andersen believed Chatman was “able to assist counsel, despite some reservations about adequacy of counsel.” On that point, Dr. Andersen noted that Chatman was still willing to cooperate “by asking questions of counsel, listening to him, giving feedback, and taking in general ‘a hands-on’ approach.” Chatman was also able to identify the charges against him, appreciate the nature of proceedings, and “give a reasonable estimate of a range of punishments,” according to Dr. Andersen. The court’s acceptance of that competency finding is the issue before us. See Iowa Code § 812.8(1).

In reviewing the restoration decision, we begin with the presumptions and burdens under section 812.8. When the psychiatrist informed the court that Chatman was “mentally restored” the presumption of competency returned. See *State v. Snethen*, 245 N.W.2d 308, 311 (Iowa 1976). On appeal, both parties cite *Snethen* for the proposition that Chatman had the burden to prove he was not competent at the time of the restoration hearing. But our supreme court recently suggested, without analysis, that it was the State’s burden to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that a defendant’s “competency had been

restored” under section 812.8(5). See *State v. Veal*, 930 N.W.2d 319, 338 (Iowa 2019) (“In sum, the State carried its burden of proving by a preponderance of evidence that Veal’s competency had been restored.”). Regardless of which party had the burden of proof, we find the district court properly determined on January 14, 2019, that Chatman was competent to stand trial based on Dr. Andersen’s comprehensive psychiatric evaluation. In finding Chatman competent to stand trial, the court permissibly relied on the psychiatrist’s mental-status examination and personal observations of Chatman. See *id.* (highlighting fact that examining psychiatrist found Veal could work with his counsel).

Yet Chatman insists he remained incompetent—as revealed by his “irrational, delusional, and paranoid behaviors” at hearings on January 25 and February 21. He contends the court failed in its duty to “monitor the proceedings and ensure the defendant’s due process and statutory rights related to competency are properly protected throughout the proceedings.” See *State v. Einfeldt*, 914 N.W.2d 773, 783 (Iowa 2018). Chatman is correct that the court had a continuing duty to ensure his right to due process. See Iowa Code § 812.3(1).³ As an offshoot, we must measure Chatman’s competency from the whole record on appeal. See *State v. Pedersen*, 309 N.W.2d 490, 496 (Iowa 1981) (“In considering the totality of the circumstances in our de novo review, we turn to the two main

³ That provision requires a competency hearing “at any stage of a criminal proceeding” “when the district court finds probable cause that there exist specific facts showing that the defendant is suffering from a mental disorder which prevents the defendant from appreciating the charge, understanding the proceedings, or assisting effectively in the defense.” Iowa Code § 812.3(1); *Einfeldt*, 914 N.W.2d at 779.

parts of the record bearing on defendant's competency to stand trial: the views of the two psychiatrists, and defendant's utterances and conduct before, during, and after trial."). "[O]ur task is to examine the information before the trial court to determine if at the relevant time an unresolved question of the defendant's competency reasonably appeared." *State v. Kempf*, 282 N.W.2d 704, 707 (Iowa 1979).

Granted, all we have is the cold record. But still, our reading of Chatman's behavior at those hearings does not show an inability to assist in his defense.⁴ True, at both hearings, Chatman complained that he was unable to communicate with defense counsel. At the January 25 hearing, Chatman received permission from the court to read a letter he wrote describing his frustrations with his case. The letter offered a clear, detailed, linear explanation of why he wanted new counsel. Chatman was upset that his attorney urged him to take a plea offer. Chatman also told the court that "this incompetency thing" was "a ploy" and his PTSD from serving in the Marine Corps had "nothing to do with [him] being incompetent or competent." At the hearing's end, the court agreed to appoint new counsel.

Admittedly, the February 21 hearing portrays a more volatile defendant. His newly appointed attorney described a "recent outburst" by Chatman as "pretty illustrative" of their conversations. Then defense counsel asked to withdraw. The

⁴The State recognizes that under *Einfeldt*, "Chatman's references to subsequent events could help support an argument that the trial court should have found 'circumstances suggesting a change,' requiring it to suspend proceedings again and order another competency evaluation." 914 N.W.2d at 783 (quoting *Drope v. Missouri*, 420 U.S. 162, 181 (1975)). But the State contends even that line of argument should not convince us to reverse the restoration decision.

prosecutor weighed in: “[T]his is a reoccurring problem with this specific defendant, period. We’ve tried the 812 route.⁵ I knew he wasn’t an 812. He’s just a disagreeable man. It doesn’t make him incompetent.” When the court called on Chatman, he again complained that his attorney recommended he take a plea deal. Beyond the deal, Chatman expressed dismay that defense counsel predicted: “[W]e’re going to convict your ass.” Chatman asked the court: “Who talks to their clients like that?” Defense counsel acknowledged making the statement but told the court he was trying to impress upon Chatman that the State had strong evidence, and Chatman “tend[ed] to take things out of context.” The court again appointed new counsel.⁶

All in all, Chatman’s dissatisfaction with his first two attorneys did not signal his incompetence to stand trial.⁷ An ability to assist effectively in one’s defense does not require passively accepting appointed counsel’s proposed strategy. See *State v. Edwards*, 507 N.W.2d 393, 396 (Iowa 1993) (finding defendant competent, though he was disruptive during trial and “left no doubt that he was going to take

⁵ Iowa Code chapter 812 governs criminal defendants’ competency to stand trial.

⁶ On the first day of his March 2019 jury trial, his third attorney made a record that she presented Chatman with the plea offer from the State. Chatman confirmed that he understood the offer and rejected it.

⁷ Chatman also points to his unruly conduct at sentencing that caused the judge to order his removal from the courtroom. We find Chatman’s angry performance at the sentencing hearing does not counter the psychiatric assessment relied on by the court in determining Chatman’s competency was restored. See *State v. Stanley*, 344 N.W.2d 564, 571 (Iowa 1983) (“The trial court was able, at the . . . sentencing proceedings, to view the defendant to aid in a determination regarding [his] competency. The record reveals no behavior on the part of Stanley which would in any way negate the psychological evaluations which were considered by the court.”); see also *State v. Campbell*, No. 16-0550, 2017 WL 2464070, at *2 (Iowa Ct. App. June 7, 2017) (explaining a defendant’s “odd, disruptive, and sometimes irrational behaviors” do not “equate with incompetency to stand trial”).

an active role in his defense and in no uncertain terms explained why"). Suppose Chatman had waived the right to counsel and opted to represent himself. While often ill-advised, that choice is constitutionally protected and does not show incompetence to stand trial. See generally *Faretta v. California*, 422 U.S. 806, 834 (1975) ("To force a lawyer on a defendant can only lead him to believe that the law contrives against him."). Contrary to Chatman's position on appeal, nothing in the record compels us to reverse the district court's January 2019 ruling that he was competent to stand trial. On our de novo review, the record does not raise a substantial question of his competency after that ruling.

2. Timeliness of Restoration Hearing

Chatman also contends the district court violated the deadline set in Iowa Code section 812.8(4). That provision requires the court to schedule a hearing within fourteen days of receiving notice from a psychiatrist that "the defendant has acquired the ability to appreciate the charge, understand the proceedings, and effectively assist in the defendant's defense," Iowa Code § 812.8(1), (4). Dr. Andersen notified the court of his evaluation on November 30, 2018. The court held a hearing on January 14, 2019—forty-five days later.

The State argues Chatman did not preserve error on this procedural challenge. In reply, Chatman recognizes issues must ordinarily be raised and decided by the district court before an appellate court can review them. See *Meier v. Seneca*, 641 N.W.2d 532, 537 (Iowa 2002). But Chatman notes appellate review is possible if the failure to raise this issue resulted from the denial of effective assistance of counsel. We will address this ineffective-assistance claim with Chatman's other complaints about trial counsel's performance.

3. Chatman's Pro Se Competency Issue

In his pro se supplemental brief, Chatman claims the court violated his due process rights because "he was not present at any of his competency hearings." He asserts: "We just don't know what happened in the court room that day."

But because neither the October 12, 2018 hearing nor the January 14, 2019 hearing was reported, it is hard to verify the factual premise underlying Chatman's claims. Plus, the court orders following those hearings cast doubt on his allegations. The October 15 order finding defendant incompetent opens with this sentence: "On 10/12/18 the Defendant appeared in person and with counsel, attorney Tomas Rodriguez, before this Court for a hearing on the issue whether the defendant is competent to stand trial pursuant to Iowa Code Sections 812.4 and 812.5." Less clear, the January 14 order finding Chatman competent states: "On 01/14/2019 the Defendant appeared in [stet] by counsel Tomas Rodriguez before this Court for a hearing on the issue whether the defendant is competent to stand trial pursuant to Iowa Code Sections 812.4 and 812.5." But we glean another clue from the January 25 hearing, when the judge uttered these introductory words: "On January 14th of 2019 was the first time that I met Mr. Chatman, where we had an order reversing commitment or incompetency." The court's statement suggests Chatman was present for the competency restoration hearing.

In its appellee's brief, the State appears to accept that Chatman was absent from the two unreported competency hearings. But the State also argues that, as appellant, Chatman had the duty under Iowa Rule of Appellate Procedure 6.806 to recreate the record of the proceedings for which a transcript was unavailable. We agree. Chatman has no right to relief on appeal because he did not try to prepare

a statement as required by rule 6.806. See *In re T.V.*, 563 N.W.2d 612, 614 (Iowa 1997).

B. Ineffective Assistance of Counsel

Chatman contends his trial counsel made four critical omissions: (1) counsel did not present expert testimony or request a jury instruction on eye witness identification; (2) counsel did not object to alleged prosecutorial misconduct during closing arguments; (3) counsel did not preserve error on the court's failure to follow the timeline in Iowa Code section 812.8(4), and (4) counsel did not object to photographs of the victim "intended to inflame the passion of the jury."⁸ Chatman also raises cumulative error. To succeed on these contentions, Chatman must prove two elements by a preponderance of the evidence: (1) trial counsel failed to perform an essential duty, and (2) this failure led to prejudice. See *State v. Webster*, 865 N.W.2d 223, 231 (Iowa 2015).

While we have statutory authority to decide Chatman's ineffective-assistance-of-counsel claims because his appeal preceded the July 1, 2019 effective date of Senate File 589 (amending Iowa Code section 814.7), the prudent course is to preserve them for possible postconviction-relief proceedings. See *State v. Trane*, 934 N.W.2d 447, 465 (Iowa 2019). At those proceedings, Chatman's trial counsel will have a chance to explain the defense strategy. See *id.*; *State v. Coil*, 264 N.W.2d 293, 296 (Iowa 1978) ("[A] lawyer is entitled to [her] day in court, especially when [her] professional reputation is impugned.").

⁸ Although Chatman did not preserve error on this pro se issue, the State acknowledges Chatman "could style this as an ineffective assistance claim."

Likewise, the postconviction court can consider any cumulative effect of prejudice arising from all the claims. See *State v. Clay*, 824 N.W.2d 488, 501 (Iowa 2012).

C. Substantial Evidence

Chatman frames this case as a whodunit and contends the State failed to prove he was the culprit. In his pro se supplemental brief, he adds the argument that the State failed to prove he possessed a dangerous weapon, an element of first-degree robbery and first-degree burglary. But trial counsel moved for judgment of acquittal only to contest identity. Because the motion did not preserve the ground now raised by Chatman pro se, we cannot consider it for the first time on appeal. See *State v. Grone*, 545 N.W.2d 267, 270 (Iowa 1996). In his pro se supplemental reply brief, Chatman contends counsel was ineffective in failing “to object to the lack of the use of a dangerous weapon.” Chatman faces another procedural roadblock; Iowa appellate courts “have long held that an issue cannot be asserted for the first time in a reply brief.” *Young v. Gregg*, 480 N.W.2d 75, 78 (Iowa 1992). Thus, we turn to the only preserved substantial-evidence challenge: Whether the State proved Chatman was the assailant.

We consider evidence to be “substantial” if it can convince a rational jury that the defendant was guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. *State v. Chapman*, 944 N.W.2d 864, 871 (Iowa 2020). We view the evidence in the light most favorable to the State. *Id.* Evidence is not substantial if it only creates “speculation, suspicion, or conjecture.” *Id.* “Identity is an element of a criminal offense which the State must prove beyond a reasonable doubt.” *State v. Jensen*, 216 N.W.2d 369, 374 (Iowa 1974).

In his challenge to the State's proof, Chatman attacks the identifications by witnesses Everson and George. Chatman points to inconsistencies in how they described the suspect to investigators. He also highlights their hesitancy to confirm that his photograph, provided by police, depicted the same person they saw in Mandujano's apartment. At trial, Chatman offered family members as alibi witnesses to show he was not in Des Moines on the day of the crimes.

But Chatman's argument cannot carry the day. Both Everson and George identified Chatman in open court as the person they saw demanding money and threatening Mandujano with a knife. The weight of these in-court identifications "was for the jury." See *State v. Doolin*, 942 N.W.2d 500, 510–11 (Iowa 2020) (explaining jurors are "not so susceptible that they cannot measure intelligently the weight of identification testimony that has some questionable feature"). And their identifications did not stand alone. The State offered evidence connecting Chatman to the minivan at the scene. The jury was free to credit that testimony, as well as the identifications by Everson and George, and reject his alibi testimony. See *State v. Shorter*, 893 N.W.2d 65, 74 (Iowa 2017). Finding substantial evidence, we decline to disturb the verdicts.

D. Sentencing

Finally, Chatman contests his sentence. The district court imposed consecutive, indeterminate terms of twenty-five years on the two felonies and one year on the misdemeanor assault—a term not to exceed fifty-one years in prison. The court also imposed a mandatory-minimum term of seventeen and one-half years on the robbery conviction. Because of that mandatory minimum, the court planned to run the felony sentences concurrently. But after hearing Chatman's

hostile and profanity-laced allocution, the court opted to impose consecutive terms. The court reasoned: “I need to consider your rehabilitation and the protection of the public. And considering the allocution that you just made, it appears to me highly unlikely that you’ll ever be rehabilitated, because nothing is your fault.”

Chatman first challenges the seventy-percent mandatory minimum. Chatman acknowledges that mandate complied with the law at the time of sentencing. But Chatman flags new legislation that gives the sentencing court discretion to impose a mandatory minimum between one-half and seven-tenths of the maximum term. See Iowa Code § 902.12(3) (2019).⁹ Chatman also claims the court failed to state on the record its reason for imposing the sentence, particularly its reason for imposing consecutive terms. See Iowa R. Crim. P. 2.23(3)(d); *State v. Hill*, 878 N.W.2d 269, 274 (Iowa 2016). Chatman argues the reason the court *did* give for imposing consecutive terms—tied to Chatman’s outbursts during the sentencing hearing—was improper.

In response, the State agrees the new provision on mandatory-minimum terms requires a remand for resentencing on the robbery conviction. See *State v. Smith-Berry*, No. 19-0839, 2020 WL 2988410, at *4 (Iowa Ct. App. June 3, 2020); *State v. Brown*, No. 18-1988, 2020 WL 1879686, at *6–7 (Iowa Ct. App. Apr. 15, 2020); *State v. Fagan*, No. 19-0492, 2020 WL 1310319, at *1–3 (Iowa Ct. App.

⁹ Section 902.12(3) now provides:

A person serving a sentence for a conviction for robbery in the first degree in violation of section 711.2 for a conviction that occurs on or after July 1, 2018, shall be denied parole or work release until the person has served between one-half and seven-tenths of the maximum term of the person’s sentence as determined under section 901.11, subsection 2A.

Mar. 18, 2020). But the State contends the rest of the sentence was proper and should not be revisited on remand. In defense of the consecutive sentences, the State asserts the sentencing court was "not reacting to any particular breach of decorum or even to the personal attacks." Instead, the court focused on Chatman's lack of remorse, a permissible sentencing factor. See *State v. Harrison*, 914 N.W.2d 178, 204 (Iowa 2018); *State v. Knight*, 701 N.W.2d 83, 88 (Iowa 2005) ("A defendant's lack of remorse can be discerned 'by any admissible statement made by the defendant pre-trial, at trial, or post-trial,' or by 'other competent evidence properly admitted at the sentencing hearing.'" (quoting *State v. Shreves*, 60 P.3d 991, 996 (Mont. 2002))).

We agree with the State that the sentencing court offered proper reasons for imposing consecutive terms. Yet we do not find it necessary to constrain the resentencing court to the same rationale. On remand, the court may reconsider all discretionary aspects for sentencing based on the three offenses for which Chatman was convicted. See *State v. Jacobs*, 644 N.W.2d 695, 697 (Iowa 2001).

CONVICTIONS AFFIRMED; SENTENCE VACATED AND REMANDED FOR RESENTENCING.

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State of Iowa Courts

Case Number
FECR298293
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Case Title
STATE VS SCOTT DWAYNE CHATMAN
ORDER FOR JUDGMENT

So Ordered

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeffrey Farrell".

Jeffrey Farrell, District Court Judge,
Fifth Judicial District of Iowa

Electronically signed on 2019-05-01 09:34:16