

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA )  
 )  
COUNTY OF SUMTER )

IN THE GENERAL SESSIONS  
COURT OF SUMTER COUNTY

STEPHEN COREY BRYANT, )  
 )  
Applicant, )

AFFIDAVIT OF WITNESS

**RECEIVED**

--vs.--

AUG 14 2012

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, )

**S.C. Supreme Court**

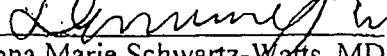
PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, Donna Schwartz-Watts, M.D., first being  
duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am a licensed physician in the State of South Carolina, and I specialize in the field of psychiatry. I am board certified in my field and have over twenty years of experience.
2. I worked as a defense expert in the case of State v. Stephen Corey Bryant.
3. During my prior experience with Mr. Bryant, I diagnosed him with PTSD due to a history of sexual abuse he experienced as a child at the hands of his mother, grandfather and other family members. Mr. Bryant has flashbacks to the abuse he suffered. At times, Mr. Bryant's paranoia of others becomes extreme and he has been psychotic during these episodes.
4. Appellate Counsel for Mr. Bryant retained me to assist them with Mr. Bryant. I have met with Mr. Bryant recently on 3 visits to the Lieber Correctional Institution where he is housed.
5. During 2 of the dates, May 1, 2012 and June 5, 2012, I determined Mr. Bryant was not competent to proceed at that time.
6. Mr. Bryant had "tunnel vision" in that he hears certain words and can only focus on those words and was so distracted by this condition that he could not focus and maintain concentration enough to follow a conversation, much less meaningfully participate in discussions with his attorneys.
7. The South Carolina Department of Corrections has diagnosed Mr. Bryant with psychosis, not otherwise specified. I have spoken to the treating psychiatrist at Lieber and he and I agreed that Mr. Bryant needed medication to address his mental condition.
8. I have concerns that Mr. Bryant's intermittent incompetence and psychosis may be linked to neurological impairment. At my recommendation, Mr. Bryant's counsel retained a neurologist and had a neuroimaging study performed on Mr. Bryant. This type of technology was never used by Mr. Bryant's prior counsel and would greatly assist me in my work on Mr. Bryant's behalf as well as any treating physician who deals with Mr. Bryant in the future.

9. Neuroimaging was performed August 1, 2012 at MUSC. A report has not been provided as of today's date. I need this report to fully assess Mr. Bryant's psychiatric state and mental functioning. Due to my workload, and the fact that Mr. Bryant became, in my opinion, incompetent prior to his originally scheduled PCR hearing, I am unable to participate in Mr. Bryant's case until no earlier than late August/ early September, 2012, and pending receipt and report of the neuroimaging performed at MUSC. Thereafter, I need to review the test results, consult with the neurologist retained in this case and consult with Counsel.

10. I anticipate being a witness for Mr. Bryant. Therefore, I think a continuance is necessary in this case. To go forward without the results of neuroimaging would be to present an incomplete picture of Mr. Bryant's mental functioning and would prevent me from being able to appear on his behalf in court for the hearing.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

  
Donna Marie Schwartz-Watts, MD

8/13/12