IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LYCOMING COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA :

:

v. : No. 04-11,637

: CRIMINAL DIVISION

JEREMY J. RITTER,

Defendant : APPEAL

OPINION IN SUPPORT OF ORDER IN COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 1925(a) OF THE RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE

The Defendant appeals this Court's Order of October 16, 2007, wherein the Court dismissed Defendant's Post Conviction Relief Act (PCRA). Defendant filed his PCRA Petition on September 22, 2006, followed by an Amended petition on December 29, 2006, alleging ineffective assistance of counsel, namely that his counsel failed to timely communicate to Defendant a plea offer of thirty (30 to (60) months by the Assistant District Attorney. Defendant alleged that if the plea offer was communicated to him, he would have accepted said offer. Following a conference with counsel, this Court issued an Order on July 12, 2007, granting Defendant thirty (30) days in which to file an amended PCRA or in the alternative, a Turner-Finely letter indicating that no meritorious issues are raised in Defendant's PCRA Petition. On October 16, 2007, this Court dismissed Defendant's PCRA for failure to respond to the Court's September 20, 2007 Order.

By way of Opinion, this Court will rely on its previous Order filed on September 20, 2007, in which the Court found the Defendant's PCRA without merit. While the Defendant alleged that his trial counsel was ineffective for failing to notify him of a plea offer from the Commonwealth, the Court noted that said offer was discussed in open court, with the Defendant present. N.T. 01/14/05, p.8. The record clearly states on p.8 "There is a 30-month offer that's

without the enhancement, which is just about half of what is it would be if he wanted to take the offer and be cooperative over his co-defendant." Accordingly, the Court suggests that dismissal of Defendant's PCRA Petition should be affirmed.

By the Court

Dated: _____

Nancy L. Butts, Judge

xc: DA

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Hon. Nancy L. Butts

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