

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS
FIRST APPELLATE DISTRICT OF OHIO
HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

STATE OF OHIO,	:	APPEAL NO. C-220599
	:	TRIAL NOS. B-2200336
Plaintiff-Appellee,	:	B-1804807
vs.	:	<i>JUDGMENT ENTRY.</i>
ERIC COMBS,	:	
Defendant-Appellant.	:	

We consider this appeal on the accelerated calendar, and this judgment entry is not an opinion of the court. *See* Rep.Op.R. 3.1; App.R. 11.1(E); 1st Dist. Loc.R. 11.1(C)(1).

Defendant-appellant’s appointed counsel has advised this court that, after a thorough review of the record, he can find nothing that would arguably support appellant’s appeal, and that the appeal is wholly frivolous. *See Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738, 87 S.Ct. 1396, 18 L.Ed.2d 493 (1967); *see also Freels v. Hills*, 843 F.2d 958 (6th Cir.1988). Counsel, as required by *Anders*, has communicated this conclusion to appellant, and has offered appellant an opportunity to respond and to raise any issues. Counsel has communicated appellant’s concerns to this court. Counsel has also moved this court for permission to withdraw as counsel. *See Anders* at 744; *see also* 1st Dist. Loc.R. 16.2(C)(1) and 16.2(D)(2).

Counsel now requests that this court independently examine the record to determine whether there are any arguable issues to support a meritorious appeal. *See Anders* at 744. We have done so, and we agree with counsel’s conclusion that the proceedings below were free of error prejudicial to appellant and that no grounds exist to support a meritorious appeal.

Therefore, we deny counsel's motion to withdraw from his representation of appellant, and affirm the judgment of the trial court.

While we hold that this appeal is frivolous under App.R. 23 and without "reasonable cause" under R.C. 2505.35, we refrain from taxing costs and expenses against appellant because he is indigent.

Further, a certified copy of this judgment entry shall constitute the mandate, which shall be sent to the trial court under App.R. 27.

BERGERON, P.J., BOCK and KINSLEY, JJ.

To the clerk:

Enter upon the journal of the court on September 1, 2023
per order of the court _____.
Administrative Judge