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**THE SUPREME COURT OF  
THE SISSETON-WAHPETON OYATE  
OF THE LAKE TRAVERSE RESERVATION**



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SISSETON WAHPETON OYATE,  
Plaintiff/Appellee,

v.

GERALYN CRAWFORD,  
Defendant/Appellant.

APPEAL NO. 18-005-018

**ORDER DISMISSING APPEAL**

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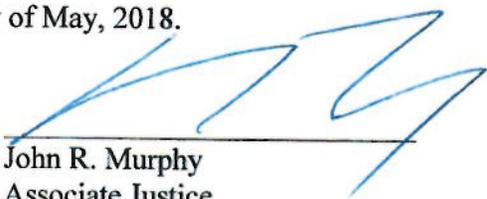
THE COURT has received Defendant/Appellant Crawford's Notice of Appeal. In her Notice, Appellant alleges that her trial attorney was ineffective in his representation of her. Specifically, Appellant alleges her counsel didn't discuss evidence with her or spend enough time with her prior to sentencing.

It is a well established principle of law that ineffective assistance of counsel claims are best reserved for habeas corpus actions. Except in the most extraordinary circumstances, they should not be considered on direct appeal. It is equally well established that in order for a claimant to prevail on an ineffective assistance of counsel claim, he or she must make more than general or conclusory allegations. Instead, claimants must show that a specific error occurred and that, but for the error, the result would have been different.

1 In this case, the claim presented by Appellant Crawford should be brought before the  
2 appropriate tribunal as part of a petition for habeas corpus relief, not on direct appeal. There  
3 is nothing in the record before this Court that suggests an exceptional circumstance  
4 warranting its immediate consideration. And, the facts alleged in the Notice of Appeal, even  
5 if accepted in the light most favorable to the Appellant, do not suggest that the result would  
6 have been different had the alleged error not occurred.  
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8 THEREFORE, this Appeal is DISMISSED without prejudice.

9 SO ORDERED this 4 day of May, 2018.

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12 John R. Murphy  
13 Associate Justice  
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