

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

LESLIE RAYANN STEIN,
Appellant,
vs.
THE STATE OF NEVADA,
Respondent.

No. 47543

FILED

MAR 09 2007

ORDER OF AFFIRMANCE

JANETTE M. BLOOM
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY 
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

This is an appeal from a judgment of conviction, pursuant to a guilty plea, of one count of trafficking in a controlled substance. Ninth Judicial District Court, Douglas County; Michael P. Gibbons, Judge. The district court sentenced appellant Leslie Rayann Stein to a prison term of 25 years, with parole eligibility after 10 years.

Stein's sole contention on appeal is that the district court erred by denying her oral request for new counsel, which was made at sentencing. Stein's request was based on her loss of confidence in her attorney. After noting that the request was not timely, and allowing Stein to explain her loss of confidence in her attorney, the district court denied the request and pronounced sentence.

A criminal defendant is not entitled to reject court appointed counsel and obtain substitution of other counsel at public expense absent a showing of good cause.¹ Moreover, general loss of confidence or trust in counsel alone is not adequate cause for appointment of new counsel.²


¹See Thomas v. State, 94 Nev. 605, 584 P.2d 674 (1978).

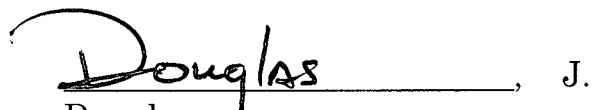
²See Thomas v. Wainwright, 767 F.2d 738 (11th Cir. 1985).

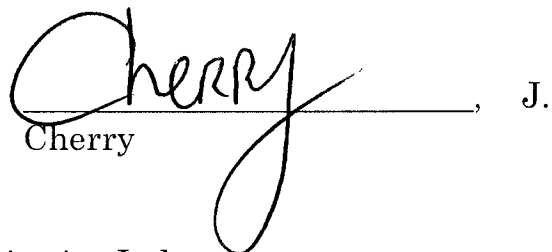
In this case, the district court conducted a significant inquiry into Stein's request for new counsel. Stein did not allege a significant breakdown in the relationship with her attorney, but merely expressed her loss of confidence in counsel. We conclude that the district court did not abuse its discretion by denying Stein's request.³

Having considered Stein's contention and concluded that it is without merit, we

ORDER the judgment of conviction AFFIRMED.⁴


_____, C.J.
Maupin


_____, J.
Douglas


_____, J.
Cherry

cc: Hon. Michael P. Gibbons, District Judge
Alan Richard Erb
Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto/Carson City
Douglas County District Attorney/Minden
Douglas County Clerk

³See Young v. State, 120 Nev. 963, 968-69, 102 P.3d 572, 576 (2004) (holding that the factors to be considered in reviewing a denial of substitution of counsel are: (1) extent of the conflict; (2) adequacy of the inquiry; and (3) timeliness of the motion).

⁴The Honorable Mark Gibbons, Justice, voluntarily recused himself from participation in the decision of this matter.