

STATE OF MAINE

v.

RONALD GONYOU JR.

Submitted on Briefs April 6, 2006  
Decided May 16, 2006

Panel: SAUFLEY, C.J., and CLIFFORD, DANA, ALEXANDER, LEVY, and  
SILVER, JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Ronald Gonyou Jr. appeals the entry of a judgment of conviction by the Superior Court (Kennebec County, *Mills, C.J.*) following a jury verdict of guilty on one count of sexual exploitation of a minor (Class B), 17 M.R.S.A. § 2922 (1983 & Supp. 2003)<sup>1</sup> and one count of aggravated furnishing of scheduled drugs (Class C), 17-A M.R.S. § 1105-C(1)(A)(4) (2005).<sup>2</sup> Contrary to Gonyou's contentions,

---

<sup>1</sup> Title 17 M.R.S.A. § 2922 was repealed and replaced by P.L. 2003, ch. 711, §§ B-1, B-12 (effective July 30, 2004) (codified at 17-A M.R.S. § 282 (2005)).

<sup>2</sup> The court sentenced Gonyou to a term of ten years imprisonment, all but seven suspended, and three years probation for violating section 2922, and to a term of two years imprisonment, all suspended, and three years probation, to be served consecutively, for violating section 1105-C(1)(A)(4).

the court did not abuse its discretion when it admitted photographs of the victim because the substantive value of the photographs to the jury's determination of whether or not Gonyou was involved in the taking of the photographs, and whether or not the photographs were sexually explicit as defined by 17 M.R.S.A. § 2921 (1983 & Supp. 2003),<sup>3</sup> outweighed any potential prejudice to the defendant. *See* M.R. Evid. 403; *State v. Lockhart*, 2003 ME 108, ¶ 46, 830 A.2d 433, 448-49 (affirming admission of gruesome photographs to prove intent when court made efforts to mitigate prejudicial effects); *State v. Kalex*, 2002 ME 26, ¶¶ 8, 13, 789 A.2d 1286, 1289, 1290 (affirming admission of photograph of defendant in KKK uniform because it was not gruesome or overly prejudicial).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

---

**Attorneys for State:**

Evert N. Fowle, District Attorney  
Alan P. Kelley, Deputy Dist. Atty.  
95 State Street  
Augusta, ME 04330

**Attorney for defendant:**

Jonathan Handelman, Esq.  
P.O. Box 10057  
Portland, ME 04104

---

<sup>3</sup> Title 17 M.R.S.A. § 2921 was repealed and replaced by P.L. 2003, ch. 711, §§ B-1, B-12 (effective July 30, 2004) (codified at 17-A M.R.S. § 281 (2005)).