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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

COUNTY OF BERKELEY

2021 JUN 11

AM 11:

NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

LEADER L. L. COLE
CLERK OF COURT
BERKELEY COUNTY

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**STATE'S RESPONSE AND MEMORANDUM
IN OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANT'S
MOTIONS TO WITHDRAW GUILTY PLEA**

vs.

GEORGE RILEY DREHER,

DEFENDANT.

Arrest Warrant #2020A0810200389
Arrest Warrant #2020A0810600014

Indictment #2020-GS-08-02020
Indictment #2020-GS-08-02022

RECEIVED

TO: THE HONORABLE JUDGE, NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

AUG 03 2021

I. INTRODUCTION

SC Court of Appeals

The Defendant in this case, George Riley "Lee" Dreher (Defendant) was arrested on April 10, 2020 and charged with Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Great Bodily Injury and Attempted Murder. The Defendant was subsequently indicted for the above-referenced charges, as well as for a second count of Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Great Bodily Injury. Thereafter, the State set forth a plea offer for the Defendant to his attorney. The Defendant accepted that offer and entered a plea of guilty to one count of Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Great Bodily Injury and Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature on April 12, 2021, before the Honorable Judge Markley Dennis ("Judge Dennis"). The Defendant was sentenced at that time. Since entering his plea and being sentenced, the Defendant has filed two separate Motions to Withdraw Guilty Plea. For the many reasons set forth herein, the State asserts that the Defendant's motions are completely without merit and should be denied.

II. FACTS AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On April 10, 2020, at approximately 10:40 p.m., Berkeley County Sheriff's Deputies responded to Fiddle Way and Old Whitesville Road in the Moncks Corner area of Berkeley County

due to a noise complaint. Upon arrival, officers observed a white Chevrolet Tahoe vehicle operating without a head light, leaving at a high rate of speed, and almost striking a Deputy's vehicle. The Defendant George Riley Dreher, also known as "Lee", was the driver of the Tahoe vehicle.

Upon observing the multiple violations, Deputies initiated a traffic stop on the Defendant's vehicle by lights and sirens on Old Whitesville Road. The Defendant refused to stop at that time and accelerated away at a high rate of speed. The Defendant made a right turn onto 17A continuing to disregard the Deputies signals to stop and accelerating away. While on 17A, the Defendant drove recklessly at excessive speeds, disregarding traffic control devices, weaving in and out of traffic and failing to maintain a proper lane, including driving in the median. Deputies attempted to stop stick the Defendant's vehicle on 17A, but the Defendant drove through the median to avoid them.

The Defendant then made a left turn onto 176 and continued speeding excessively, driving through traffic recklessly, and weaving across the road. Thereafter, the Defendant observed Deputy Quinn Hayden ("Hayden") standing by his marked vehicle in the median of 176, where he had stationed to deploy stop sticks. At that time, the Defendant swerved from his lane of travel, into the median toward Hayden where he struck Hayden causing significant injury to his leg. The Defendant then lost control of his vehicle, crossed all oncoming lanes of traffic and wrecked out striking the curb, a power box, an electrical pole, and tree, causing significant damage to the vehicle.

The Defendant was thereafter extracted from the vehicle by Deputies and placed under arrest. The front passenger in the Defendant's vehicle, Brandon Swain ("Swain"), was entrapped and had significant injuries. Swain was extracted by responders and transported to the hospital for

treatment. Deputy Hayden was also taken to the hospital for treatment of his substantial injuries. Further Investigation also revealed that in the weeks leading up to this incident, the Defendant repeatedly made public comments and threats on Facebook regarding his disdain for the Berkeley County Sheriff's Office.

On April 11, 2020, law enforcement issued warrants and the Defendant was charged with the offenses of Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Great Bodily Injury and Attempted Murder. The victim noted on those two charges was Hayden. On April 24, 2021, after being released from the hospital, Swain provided a formal recorded statement to law enforcement about the incident. Thereafter, a bond hearing was held for the Defendant on May 21, 2020 before Judge Dennis, and the Defendant was granted a \$125,000.00 surety bond on the charges, with specific conditions, including but not limited to, house arrest and GPS monitoring. The Defendant posted bond the following day. Thereafter, the Defendant encountered issues with his living arrangement, and an amended bond order was entered on June 19, 2020, permitting the Defendant to move to Solutions Recovery Center in Greenville, South Carolina, with all other conditions including house arrest and GPS monitoring remaining in place.

On June 28, 2020, while at Solutions Recovery Center, the Defendant cut off his GPS monitor and was thereafter arrested by the Greenville Police Department for Disorderly Conduct and Resisting Arrest. Following this incident, the Defendant was returned to Berkeley County by his Bondsman and placed in the Hill-Finklea Detention Center. A Motion for Bond Revocation was filed by the State, and the Defendant's bond was revoked on July 15, 2020. During the bond revocation hearing, based on statements from Defendant's counsel regarding the incident in Greenville, the presiding Judge also ordered the Defendant to undergo mental evaluations for both competency and criminal responsibility. Those evaluations were thereafter completed by MUSC,

and reports were issued on October 19, 2020, finding that the Defendant was competent to stand trial and would be criminally responsible for the incident if convicted.

Thereafter, the State indicted the Defendant for the original charges of Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Great Bodily Injury and Attempted Murder, and also issued a Direct Indictment for a second count of Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Great Bodily Injury, with the victim being Swain, the passenger in the Defendant's vehicle at the time of the incident. The State then set forth a formal plea offer for the Defendant to his attorney, Melissa Gay, via electronic mail on February 5, 2021. The plea offer was as follows:

Plea to one count of Failure to Stop for Blue Lights – Resulting in Great Bodily Injury and Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature (reduced from Attempted Murder); either without recommendation from the State, leaving each side free to request the sentence of their choosing, or alternatively the State will negotiate a straight sentence of 10 years. Following plea, the State will dismiss the remaining count of Failure to Stop for Blue Lights – Resulting in Great Bodily Injury.

Shortly thereafter, the State was notified by the Defendant's attorney that he wished to accept the offer and plea guilty. The plea was then set for the week of February 16, 2021 before Judge Dennis. On Wednesday, February 18, 2021, the matter was called for virtual plea. The majority of the plea colloquy was completed at that time, however, the matter was stepped down and not completed when the Defendant failed to allocute to the facts of the incident, specifically with regard to the charge of Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature. (A copy of the transcript of this proceeding is attached hereto as Exhibit 1).

On March 9, 2021, the Defendant's attorney contacted the Assistant Solicitor via electronic mail and requested that the matter be placed back on the docket for plea before Judge Dennis during the week of April 12, 2021. Within that email, the Defendant's attorney stated that she had spoken with the Defendant and "he would like to plead guilty and understands what will be

required of him during the guilty plea”, and specifically makes clear that the Defendant “says he’s aware that he will be required to admit to having intent to assault the officer and he is prepared to do that.” (A copy of said email is attached as Exhibit 2).

The case was recalled for a virtual plea before Judge Dennis on the afternoon of Monday, April 12, 2021. The Defendant appeared via video from the Hill-Finklea Detention Center, and his attorney and the Assistant Solicitor appeared via video as well. At that time, the Defendant freely, voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently entered a plea of guilty to one count of Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Great Bodily Injury and Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature.

During the plea proceeding, the Court, the Defendant, and his attorney all thoroughly addressed the Defendant’s mental health history and status, and confirmed that he was fully competent to enter the plea. Additionally, copies of the October 19, 2020 MUSC reports for the competency and criminal responsibility evaluations completed on the Defendant were entered as Court’s Exhibits, and specifically relied on by the Court. The defense did not object to these reports in any fashion and concurred with the Court’s reliance on their findings. Throughout the hearing, the Defendant clearly and repeatedly confirmed his full understanding of the process, his satisfaction with his attorney, and his desire to freely, voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently enter the guilty plea. A full and complete colloquy was completed by the Court, and the Defendant clearly and without hesitation allocuted to the facts of the incident as read by the Assistant Solicitor, which fully established the elements of the offenses. Thereafter, the Court heard from respective counsel at length and handed down its sentence – 12 years on the charge of Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature, and 10 years, suspended to 5 years probation on the Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Great Bodily Injury, running consecutively. (A

complete copy of the transcript of this proceeding is attached hereto as Exhibit 3). Following the completion of the guilty plea, the State dismissed the remaining count of Failure to Stop for Blue Lights Resulting in Great Bodily Injury, as part of the plea agreement.

On April 16, 2021, the Defendant's attorney filed the first of two Motions to Withdraw Guilty Plea on behalf of the Defendant. This motion baldly asserts that the Defendant "was not fully mentally sound at the time of his plea, therefore the plea process was not voluntarily entered into." Thereafter, on April 20, 2021, the Defendant's attorney filed a second Motion to Withdraw Guilty Plea. This Motion asserts that the Defendant should be permitted to withdraw his guilty plea on the basis of after-discovered evidence. This second motion specifically refers to an attached affidavit purporting to be from Swain, the victim passenger in the Defendant's vehicle at the time of the incident, which was dated April 17, 2021, five days following the Defendant's guilty plea. The Defendant then seeks to utilize this vague and questionable affidavit to assert that a third party, specifically Swain, is responsible for the injuries to Hayden giving rise to the Assault charge in this case.

The State now files this Response and respectfully asserts that the Defendant's Motions to Withdraw Guilty Plea are completely without merit and should be denied.

III. LEGAL STANDARD

In order to knowingly and voluntarily enter a guilty plea, all that is required of the Defendant is that the Defendant have a full understanding of the consequences of the plea and the charges against him. *State v. Rikard*, 371 S.C. 295, 300-301; 601 S.E.2d. 72, 75 (Ct. App. 2006). Further, the record of the proceeding must show that there was a factual basis for the guilty plea by the Defendant *Id.* at 301, 75. Stated succinctly, "All that is required before a plea can be accepted is that the defendant understand the nature and crucial elements of the charges, the

consequences of the plea, and the constitutional rights he is waiving, and that the record reflect a factual basis for the plea.” *Id.*, quoting *Rollison v. State*, 346 S.C. 506, 511, 552 S.E.2d. 290, 292 (2001). If all of the aforementioned requirements are covered, then the defendant is knowingly and voluntarily entering the plea, and the judge may accept the defendant’s guilty plea.

When a defendant seeks to withdraw his completed guilty plea, that matter is left to the sound discretion of the plea judge. *Id.* Absent a clear abuse of discretion, that decision will not be overturned by the appellate courts. *Id.* “An abuse of discretion occurs when a trial judge’s decision is unsupported by the evidence or controlled by an error of law.” *Id.*, citing *State v. Lopez*, 352 S.C. 373, 378, 574 S.E.2d. 210, 212 (Ct. App. 2002). When the judge accepting the plea determines that the guilty plea was knowingly and voluntarily entered by the defendant, that determination will typically show that the judge did not abuse his discretion. *Id.*, citing *State v. Riddle*, 278 S.C. 148, 149, 292 S.E.2d. 795, 796 (1982).

IV. ARGUMENT

A. Defendant’s Guilty Plea was Knowingly and Voluntarily Entered

Defendant’s claim that his guilty plea in this matter was not voluntarily entered because he was not fully of sound mind at the time of the plea is totally without merit and is directly refuted by the record in this case. Initially, the State notes that the Defendant’s motion makes this assertion without any supporting evidence or reference to the record of the plea proceeding. Stated simply, there is nothing at all to support this assertion by the Defendant.

On the contrary, the record of the plea proceeding in this matter makes clear that the Defendant was of sound mind and freely, voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently entered his guilty plea on April 12, 2021. During the plea, the Defendant responded to the questions by the Court in a clear, logical, and sound manner throughout the entirety of the proceeding, and he

verbally confirmed that he fully understood everything that was occurring during the proceeding. *See Exhibit 3.* The Defendant and his attorney were questioned thoroughly by Judge Dennis with regard to his mental state and mental health history, and both repeatedly confirmed that the Defendant did not have any impairment which would prohibit him from fully understanding the proceeding and that he was freely and voluntarily entering the guilty plea. *Id.* Moreover, the Defendant was evaluated at MUSC regarding his competency and potential criminal responsibility during the pendency of the case and was confirmed by those medical professionals to be both competent to stand trial and criminally responsible, and copies of those reports were made Court's Exhibits during the plea proceeding and relied upon by the Court. *Id.* at 7-8. The Defense concurred both with the findings of these reports, and with their being made Court's exhibits to the plea. Accordingly, the record of the plea proceeding in this case makes abundantly clear that the Defendant was fully competent and of sound mind at the time he entered his guilty plea.

Further, the April 12, 2021 plea proceeding was not the first time the Defendant had heard the full plea colloquy, had been thoroughly advised of what occurs during a guilty plea and the rights he is waiving by pleading guilty, and had his mental health status reviewed by the Court. The Defendant first came before the Court for plea in this matter on February 18, 2021. *See Exhibit 1.* At that time, a majority of the plea colloquy was completed, including a thorough review of the Defendant's mental health status, which both the Defendant and his attorney confirmed to be sound and competent, as did the Court. *Id.* at 7-10. There was no issue of concern regarding his mental health status whatsoever. In fact, the only reason the plea was stepped down on that date was that the Defendant failed to allocute to the facts of the incident, specifically with regard to the charge of Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature. *Id.* at 10-15. The Defendant's refusal to allocute in the prior plea proceeding, and the discussion that followed on the record that day, only

serves to confirm that when the Defendant chose to return to Court and plea guilty on April 12, 2021, he had a full and complete understanding of the charges against him, the consequences of the plea, and the constitutional rights he was waiving by pleading guilty. *Id.*

Moreover, the Defendant's own statements made in text messages during the time of his incarceration at Hill-Finklea Detention Center leading up to plea on April 12, 2021 repeatedly make clear that he was of sound mind and fully understood the proceedings against him in the case, the plea hearings he had, and his decision to knowingly and voluntarily plead guilty. Specifically, in advance of the initial plea hearing on February 18, 2021, the Defendant sent messages to his mother, Teresa Dreher, asking her to speak with his attorney and make sure she is working with the State to resolve his charges, and also asking his mother to assist in preparing for the plea hearing by acquiring a letter from a recovery program to present in court on his behalf. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 01-22-2021 at 10:25 a.m. and 02-16-2021 at 1:11 p.m., attached as Exhibit 4.* Then, after the hearing was held on February 18, 2021, and the plea was not completed at that time, the Defendant very quickly started communicating with his mother requesting that his case be re-docketed. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 01-22-2021 at 12:29 p.m. and 6:56 p.m., attached as Exhibit 5.* Thereafter, the Defendant continued messaging his mother in regard to getting a recovery service to speak in court on his behalf. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 03-09-2021 at 3:12 p.m. and 03-10-2021 at 9:45 a.m., attached as Exhibit 6.*

Further evidence of the Defendant's sound mental state during this time period is a request on March 10, 2021, for his mother to check on the status of his tax return and stimulus check. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 03-10-2021 at 7:01*

p.m., attached as Exhibit 7. The Defendant corresponded with his mother again on March 24 and 25, 2021, regarding the re-scheduling of his plea. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 03-24-2021 at 4:12 p.m. and 03-25-2021 at 4:22 p.m.*, attached as Exhibit 8. Then on March 27, 2021, he messaged her regarding the status of his power of attorney paperwork. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 03-27-2021 at 1:14 p.m.*, attached as Exhibit 9. All of the foregoing makes clear that the Defendant was of sound mind during the entire time period leading up to his plea on April 12, 2021.

Additionally, the Defendant's statements made in text messages from the Hill-Finklea Detention Center after the plea was completed, also confirm that he was of sound mind on April 12, 2021. At 8:18 p.m. that same evening, after pleading guilty and being sentenced, the Defendant messaged his mother regarding appealing his guilty plea and post-conviction relief attorneys. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 04-12-2021 at 8:18 p.m.*, attached as Exhibit 10. Then on April 13, 2021, the Defendant messaged Lissa Henderson also discussing his appeal and PCR options, and the time limitations for filing an appeal. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 04-13-2021 at 10:35 p.m.*, attached as Exhibit 11. Numerous additional messages regarding his legal options following plea were sent by the Defendant during his remaining time at Hill-Finklea until his departure on April 20, 2021, however, they are not attached hereto due to their redundant nature. The Defendant's obvious understanding of the legal proceedings that occurred during the plea and his legal options following the plea, are certainly indicative of his competence and soundness of mind.

In light of the foregoing, the Defendant's motion asserting that "he was not fully mentally sound" at the time of plea is both frivolous and completely without merit. The record of the plea proceeding patently shows that the Defendant was competent and of sound mind at the time that

he freely, voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently entered his guilty plea on April 12, 2021. Moreover, the prior record of the Court from February 18, 2021, and the Defendant's own statements throughout that entire time period confirm his mental competence and fitness. Accordingly, the Defendant's first Motion to Withdraw Guilty Plea should be summarily denied.

B. There is No After-Discovered Evidence in this Case Supporting Withdrawal of the Defendant's Guilty Plea

As an initial matter, the Defendant's request to withdraw his guilty plea on the basis of after-discovered evidence is not provided for in the Rules of Criminal Procedure. After-discovered evidence can be the basis of a Motion for New Trial pursuant to South Carolina Rule of Criminal Procedure 29 (b), but in the present case there was no trial and the Defendant chose to knowingly and voluntarily plea guilty, admit guilt, and waive his right to trial, rather than proceeding to trial where he could assert defenses and cross-examine witnesses. Nevertheless, in an effort to fully address this unsupported argument by the Defendant, the State will respond in accordance with Rule 29 (b).

"A motion for a new trial based on after-discovered evidence is addressed to the sound discretion of the trial judge." *State v. Harris*, 391 S.C. 539, 544-545, 706 S.E.2d. 526, 529 (Ct. App. 2011), quoting *State v. Irvin*, 270 S.C. 539, 545, 243 S.E.2d. 195, 197 (1978). "The granting of a new trial because of after-discovered evidence is not favored," and the appellate courts will affirm the trial court's denial of such a motion unless the trial court abused its discretion. *Id.* at 545, 197-98. "In order to warrant the granting of a new trial on the ground of after-discovered evidence, the movant must show the evidence (1) is such as will probably change the result if a new trial is granted; (2) has been discovered since the trial; (3) could not have been discovered before the trial by the exercise of due diligence; (4) is material to the issue; and (5) is not merely

cumulative or impeaching.” *Id.*, citing *State v. Spann*, 334 S.C. 618, 619–20, 513 S.E.2d 98, 99 (1999).

In this case, the Defendant asserts that he should be permitted to withdraw his guilty plea based upon a questionable affidavit purporting to be from Swain, the victim passenger in the Defendant’s vehicle at the time of the incident, which is alleged to have been executed five days after the plea on April 17, 2021. This purported affidavit from Swain asserts in pertinent part that while riding in the Defendant’s vehicle on April 10, 2020, “seconds before the accident I jerked the steering wheel while sitting in the passenger’s seat”. That is the entirety of the alleged after-discovered evidence presented by the Defendant in this case. The Defendant now seeks to use this vague and unclear statement to point blame for the incident at Swain, and asserts that it alone is grounds for him to withdraw his guilty plea. The onus is on the Defendant claiming entitlement to a new trial based on after-discovered evidence to prove all five of the requirements, and this motion by the Defendant and the alleged affidavit fall woefully short. Not only is this affidavit not after-discovered evidence, it is also highly questionable, and certainly could not qualify as sufficient to permit the Defendant to withdraw a knowing and voluntary guilty plea.

The incident that gave rise to the charges against this Defendant in this case occurred on April 10, 2020. At the time of this incident, Swain was riding in the passenger seat of the Defendant’s vehicle. Accordingly, the Defendant has been well aware of Swain’s presence at the scene and knowledge of the incident since the moment it occurred. On April 21, 2020, the Defendant sent a text message from the Hill-Finklea Detention Center to a Hope Dreher, asserting at that time, that during the incident Swain was in the passenger seat and he held a gun to the Defendant’s head and threatened to kill him if he did not get away from the police. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 04-21-2020 at 9:24 a.m.*, attached as

Exhibit 12. Then on April 23, 2020, the Defendant sends a message to a Vickie Taylor, shifting his story, and asserting that Swain told someone he refers to a “Bubba/pops”, that he, Swain, snatched the steering wheel from the Defendant during the incident, thus giving him a defense to the charges. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 04-23-2020 at 3:11 p.m.*, attached as Exhibit 13. **This message is definitive proof that the Defendant has known about this alleged statement of Swain, and was setting forth this defense theory that he now claims is after-discovered evidence, since April 23, 2020 at the absolute latest, almost a full calendar year prior to the plea.**

Thereafter, on April 24, 2020, law enforcement officers met with Swain at his home and took a formal recorded statement from him regarding the events of April 10, 2020 involving the Defendant. (a copy of this audio recorded statement was provided to the Defense in accordance with Rule 5 and can be provided to the Court at the Court’s request). Swain advised in that statement, in pertinent part to the Defendant’s claims and the subject of this motion, that he most certainly never had possession of a firearm during the incident, and specifically that during the time period shortly prior to the wreck he blacked out and does not specifically recall what happened immediately before, or during, the time that Hayden was struck and the wreck occurred. Swain did state that he smacked the steering wheel once earlier in the chase on Highway 17A to prevent the Defendant from hitting and killing a family in a vehicle, and that the Defendant stated that he wasn’t stopping the vehicle no matter what and would run through a road block if he had to. However, he never states anything at all that could be construed as saying he touched the steering wheel immediately prior to the wreck in this case. Further, Swain was specifically asked about the Defendant’s text message of April 23, 2020, asserting that Swain told someone that he snatched

the steering wheel from the Defendant immediately prior to the wreck, and Swain immediately denied this assertion by the Defendant.

On September 16, 2020, the Defendant received a text message from his mother, Teresa Dreher, stating that they were attempting to have an investigator speak with Swain. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 09-16-2020 at 4:11 p.m.*, attached as Exhibit 14. On October 5, 2020, the Defendant messages his mother again about pursuing Swain; and on October 8, 2020, the Defendant's mother tells the Defendant that he needs to be talking to people about having them tell investigators that Swain said he jerked the steering wheel. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 10-05-2020 at 2:05 p.m.*, and *10-08-2020 at 8:48 a.m.*, attached as Exhibit 15. On November 11, 2020, the Defendant messages his mother again asserting that Swain snatched the steering wheel. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 11-11-2020 at 6:37 p.m.*, attached as Exhibit 16. Several months later, On February 24, 2021, the Defendant's mother messages him stating specifically that she had gone and spoken with Swain about convincing him to help the Defendant. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 02-24-2021 at 9:25 p.m.*, attached as Exhibit 17.

With full knowledge of all of the foregoing, the Defendant chose to go before the Court on April 12, 2021, and knowingly and voluntarily plea guilty to the charges, and waive his right to trial where he could assert defenses and cross-examine witnesses, including Swain. The Defendant was aware of Swain's presence in the vehicle and that he was a witness to the incident from day one. Further, less than 2 weeks after the incident, on April 23, 2020, the Defendant himself asserted that Swain admitted to a person the Defendant knows – "Bubba/pops" – that he snatched the steering wheel from the Defendant during the incident. This is the exact assertion contained in the

alleged after-discovered affidavit attached to the Defendant's motion. Regardless of its veracity, this alleged statement of Swain the Defendant now seeks to offer as after-discovered evidence has been known to the Defendant since April 23, 2020, almost a year prior to the plea. Throughout the entirety of the case, the Defendant and others are aware of this and discuss this repeatedly. Nevertheless, the Defendant chose to knowingly and voluntarily plea guilty to the charges on April 12, 2021. Accordingly, there is absolutely no after-discovered evidence in this case, and the Defendant's motion should be denied.

The State fully maintains, based on the arguments set forth above, that this alleged affidavit cannot in any way be considered after-discovered evidence. Further, this case was a guilty plea so there was not a trial in this case where testimony from witnesses was offered that can be subsequently recanted. Nevertheless, even if for arguments sake it were somehow viewed as an after-discovered recantation of Swain's prior statement to law enforcement, it still would not in any way justify permitting the Defendant to withdraw his guilty plea. "The credibility of newly-discovered evidence is for the trial court to determine." *Harris* at 545, 529, citing *State v. Porter*, 269 S.C. 618, 621, 239 S.E.2d 641, 643 (1977). "Recantation of testimony ordinarily is unreliable and should be subjected to the closest scrutiny when offered as ground for a new trial." *Id.* citing *State v. Porter*, 269 S.C. at 621, 239 S.E.2d at 643 (quoting *State v. Mayfield*, 235 S.C. 11, 34-35, 109 S.E.2d 716, 729 (1959)). In this case, any modicum of scrutiny placed upon this alleged affidavit of Swain submitted by this Defendant demands that it be ignored in its entirety and the Defendant's motion be dismissed.

The alleged affidavit of Swain is highly questionable as to its contents and procurement. On April 14, 2021, two days after the guilty plea and sentencing, the Defendant messaged his mother about getting a new attorney, withdrawing his guilty plea, and trying to get an affidavit

from Swain admitting that he grabbed the wheel. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 04-14-2021 at 2:33 p.m., attached as Exhibit 18.* Thereafter, between April 12, 2021 and April 17, 2021, the Defendant and Lissa Henderson (“Henderson”), the notary who signed the alleged affidavit of Swain submitted by the Defendant, exchanged some 32 text messages back and forth. Specifically, there are multiple statements by the Defendant and Henderson made between April 15-17, 2021, regarding repeated attempts to track Swain down to get an affidavit, his refusal and statement that he wants to consult an attorney, and the plan to convince him to sign. *See Hill-Finklea Smart Jail Mail Messages for Defendant George Dreher from 04-15-2021 at 9:40 a.m. through 4-17-2021 at 5:19 p.m., attached as collective Exhibit 19.* Notably, on April 17, 2021, the Defendant messages Henderson in reference to this effort and states that “you got to explain to him that he will not get into any trouble because they will not charge him with anything”. *See Id.* at message of 4-17-2021 at 9:39 a.m. Then later that day Henderson messaged the Defendant and stated as follows: “Brandon [Swain] met me at the hotel. He signed his initials on the paper. He doesn’t trust anyone. He is scared to get in trouble. I explained that he wouldn’t get in trouble.” *See Id.* at message of 4-17-2021 at 5:12 p.m. On April 20, 2021, the Defendant submitted his second motion to withdraw guilty plea attaching the alleged affidavit from Swain.

Assuming, *arguendo*, that Swain did initial this alleged affidavit, based on the above referenced messages between the Defendant and Henderson there is obvious concern regarding the means employed on Swain to acquire the affidavit, and the fact that the notary signing the affidavit was so deeply involved in the plotting of this process with the Defendant. Equally as questionable, however, is the document itself. The message sent by Henderson to the Defendant on April 17, 2021, at 5:12 p.m. specifically states that “he signed his initials on the paper”. *See Id.*

The document submitted to the Court, however, shows on the signature line both the initials “BMS” and then also written out beside it is “Swain”, which appears to be in different handwriting. Accordingly, the procurement and contents of this alleged affidavit are also questionable.

Further, the statement in the affidavit itself that is attributed to Swain is vague and unclear. The Defendant asserts that this somehow shows that Swain was responsible for the injuries to Hayden that were the basis of the Assault and Battery of a High and Aggravated Nature charge the Defendant pled to. A simple reading of the statement, however, makes clear that this absolutely is not the case. The statement is ambiguous at best and does not prove or disprove any material allegation. In light of all of the foregoing, this alleged affidavit simply could not satisfy a minimum level of scrutiny, let alone be sufficient to allow the Defendant to withdraw a knowing and voluntary guilty plea. Therefore, the Defendant’s motion should be denied.

V. CONCLUSION

The Defendant’s Motions to Withdraw Guilty Plea are completely without merit and should be denied. With regard to the first motion, there is not a single shred of evidence that the Defendant was not of sound mind at the time he entered his guilty plea in this case. On the contrary, there is an abundance of evidence that the Defendant was competent and of sound mind before, on, and after April 12, 2021, and the guilty plea was entered freely, voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently. The Defendant clearly understood the charges against him, the consequences of the plea, the constitutional rights he was waiving, and the record reflects a factual basis for the plea.

As to the Defendant’s second motion, there is absolutely no after-discovered evidence in this case, and certainly none that could be considered grounds for permitting the Defendant to withdraw his knowing and voluntary guilty plea. The Defendant was well aware that Swain was the passenger in his car at the time he committed the offenses on April 10, 2020. Further, the

Defendant started discussing the alleged statement of Swain that he now seeks to set forth as after discovered evidence on April 23, 2020, 13 days after the incident. Almost a full year later, with full knowledge of this, the Defendant chose to knowingly and voluntarily plead guilty on April 12, 2021, and waive his rights to trial where he could assert defenses and cross-examine witnesses. Accordingly, this alleged affidavit from Swain put forth by the Defendant certainly does not qualify as after-discovered evidence. Moreover, even if the alleged affidavit was considered an after-discovered recantation of Swain's prior statement to law enforcement, it certainly does not satisfy the level of scrutiny required for granting the withdrawal of a knowing and voluntary guilty plea. Stated simply, the motions of the Defendant are completely without merit, and are nothing more than the Defendant making every attempt to withdraw his valid guilty plea because he is unhappy with the sentence handed down by the Court. For all of the many reasons set forth herein, this Honorable Court should deny the Defendant's Motions to Withdraw Guilty Plea.

Respectfully submitted,



Wilton H. McNeely
Senior Assistant Solicitor
Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Office

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INDEX TO EXHIBITS

No Exhibits were introduced

State v George Riley Dreher
Guilty Plea Hearing
February 18, 2021

1 PROCEEDINGS
2 THE COURT: Thank you so much.
3 MS. GAY: The next one on the list is actually
4 George Dreher.
5 THE COURT: Yes, I see that. All right and is that
6 a ---
7 MS. GAY: --- that's with Wilton.
8 THE COURT: Yes, Wilton was on but I don't --
9 hello, Wilton.
10 MR. McNEELY: Good afternoon, Your Honor. How are
11 you?
12 THE COURT: I'm fine.
13 MS. GAY: Judge, me one second. I'm going to turn
14 my computer around because his Mom's here. I just need
15 to mute you from -- you can't see me for one minute and
16 I'm just going to turn around ---
17 THE COURT: --- you don't -- I don't need to see
18 her if she can hear me; that's okay. She doesn't ---
19 MS. GAY: --- why don't you come and stand this way
20 and then ---
21 THE COURT: --- she doesn't need to ---
22 MS. GAY: --- she can hear.
23 THE COURT: And I can hear her if she speaks; that
24 will be fine.
25 MS. GAY: Yes.

State v George Riley Dreher
Guilty Plea Hearing
February 18, 2021

1 THE COURT: Okay. I found out today that sometimes
2 if we turn off the video the speaking stays pretty
3 consistent. So that may have something to do with the
4 buffering overload. I really don't -- it's beyond my pay
5 grade; I can tell you that. Are you Mr. Dreher?

6 MR. DREHER: [No response]

7 THE COURT: Mr. Dreher, I need for you to answer
8 me. Are you George Dreher? I didn't hear you.

9 [Technical difficulties -- background noise]

10 MR. DREHER: Yes, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT REPORTER: Judge, I'm sorry; there's some
12 really loud background noise.

13 [Off the record momentarily working on technical
14 issues]

15 THE COURT: Mr. Dreher, I have failure to stop.
16 Your lawyer has explained that charge to you, sir?

17 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: It's great bodily injury and it carries
19 a potential ten year sentence. Do you understand that?

20 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: What is your plea, guilty or not
22 guilty?

23 MR. DREHER: Guilty.

24 THE COURT: I also have indictment 2020-2022
25 charging you with attempted murder. And that carries a

State v George Riley Dreher
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February 18, 2021

1 potential sentence -- well, you're pleading to a lesser
2 included offense of assault and battery of a high and
3 aggravated nature; you understand that?

4 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: And your lawyer has explained the
6 difference between the two?

7 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: And you understand that for that I
9 could sentence you up to 20 years in jail?

10 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: You also understand it is considered a
12 serious offense?

13 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: And your lawyer has explained what that
15 is?

16 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor. That's correct.

17 THE COURT: That is correct. It's also a non-
18 paroleable offense; you understand that?

19 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: Which means that any sentence that I
21 impose you would be required to serve 85 percent and then
22 once released you still would be required to complete a
23 two year community supervision program, which is a fancy
24 word for probation for two years. If you fail to
25 complete that a violation of that could result in your

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February 18, 2021

1 being incarcerated up to one year at a time until the
2 balance of your sentence is satisfied; do you understand
3 that?

4 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Understanding all of that what is your
6 plea, guilty or not guilty?

7 MR. DREHER: Guilty.

8 THE COURT: Are you satisfied with your lawyer?

9 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Solicitor, any agreement other than
11 allowing him to plead to the lesser included offense?

12 MR. McNEELY: No, Your Honor. This is without
13 recommendation. Each side will be requesting a separate
14 sentence at the appropriate time.

15 THE COURT: Very well. Ms. Gay, you can unmute
16 your mic and we'll mute the jail.

17 [Whereupon, Ms. Gay complies]

18 THE COURT: You've discussed this matter fully with
19 your client?

20 MS. GAY: I have, sir. Yes.

21 THE COURT: And he's been advised of his rights and
22 the consequences of his plea?

23 MS. GAY: Yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: Based on your investigation on his
25 behalf do you concur with his decision to enter the

State v George Riley Dreher
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February 18, 2021

1 guilty pleas?

2 MS. GAY: Yes, sir.

3 THE COURT: Is all that correct, Mr. Dreher?

4 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: You understand if I accept your plea
6 you will not have a jury trial, you will not confront the
7 witnesses against you and you're giving up the right to
8 remain silent?

9 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: Have there been any threats or promises
11 made to you to get you to plead guilty?

12 MR. DREHER: No sir, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Are you under the influence of any
14 alcohol or any medication here today?

15 MR. DREHER: No sir, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Have you taken any type of medication
17 or consumed any alcohol in the last 24 hours?

18 MR. DREHER: No sir, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Have you ever been treated for any
20 emotional illness or mental illness?

21 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Tell me about it.

23 MR. DREHER: I've been in MUSC. There was a place
24 somewhere in Columbia, Trident; they said I got PTSD and
25 paranoid schizophrenia. I'm supposed to take medicine.

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1 But I lost my brother; I need to take the medicine. They
2 got me on Zoloft now.

3 THE COURT: So you're taking Zoloft now?

4 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Does that affect how you can think or
6 reason?

7 MR. DREHER: No sir, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Probably helps make it better.

9 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: You understand what you're doing today?

11 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: I've been provided with a report dated
13 October the 19th, 2020 from MUSC that outlines his
14 history of treatment for mental illness. I assume both
15 sides; Ms. Gay do you have that report for your file as
16 well?

17 MS. GAY: [No response]

18 THE COURT: Lisa?

19 MS. GAY: Hold on. I'm trying to get there, Your
20 Honor.

21 [Whereupon, Ms. Gay reviews documents]

22 MS. GAY: We've talked about this man for a long
23 time, Your Honor so if it's in something I have it in my
24 file, yes.

25 THE COURT: Solicitor, do you have it?

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February 18, 2021

1 MR. McNEELY: I do, Your Honor. I provided the
2 copy for the Court today and I'd ask that it be made a
3 Court's exhibit for purposes of the hearing.

4 THE COURT: That's precisely why I'm asking that
5 question. It will be Court's exhibit number 1 for
6 purposes of this hearing and will be retained with all
7 other pleadings in the Clerk's file. I've reviewed it
8 and ---

9 MR. McNEELY: --- there should be two.

10 THE COURT: Well, I've got one document. I don't
11 know that it might contain two different reports.

12 MR. McNEELY: There were two separate documents.
13 One was for competency to stand trial and the other one
14 was criminal responsibility.

15 [Whereupon, the Court reviews documents]

16 THE COURT: Well, what I have right here I haven't
17 read fully.

18 MS. GAY: Your Honor, at this time Mr. Dreher is
19 competent. There is no -- even though he was evaluated
20 they did not say that he was not competent. And he's
21 also not asserting a mental health defense.

22 THE COURT: That's fine. I don't have that he's
23 competent but I don't see anything or any indication that
24 he's not competent; he's answered my questions. But if
25 you have a report that has that you can file it with the

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1 Clerk; that's fine. The report that I have is submitted
2 by Allison Floyd. And it basically, and may even be
3 contained in there but the findings are and the doctors
4 that examined him were Tiffany Harrop and Emily Godfrey.
5 They also say he's competent. He meets the standard for
6 competency; it's all stated in this one form; so it's
7 there.

8 MR. McNEELY: Thank you.

9 THE COURT: Uh Huh. You understand and you know
10 fully what you're doing today, sir?

11 MR. DREHER: Yes sir, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Tell me the facts, please?

13 MR. McNEELY: Thank you, Your Honor. On April 10th,
14 2020 at approximately 10:40 p.m. Berkeley County deputies
15 responded to Fiddle Way and Old Whitesville Road in the
16 Moncks Corner area of Berkeley County due to a noise
17 complaint.

18 Upon arrival officers observed a white Chevrolet
19 Tahoe vehicle operating without a headlight leaving at a
20 high rate of speed almost striking the deputy's vehicle.
21 A stop was initiated by lights and sirens on Old
22 Whiteville Road. The driver of the Tahoe failed to stop
23 and accelerated away at a high rate of speed making a
24 right turn onto 17-A continuing to disregard signals to
25 stop and accelerating away towards Goose Creek. While on

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1 17-A the vehicle drove recklessly at excessive speeds
2 disregarding traffic control devices --

3 [Whereupon, technical issues with the video during
4 part of Mr. McNeely's remarks]

5 MR. McNEELY: -- he kept weaving in and out of
6 traffic ---

7 THE COURT REPORTER: --- Mr. McNeely, Mr. McNeely?
8 We lost you at some point so you need to back up a couple
9 of sentences.

10 MR. McNEELY: Okay. While on 17-A the vehicle
11 drove recklessly at excessive speeds, disregarded traffic
12 control devices, weaved in and out of traffic and failed
13 to maintain his lane of travel driving into the median.

14 Deputies attempted to stop stick the vehicle on 17-A
15 but he drove through the median and made a left hand turn
16 onto 176 continuing to speed and driving recklessly
17 weaving over the road.

18 Thereafter Deputy Quinn Hayden had positioned
19 himself in the median of 176 where he was attempting to
20 deploy stop sticks. At the time the defendant approached
21 he swerved from his lane of travel into the median where
22 he struck Deputy Hayden causing significant great bodily
23 injury to his leg. The vehicle then lost control,
24 crossed all oncoming lanes of traffic and wrecked out
25 striking a curved power box electrical pole and tree

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1 which caused significant damage to the vehicle. The
2 defendant was extracted and placed under arrest. The
3 front seat passenger Brandon Swain [phonetic] was
4 entrapped in the vehicle and had significant injuries as
5 well.

6 Deputy Hayden was taken to the hospital for
7 treatment of his injuries which have required multiple
8 surgeries and he is still experiencing significant
9 impairment and limited function. Deputy Hayden is on the
10 call today with his attorney Mason West and they will
11 address the Court at the appropriate time.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Are those facts correct, Mr.
13 Sanders [sic]? Excuse me. Mr. Sanders [sic] Mr. Dreher,
14 are those facts correct?

15 MR. DREHER: All besides intentionally swerving. I
16 would have never intentionally swerve and hit an officer.

17 THE COURT: Well sir, you're pleading guilty to
18 assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature which
19 requires an intentional act on your part.

20 MR. DREHER: I was driving the car, Your Honor, and
21 there was a passenger in the car. He snatched the wheel.
22 I would never intentionally -- I'm pleading guilty, Your
23 Honor. I'm not changing ---

24 THE COURT: --- no sir, you're not pleading guilty
25 without admitting your guilt. Right now you've now

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1 vacillated. You said no, I didn't intentionally do
2 anything; it was all an accident. So which is it?

3 MR. DREHER: I'm guilty, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: No, you just told me you weren't. How
5 can you be guilty unless you did something else that you
6 haven't told me? I assume Solicitor that's the act of
7 swerving into the vehicle is the assault and battery of a
8 high and aggravated nature.

9 MR. McNEELY: That's correct, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: From what I've heard there is no
11 question about the failure to stop; all that has been
12 established. But clearly the assault and battery of a
13 high and aggravated nature is the threat to the people as
14 a result of what happened after that. So, you're telling
15 me I didn't mean to swerve, I didn't intentionally do
16 that. I would never -- I think you said I would never do
17 that.

18 MR. DREHER: Correct, Your Honor.

19 MS. GAY: Your Honor, I just would like to
20 interject for just a second. The timeframe ---

21 THE COURT: --- Ms. Gay, you can interject all you
22 want. You're going to have to take this interjection
23 before somebody else. Your client just looked at me and
24 said no, I didn't do this.

25 MS. GAY: I understand. I heard that, Your Honor.

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1 There was about three seconds between the time that he;
2 we have video of everything, when the issue is.

3 And I think what happened when the man jumped out he
4 said his car did cross that area but I think it was you
5 know and he did hit the guy. There is no doubt that he
6 hit the guy. And so I've talked to him about this
7 extensively. We've been working on this one for a while.

8 THE COURT: Ms. Gay, you're not helping me at all.
9 You might be helping yourself but you're not helping me
10 at all. I'm the person that has to be convinced. And
11 the crime was when he swerved the car and the State is
12 alleging he intentionally did that.

13 MS. GAY: I understand what -- the elements of the
14 offense Your Honor and I've spoken to him about this.

15 THE COURT: Well that's fine but he doesn't agree
16 with you. You may but he doesn't agree with it.

17 MS. GAY: Well, my suggestion Your Honor is that we
18 stand down then.

19 THE COURT: You don't have to suggest; I'm not
20 going to take the plea. I assume you don't want me --
21 obviously his plea to one is already done but I don't, I
22 assume that's not the State's desire to get a conviction
23 on the failure to stop.

24 MR. McNEELY: It's all or nothing, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: I figured it was. No sir, thank you

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February 18, 2021

1 very much Mr. Dreher.

2 MS. GAY: It didn't work; sorry. He won't say it.
3 He won't say what happened. I did not cause the accident
4 ---

5 THE COURT: --- he won't tell the truth, ma'am.
6 Whatever; but maybe he is. I don't know; that's up to a
7 jury.

8 MS. GAY: I understand, sir.

9 THE COURT: Thank you. Mason, I'm sorry. Thank
10 you for attending. Thank you, Will.

11 *****END OF TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD*****
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C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2 I, the undersigned, Joyce C. Rueger, Official
3 Circuit Court Reporter for the Ninth Judicial Circuit of
4 the State of South Carolina, do hereby certify that the
5 foregoing is, to the best of my ability, a complete
6 Transcript of Record of the proceedings had, using WebEx
7 videoconferencing, and evidence introduced in the trial
8 of the captioned case, relative to appeal, in the Court
9 of General Sessions for Berkeley County, South Carolina
10 on the 18th day of February, 2021.

11 I do further certify that I am neither of kin,
12 counsel, nor interest to any party hereto.

13
14 April 22, 2021

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18 _____
19 Joyce C. Rueger, CVR-M
20 Court Reporter
21
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VPR

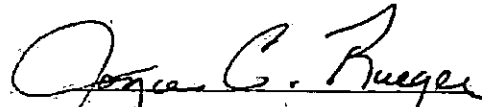
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on the 18th day of February, 2021.

I do further certify that I am neither of kin,
counsel, nor interest to any party hereto.

April 22, 2021


Joyce C. Rueger, CVR-M
Court Reporter

APR 26 2021

1:30pm in box
RECEIVED APR 26 2021

AR

Wilton McNeely

From: Melisa Gay <mgaylaw@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2021 8:24 AM
To: Wilton McNeely
Subject: george dreher

CAUTION: This email originated outside of Charleston County. Do not click links or open attachments from unknown senders or suspicious emails. If you are not sure, please contact IT helpdesk.

Mr. Drew called me this morning and says that he would like to plead guilty and understands what will be required of him during the guilty plea to get through the process he would like to go in front of judge dennis the week of April 12 can we please add him to that docket he says that he's aware that he will be required to admit to having intent to assault the officer and he is prepared to do that can we please in this case

Sent from my iPhone

1 STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA) GENERAL SESSIONS COURT
 2 COUNTY OF BERKELEY) CASE NO. 2020-GS-08-02020
 3) 2020-GS-08-02022

4 STATE OF SOUTH)
 CAROLINA,)
 5) Transcript of Record
 Plaintiff,)
 6)
 vs.)
 7) Date: April 12, 2021
 GEORGE RILEY DREHER,)
 8)
 Defendant.)

9 * * * * *

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12 B E F O R E:

13 The Honorable R. Markley Dennis

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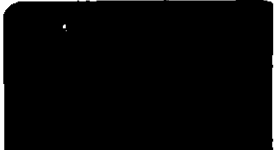
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22 Denise J. Lauder, RPR

23 Ninth Judicial Circuit

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A P P E A R A N C E S

REPRESENTING THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA:

WILTON H. MCNEELY, ESQUIRE
Ninth Circuit Solicitor's Office
300 California Avenue
Moncks Corner, SC 29461

REPRESENTING THE DEFENDANT:

MELISSA GAY, ESQUIRE
Melissa W. Gay, LLC
Po Box 2144
Mt Pleasant, SC, 29465-2144

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INDEX OF EXHIBITS

(No exhibits were offered or
marked for identification.)

1 (The following proceedings were held
2 4/12/2021, Berkeley County General Sessions, Judge
3 R. Markley Dennis, State v. George Riley Dreher,
4 1:34 p.m. These proceedings were held in the
5 Virtual Courtroom.)

6 BY THE COURT:

7 Q. Are you Mr. Dreher?

8 A. Yes, Your Honor.

9 Q. Good afternoon, sir.

10 A. Good afternoon.

11 Q. I've been handed several indictments.
12 Your lawyer has explained these charges to you,
13 sir?

14 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

15 Q. And the possible punishment in each
16 case, sir?

17 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

18 Q. Indictment 2022 charges you with the
19 offense of attempted murder. And you understand
20 that?

21 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

22 Q. Your lawyer's explained that I could
23 sentence you to the nature of that charge and the
24 lesser included offense of assault and battery of a
25 high and aggravated nature?

1 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

2 Q. And you understand for that charge I
3 can sentence you up to 20 years in jail?

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 Q. She's explained to you that that is
6 also a serious offense?

7 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

8 Q. You understand the significance of that
9 term?

10 A. Yes, sir Your Honor.

11 Q. This is also a non-parolable offense.
12 Has she explained that to you as well?

13 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

14 Q. Which means that you would have to
15 serve 85 percent of any sentence I impose. Do you
16 realize that?

17 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

18 Q. And once being released you would still
19 be required to complete a two-year community
20 supervision with a balance of the time remaining.
21 Do you understand that?

22 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

23 Q. And if you violated that community
24 supervision you could be returned up to one year at
25 a time until that sentence was satisfied either by

1 supervision or jail time. Do you understand that?

2 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

3 Q. Understanding all of that, what is your
4 plea, guilty or not guilty?

5 A. Guilty.

6 Q. Indictment 2020-2020 charges you with
7 failure to stop for a blue light; do you understand
8 that?

9 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

10 Q. And, apparently, there is alleged that
11 that failure resulted in injury to a person, great
12 bodily injury to a person. Do you understand that?

13 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

14 Q. And that carries a potential sentence
15 of up to ten years in jail. Do you realize that?

16 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

17 Q. What is your plea?

18 A. Guilty.

19 Q. Are you satisfied with your lawyer?

20 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Solicitor, it appears from
22 the sentencing sheet that this box is checked.
23 This is without any recommendation, negotiation
24 other than allowing him to plead guilty to the
25 lesser included offense; is that correct?

1 MR. MCNEELY: That's correct, Your
2 Honor. Each side will be requesting the sentencing
3 of their choosing.

4 THE COURT: Ms. Gay, is that your
5 understanding?

6 MS. GAY: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: He's been advised of his
8 rights and consequences of his plea?

9 MS. GAY: Yes, sir.

10 THE COURT: And based on your
11 investigation, do you concur with his decision to
12 enter the guilty plea?

13 MS. GAY: I do, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: It also appears that I've
15 been presented with two reports from evaluations
16 conducted by the Department of Mental Health to
17 determine his competency, and they each find that
18 he is competent. Do you concur with those
19 findings?

20 MS. GAY: I do, Your Honor, yes.

21 THE COURT: And you've had no trouble
22 communicating with your client and he's been
23 involved in developing his defense and his decision
24 to enter guilty pleas?

25 MS. GAY: Yes, sir.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Dreher, I'm going to --
2 I assume those have not been filed. Is there any
3 objection to my making these a Court's Exhibit
4 collectively and make them part of the record?

5 MS. GAY: That's fine, Your Honor.

6 MR. MCNEELY: No objection from the
7 State, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: And, Ms. Denise, I'm just
9 going to hand these to the clerk and they will
10 collectively be Court's Exhibit. There are two
11 reports signed by Ms. Floyd.

12 Are there two separate ones -- yes,
13 there are two separate ones. And the Court will be
14 relying on the contents thereof.

15 BY THE COURT:

16 Q. Mr. Dreher, you realize and understand
17 if I accept your guilty pleas you will not have a
18 jury trial in either of these matters and,
19 therefore, you give up the right to confront the
20 witnesses against you? Do you understand that?

21 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

22 Q. And if you went to trial, of course,
23 the State would have to prove you guilty beyond a
24 reasonable doubt. You don't have to prove
25 anything. Do you understand that?

1 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

2 Q. Now, because you're admitting your
3 guilt, of course the State would no longer be
4 required to meet that burden.

5 And, also, another very important
6 aspect; if you went to trial, of course you don't
7 have to say a word at any time and that can't be
8 used against you, but if I accept your guilty plea
9 today, you will have given up that right to remain
10 silent by admitting guilt. Do you understand that?

11 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

12 Q. Have there been any promises or threats
13 made to you, sir, to get you to plead guilty?

14 A. No, sir, Your Honor.

15 Q. Are you under the influence of any
16 alcohol or medication here today?

17 A. No, sir, Your Honor.

18 Q. Have you consumed any alcohol or any
19 type of medication in the past 24 hours?

20 A. No, sir, Your Honor.

21 Q. Have you been treated for any mental
22 illness or emotional problems in the past?

23 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

24 Q. Tell me about it.

25 A. I was in inpatient at downtown MUSC for

1 paranoid schizophrenia. I don't remember
2 everything, but it was a couple of different
3 diagnoses. I think it was back in 2012 and 2013.

4 Q. Okay. But since that period of time,
5 have you had any recurrence of the problem or
6 hospitalization because of that?

7 A. I was in the hospital 2017 for about a
8 week at Trident, on the sixth floor of Trident, and
9 then I was released.

10 Q. Not been back since 2017?

11 A. No, sir.

12 Q. And have you been -- have you
13 participated with your lawyer in discussing this
14 case and talking about possible defenses?

15 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

16 Q. And you want to do this. This is your
17 decision, sir.

18 A. Yes, sir, Your Honor.

19 Q. And you're not -- you don't suffer from
20 any problems that you previously experienced
21 concerning your paranoid schizophrenia?

22 A. No, sir, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: All right. Solicitor, tell
24 me the facts, please.

25 MR. MCNEELY: Thank you, Your Honor.

1 On April 5, 2020, at approximately 10:40 p.m.,
2 Berkeley County Deputies responded to Fiddle Way
3 and Old Whitesville Road in the Moncks Corner area
4 of Berkeley County due to a noise complaint.

5 Upon arrival, officers observed a white
6 Chevrolet Tahoe vehicle operating without a
7 headlight and leaving at a high rate of speed
8 almost striking the deputy's vehicle.

9 Deputies initiated a traffic stop by
10 lights and sirens on Old Whitesville Road. The
11 driver of the vehicle failed to stop and
12 accelerated away at a high rate of speed making a
13 right-hand turn onto 17A and continuing to
14 disregard the signals to stop and accelerating.

15 While on 17A, the vehicle drove
16 recklessly in excessive speeds, disregarding
17 traffic control devices, weaving in and out of
18 traffic, and failing to maintain a lane, driving in
19 the median.

20 Deputies attempted to stop stick the
21 vehicle, but the defendant drove through the median
22 to avoid them making a left-hand turn onto 176 and
23 continued speeding excessively and driving through
24 traffic recklessly weaving all over the road.

25 Thereafter, the defendant observed

1 Deputy Haden in the median of 176 where he had
2 stationed to employ stop sticks. At that time, the
3 defendant swerved from his lane into the median
4 where he struck Deputy Haden causing significant
5 great bodily injury to his leg.

6 The vehicle then lost control, crossed
7 all oncoming lanes of traffic and wrecked out
8 striking a curb power box, electrical pole and tree
9 causing significant damage to the vehicle.

10 The defendant was extracted and placed
11 under arrest. The front passenger in the vehicle,
12 Brandon Swain, was entrapped and had significant
13 injuries as well. He was extracted and transported
14 to the hospital as was Deputy Haden who had to
15 undergo multiple surgeries and is still
16 experiencing significant impairment and limited
17 function to his leg as a result of the incident.

18 THE COURT: Okay. Are those facts
19 correct, sir?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Very well. I find there is
22 a sufficient factual basis to support the plea. I
23 find that he's had benefit of very competent
24 counsel and he's certainly indicated he is totally
25 satisfied. I find the plea to be freely,

1 voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently made.

2 Now I will be happy to hear from you,
3 Ms. Gay. Thank you.

4 MS. GAY: Thank you, Your Honor. I'm
5 in the room today with his mother, Teresa Dreher,
6 who is an incredibly supportive mom. She's been an
7 integral part of his representation, Your Honor.

8 He's a young man, Your Honor.

9 What was he doing for work at the time
10 of his arrest?

11 MS. DREHER: He does welding and pipe
12 fitting.

13 MS. GAY: He was employed, Your Honor,
14 at the time of the arrest. He's from this area.

15 SO you can see from the evaluations
16 that we've done and what he said to you about some
17 of the history of his mental health issues -- and
18 during the course of this case, Your Honor, he made
19 bond and he was sent to Solutions in Greenville.
20 And he had, basically, a panic attack there, and he
21 was -- he ended up being taken to the Greenville
22 Memorial Hospital.

23 When he was taken to the Greenville
24 Memorial Hospital, he was in acute distress from
25 the panic attack and, I guess, some type of

1 paranoid situation. I received those medical
2 records and reviewed them.

3 One of the things that those medical
4 records says is they thought George needed to have
5 a neurological evaluation. That they thought there
6 may in fact be something wrong with him
7 neurologically.

8 Based on that and based on the fact
9 that, you know, all these different times he had
10 been in hospital, I had him evaluated. And they
11 did say that he was competent and, you know, had
12 the capacity to conform, Your Honor. But the truth
13 of the matter is, he still has some stuff that he
14 has to address throughout his life about his mental
15 health history.

16 He has been placed on medication at the
17 jail. When he said that he had not taken medicine
18 today, it was my understanding that they have been
19 monitoring him and that they have put him on some
20 medicine. Whether he's on it right this minute or
21 he was on it before, I can tell you the person I'm
22 talking to right now, and his mother and I are both
23 agreeing, is not the same person that entered into
24 the jail and was incarcerated on this incident on
25 the night it happened or even after the situation

1 at Solutions.

2 He is so much better about having
3 clarity and having some understanding about the
4 system and his life and future. He's definitely in
5 a better place now, Your Honor. I know that you
6 have heard me say over the past 20 something years,
7 there are occasions in life where people get
8 arrested and better things come out of it because
9 of the fact that whatever they were involved in at
10 the time was not going in the right direction, Your
11 Honor.

12 This evening was the result of multiple
13 bad choices, Your Honor. When you talk to him and
14 you ask him why he failed to stop for the blue
15 light, unfortunately, there's not a reason that
16 makes a whole lot of sense except that I think that
17 once something started, there was just like, well,
18 how do we get out of this situation?

19 He's in his car, obviously he's on a
20 high-speed chase, things are happening and people
21 are hurt.

22 What I'm asking you to consider --
23 well, we know the solicitor is going to ask you to
24 consider Your Honor is an extensive prison
25 sentence. I know that that is -- that he and his

1 family know that that's a possibility, but he was
2 at Solutions because he had a problem, a drug
3 problem at some point. And that was actually going
4 well until he lost his mind that day basically.

5 And we've spoken to Solutions and
6 Solutions is prepared to take him back into their
7 program. That's, as you know, a long eight- to
8 ten-month program where they are in patient and
9 they help them to restructure their life basically.

10 That seems to be the best thing from
11 the Solutions program, like you say, is they give
12 them structure enough where they come out of that
13 program and can make it. They have a very high
14 successful rate.

15 And so his family and he would ask you
16 to consider a suspended sentence. Alternatively,
17 Your Honor, if you believe that he needs to be
18 incarcerated because of the serious nature of the
19 offense and all the things that go into punishment,
20 Your Honor, we would ask you to consider a split
21 sentence as opposed to a straight jail sentence of
22 an extensive period of time.

23 I have worked with the Dreher family
24 for many, many months now. And as I said, this man
25 we're talking to today is so much more focused and

1 ready to address and be responsible for the actions
2 that he made that night.

3 I know his mom's talked to him
4 extensively; I've talked to him extensively and
5 we're asking you to be as compassionate as
6 possible. This man does have mental health
7 problems. He's not incompetent.

8 He is criminally responsible, but he
9 does have mental health problems that need to be
10 addressed and that need to be taken -- he needs to
11 have medication and treatment for. And he may, in
12 fact, have something wrong with him that needs a
13 neurological evaluation. That was just not
14 anything that we could get set up in the jail, Your
15 Honor.

16 THE COURT: All right. Thank you,
17 ma'am.

18 MS. GAY: Would you like to hear from
19 his mother now?

20 THE COURT: I will be happy to hear
21 from his mother.

22 MRS. DREHER: Yes, sir. I would be the
23 first to say that that night there was some bad
24 decisions made and it just kind of snow-balled and
25 had a snowball effect. I can't tell you though

1 that he is my youngest child. He's my only child,
2 I lost my oldest son, and he has an amazing heart.

3 Lee in his right mind would never do
4 anything intentionally to hurt anyone. And he has
5 a little eight-year-old daughter. And me and his
6 daughter miss him terribly and want him home. She
7 is eight years old. She doesn't understand. She
8 misses her dad. I miss my son.

9 Like I said, he has -- he truly has an
10 amazing heart and would never intentionally hurt
11 someone.

12 THE COURT: All right. Thank you,
13 ma'am.

14 Mr. Dreher, anything you want to tell
15 me?

16 He's muted. Hold on a second.

17 Yes, sir. Anything you want to tell
18 me?

19 THE DEFENDANT: I would just like to
20 apologize to Officer Haden and everyone involved.
21 I'm not a bad person. I just made a bad decision,
22 Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Yeah, you did and it was a
24 costly one. How much time has he served thus far?

25 MR. MCNEELY: Your Honor, he's been in

1 from the date of arrest on, but I think it is at
2 this point close to 11 months due to the time he
3 was out on bond and went to Solutions.

4 Mr. Haden would like to address the
5 Court. He's at the office of Mason West, his civil
6 attorney, and I'll address the Court after that.

7 THE COURT: Certainly. And, Ms. Gay,
8 if you wish to respond to anything that I hear from
9 Mr. Haden or the solicitor, I will allow you to
10 close.

11 MS. GAY: Okay.

12 THE COURT: I'll be happy to hear from
13 Mr. Haden, Mr. West.

14 MR. HADEN: Can you hear me now, sir?

15 THE COURT: Yes, sir, I can.

16 MR. HADEN: Oh, thank you.

17 Yes, sir. I would like for you to take
18 into account that I've had three surgeries so far.
19 I'll probably have to have at least one more, and I
20 will never walk without a pretty bad limp for the
21 rest of my life. I am now relying on a leg brace
22 just to walk even somewhat normally. I will have
23 that for the rest of my life as well.

24 THE COURT: Well, and I appreciate
25 that, Mr. Haden, and I know you have a very fine

1 attorney representing you in the civil matter. And
2 I'm glad to know that.

3 One of the things that I had to do
4 early on in my career on the bench is to remember
5 that we have two separate branches of the circuit
6 court. One is court of common pleas and the other
7 is general sessions.

8 And I have said it so many times, and
9 it bears repeating. Sentences imposed by the Court
10 do not in any way compensate the victim for what
11 they have suffered. And the fact that you have
12 suffered greatly doesn't mean that if you didn't
13 suffer greatly -- the act itself is what we're
14 punishing.

15 The beauty of it is the civil court
16 deals with what you just talked about, not my
17 sentence. So I appreciate that.

18 I will give you a for instance, and
19 I've had some of these. If a homeless person is
20 murdered and doesn't have any family, and you have
21 a person who is murdered that has grandchildren and
22 children and a spouse that was depending on him,
23 there's a great difference in financial loss, isn't
24 there?

25 MR. HAYDEN: Yes, sir.

1 THE COURT: But punishment doesn't have
2 a thing to do with that. Should the person that
3 has a great family loss, should he be punished more
4 than the person that killed the homeless person?
5 No. It's the act that we're talking about. So I
6 appreciate that.

7 And I'm glad that you are here, sir, to
8 be candid with you. And he better be glad too,
9 because there would be no question what I would do
10 if he was pleading to murder. And I'm glad he's
11 not. I would have probably given him somewhere
12 upwards of 50, maybe would have gone up to life.

13 What I have started doing is figuring
14 out how old the person would be so that we don't
15 run a geriatrics ward in the prison system and
16 allow them to be released in their late '70s or
17 something; but, by and large, you're here and I'm
18 grateful for that. Thank goodness you are.

19 And I hope that this civil outcome will
20 be somewhat remunerative -- somewhat compensatory
21 to you. Not remunerative, because you are entitled
22 to every dime you get and more.

23 One of the things that I have certainly
24 come to grips with, you don't know how many times
25 when representing a person in a civil case I have

1 stood in this very same courtroom telling the jury,
2 what amount of money will compensate that person to
3 put them back? And there's no sum.

4 Man, how much money would you -- what
5 figure would you put on it to avoid what you're
6 having to deal with for the rest of the life?

7 I don't know what you'd say. All the
8 money in the world -- you'd rather have back what
9 you lost than the money. There's no question about
10 that.

11 And I understand that, and I appreciate
12 your service to us, too. And the service -- I
13 assume that you can't return to the work that you
14 previously did; is that correct?

15 MR. HADEN: Yes, sir, I'm trying. It
16 is still unsure if I will be able to return to
17 work.

18 THE COURT: And I understand that. And
19 I'm sure -- my hat is off to anybody that makes
20 that sacrifice and serves in that capacity, but I
21 hope that you do and I will certainly keep prayers
22 for that to happen, but I don't know that.
23 Whatever it is it is, and you will deal with it
24 somehow, but it would be a loss to society for your
25 lack of service. But, anyway, thank you, sir. I

1 appreciate it.

2 MR. HADEN: Thank you, sir.

3 THE COURT: Mr. McNeely, anything you
4 want to say?

5 MR. MCNEELY: Yes, Your Honor. Thank
6 you.

7 The State would just reiterate how
8 uncalled for and reckless this conduct was. As you
9 stated, we're very lucky we weren't dealing with
10 two murder charges rather than two people that were
11 significantly injured by a reckless act.

12 The State believes that the conduct is
13 worthy of punishment in the form of a prison
14 sentence and would request upwards of the maximum
15 20 years for this defendant given what happened
16 that night.

17 His prior record is a 2017, disorderly
18 conduct and trespassing; 2013, throwing body
19 fluids, disorderly, and assault and battery, third;
20 2009, ABHAN and DUI; 2007, possession of controlled
21 substance and petit larceny.

22 The State would also state for the
23 record that while on bond at Solutions this summer,
24 he cut his monitor and was rearrested by the
25 Greenville Police for disorderly conduct.

1 Given the facts as to what occurred
2 that night in April of 2020, the State believes a
3 substantial prison sentence is warranted.

4 THE COURT: And I agree totally with
5 you that he deserves to be punished. Also, I'm
6 sure you would agree with me that it sounds like
7 much of what all this conduct is attributed to is
8 mental illness.

9 And the bottom line is whether you
10 agree or disagree, that doesn't matter because
11 that's what I think it is. I don't think people
12 just generally like to do that sort of thing.

13 But the bottom line is, that doesn't
14 excuse it because he should have put himself -- as
15 he did before, put himself and commit himself and
16 get some help, but he didn't.

17 And then he responded typically as
18 people who had been having that experience, and we
19 know that he doesn't just suddenly get over that
20 and get well. That doesn't happen.

21 So we're not talking about a person
22 that just goes around and loves to hurt people,
23 Solicitor, I don't believe. Maybe you have
24 something else that you can add that points to
25 that.

1 MR. MCNEELY: At this time, Your Honor,
2 not particular, but I don't claim to understand his
3 mental health history. I will say this, in the
4 weeks --

5 THE COURT: Mr. McNeely, you are an
6 advocate. Ms. Gay is an advocate. I'm supposed to
7 be the mid point. You don't have to agree with me.
8 That's okay. You don't have to justify what you're
9 doing.

10 I was a lawyer too. I understand what
11 you're doing. I get it. Just like Mr. West, I
12 understand what he's doing, but -- I cut you off.
13 I just wanted to respond to that.

14 I don't expect you to. If you did, it
15 would shock me.

16 MR. MCNEELY: I understand that, Your
17 Honor. The only thing that I was going to add is
18 in the weeks leading up to this, the defendant was
19 posting on Facebook about issues he had with the
20 sheriff's office. That's all I've got.

21 THE COURT: All right. Anything else,
22 Ms. Gay?

23 DEFENDANT: When he said that the
24 gentleman -- that he had cut the monitor off at
25 Solutions, that's why he's been in jail ever since.

1 He could have been out and not have to be in jail
2 for coming up to this plea, Your Honor, coming up
3 for the resolution of the case, but he sort of lost
4 his mind that night and that's why he ended up in
5 the Greenville Memorial Hospital.

6 Those records are actually the best
7 records I have of what was going on with him around
8 the time that all that was happening.

9 And as I said, Your Honor, they were
10 the ones who advised that he needed to have a
11 neurological, that there's something else going on.
12 We just haven't been able to get to the bottom of
13 all of that, Your Honor, because he's incarcerated.

14 And so he and his family would ask you
15 to be as lenient as possible and, certainly, we
16 understand all of the possible consequences here
17 today, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Anything else, Mr. Dreher,
19 before I impose sentence?

20 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: The sentence of the Court,
22 Mr. Dreher, is that you be committed on Indictment
23 2020-2022 to the Department of Corrections for a
24 term of 12 years. I'll give you credit for 11
25 months of jail time towards that sentence.

1 The sentence of the Court on the
2 failure to stop for blue light with bodily injury
3 is that you be committed to the Department of
4 Corrections for a term of ten years.

5 I have lost -- are you back? Can you
6 hear me, sir?

7 THE DEFENDANT: (Nodding head)

8 THE COURT: -- ten years. I'm going to
9 suspend that sentence in its entirety, and I'm
10 going to place you on probation for five years.
11 Probation -- conditions of probation are random
12 drug and alcohol testing, any counseling deemed
13 necessary, must take any medication. If you are
14 ever prescribed medication, you must take it as
15 prescribed.

16 No tolerance for any non-financial
17 condition violation, if you have a dirty drug
18 screen or fail to report. And the probation is
19 because this sentence is consecutive to 2020-2022,
20 and it's tolled until you are released. And then,
21 of course, you will have to -- I would assume
22 because I can't grant probation, Courtney, the
23 probation would be tolled until he completes fully
24 the first one. That would be the two-year
25 supervision program as well.

1 So I'm going to put tolled until
2 satisfies the sentence on this -- on the
3 consecutive sentence. Okay? That would take care
4 of that?

5 PROBATION AGENT: Yes, sir.

6 THE COURT: All right, sir. Good luck
7 to you, sir.

8 MS. GAY: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 (These proceedings were concluded at
10 2:01 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Carol Denise Lauder, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public for the State of South Carolina at Large, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is a true, accurate, and complete record.

I further certify that I am neither related to nor counsel for any party to the cause pending or interested in the events thereof.

Witness my hand, I have hereunto affixed my official seal this 26th day of April, 2021 at Charleston, Charleston County, South Carolina.

S/Carol Denise Lauder, RPR
Carol Denise Lauder
Registered Professional
Reporter, CP
My Commission expires
February 27, 2028

RE: Son

Reference #: 78,802,622

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 01/22/2021 10:25 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Good morning momma, there is some kinda problem with securis the phone company so I'm not able to add money on to my phoneaccount, I tried to contact you on home wave andnicole was posed to text you and tell u to get on home wave! I alsleft you a msg on home wave! And as for the letter I'm in the process momma, I'm jottindown on paper the incidents that transpired kinda like a roughdraft before I text it to you! But thank youfothmoney, its greatly appreciated! Please try to keepincontact with lisa, checkintsee if she is talking with solicitors to try and resolve this problem asap! Maybe see if taylor could put a few bucks on the homewave due to the problem with securis please and thanjk you! Thanks for being the worlds greatest mom as well love you most! Xoxoxo

RE: Son

Reference #: 78,804,069

From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 01/22/2021 10:46 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey baby I put money on your messenger yesterday so we can text and I will put some more money on Home Wave today so we can see each other. Do you have money on your phone? I talked to Lesa yesterday and she's going to get in touch with me when she talks with the solicitor. You really need to plead no contest if they work out a decent deal. Lee if you go before a judge and jury you could get 10-155 years. Taytum would be 18 or 23 before you got out. I couldn't handle that and bless her heart neither could she. I love you most!!! XOXOXOXO

RE: Son

Reference #: 78,805,872

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)

Good morning! I hope you are having a good morning. I was laying here readying my bible I want you to get yours and read Psalms 51 read that entire scripture all the way to 52. It touched my heart and I wanted you to read it to. Momma misses you and loves you most baby! Have a good day & call me later. XOXOXOXO

Hey

Reference #: 81,052,937
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 02/16/2021 1:11 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Please call Chris at solutions recovery in Greenville and ask him to fax my lawyer an acceptance letter into the program so she can present it to the Jude on Thursday so he knows I'm serious about my future. Please and thank you

RE: Bible

Reference #: 81,246,458
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 02/18/2021 4:38 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Tell me exactly what was said about what address I'm to use for probation! Like who said that to you?

RE: Bible

Reference #: 81,256,500
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 02/18/2021 6:34 PM
Status: Recipient Read

I love you most! XOXOXOXO

RE: Hey

Reference #: 81,580,978

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 02/22/2021 12:29 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Love you! Where do you hear I would go back to court in April? Melissa is saying she does not know what will happen yet! Love you

RE: Hey

Reference #: 81,594,837

From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 02/22/2021 2:52 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey! Sorry I missed your call. I've been at Jennys since Saturday because my care broke down. It's in the shop now and she let me borrow her car to come home. When Melissa text me after court the other day she said Judge Dennis is not back on the docket until April. I ask could you go back in front of Dennis and she said she had to find out. I miss you and love you most! XOXOXOXO

RE: Hey

Reference #: 81,617,848

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 02/22/2021 6:56 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Ask if brooks can come backup here and show me the videos on a computer that actually works, not one that they pieced andparted together Thai only can watch 5seconds of video on the it freezes up! And please ask Lisa what's up wts going on/when I'm going back to court! Have you spoke with the people from off death row? I'm sure that's my

best bet! Love you

RE: Hey

Reference #: 81,632,919

From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 02/22/2021 9:13 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey respond to her message saying: Melissa please continue to try and work with the solicitor to get back in court. It was not in tension for court to go the way it did last week. Can you please come and see me so we can talk face to face or can Brooks come and see me again? Thank you Lee

RE: Hey

Reference #: 81,775,843

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 02/24/2021 3:02 PM
Status: Recipient Read

I don't care to talk to anyone until i get some kind of news on my case! I am absolutely fucking miserable and it seems like everybody is just fine with me where I am! I always get letdown or upsetting news on the phone so I don't plan on talking to anyone for a while! Love you

RE: Hey

Reference #: 81,776,195

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 02/24/2021 3:06 PM
Status: Recipient Read

It would be nice to have a magazine about the new dirtbikes and one about Allison crafts to help pass my time here! I have money out there so just use that to pay for the magazines! Please and tnk you! Love you

Hey sis send me a pic with you the baby and clutch in it please. Bubba loves you!
Xoxoxo! Also ask your momma to look up the bar association address so I can write
them about my lawyer, please and thank you love you to the moon and back

RE: Meds

Reference #: 82,927,814
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 03/09/2021 10:28 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Mom I want you to get me an acceptance letter to greenville solutions recovery
program! I'm not going to some mental program where you haft to take meds! That's all
I'm willing to take, im past tired of people telling me what to do, if greenville
wont get me an acceptance letter than ill just pray for probation! This is my life
anim choosing to life it the way I want to! Love you

Program

Reference #: 82,952,959
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 03/09/2021 3:12 PM
Status: Recipient Read

This is the number to the program that i want to go to 854-222-5450 this place is in
Charleston its called"off death row" they will come to court and speak on
my behalf! Forget Greenville. They charge a \$250 intake fee I believe ! Please call
them and talk to them! Have a good day! Love you xoxo

RE: Progrsm

Reference #: 82,987,367
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 03/09/2021 8:48 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey! I already have your acceptance letter for Greenville. I had already talked to them today before you emailed me. I will call the other place tomorrow and see what they have to say. Greenville is better than the alternative it's 9-12 months. Call me tomorrow. I have a Dr apt from 10-11 and I have to be at the Apple store at 12:15. I love you most! Momma XOXOXOXO

RE: Progrsm

Reference #: 83,016,244

From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
 To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 Sent: 03/10/2021 9:45 AM
 Status: Recipient Read

Good morning! So I called the Off Death Row and did some checking. The Oxford house does not have a good success rate and judges are less likely to accept them as an option. I have contacted "The Turning Point of Greenville" which has a good success rate and they are highly recommend. You have to call and talk to them as soon as possible. The number is 864-201-5478 and the mans name is Rob Morgan. Call them and then give me a call. I love you! Momma XOXOXOXO

RE: Progrsm

Reference #: 83,017,260

From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
 To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 Sent: 03/10/2021 10:00 AM
 Status: Recipient Read

Hey I just called and spoke with Rob Morgan he said you have to be Persistent in calling because he is on the phone a lot. He said the have openings for the right person so it's something you have to really want to do. Natalie has looked into it and it's a better facility than Solutions Recovery and may be a better fit we just have to get an acceptance letter as soon as possible and pray the judge will accept it. I will get Melissa's fax number and send it back to you.

Fax

Reference #: 83,020,401

From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 03/10/2021 10:43 AM
Status: Pending C.O.D.

Melissa's fax number for an acceptance letter is. 843-416-8379. Natalie did some checking and this place seems to be better with better success rates than Solutions Recovery. They have rules and restrictions but it's better than 0-10

Please help me out with this

Reference #: 83,065,965
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 03/10/2021 7:01 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Can you please try to figure out what's up with my 2019 taxes and my first stimulus check? Reply to this msg so I know you got it, and you haft to send me somcredits so that i can read the message! Love you xoxoxo

Hey

Reference #: 83,399,688
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 03/14/2021 10:21 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Good morning! I just wanted to tell you I miss you and I love you most! I missed hearing your voice yesterday ?? XOXOXOXO

You

Reference #: 83,458,288
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 03/14/2021 8:26 PM
Status: Recipient Read

I just talked to them they are taking care of it this morning. I love ya.

Court

Reference #: 84,432,190
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 03/24/2021 4:12 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Have you found out the exact day I will be going to court? They finally released pops! Love you

RE: Court

Reference #: 84,444,205
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 03/24/2021 6:16 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Son I'm sorry I forgot to call today I've had a bad day I promise I will call in the morning I will set an alarm. Did your Dad get out? Love ya

RE: Court

Reference #: 84,532,500
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 03/25/2021 4:22 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Keep calling no answer! Yes dad got out of jail if you read my last message I told you he went home! What day do I go to court????!!!!!! Love you please find out what day i go to court and reply to me

RE: Court

Reference #: 84,541,221
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 03/25/2021 5:48 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Son I'm sorry I'm going tomorrow to see about changing phone service. I have been dealing with Verizon 4-5 times a week since November. They sent me a 5th new phone today. I'm done with them! I love you! XOXOXOXO

Hey

Reference #: 84,660,014
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 03/26/2021 8:39 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey babe I haven't heard from you and you know I get concerned so please just let me know your ok. I love you most! XOXOXOXO

RE: Hey

Reference #: 84,710,980
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 03/27/2021 1:14 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey can you tell me how much money I have left? And can you also leave it somewhere before you leave to go wherever with jenny, also leave my power of attorney paperwork with the money! Thanks love you

RE: Hey

Reference #: 84,714,045
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 03/27/2021 1:39 PM

Sent: 04/09/2021 10:31 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey I have Taytum call so you can talk to her and it's Monday at 1:00. Love you most
Momma XOXOXOXO

hey

Reference #: 86,391,318
From: Hope Dreher (Public: Hdreher02)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/12/2021 6:46 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey bubba call me i'm with dad he wants to talk to you

RE: Daddy

Reference #: 86,403,520
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 04/12/2021 8:18 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Look up sc legislation section 17-27-10... Pcr defense lawyers=Thompson Defense Firm
843-444-6122. David Tar r 803-238-7967. Nathan shield 803-504-3411. Gross Law Firm
864-538-4466. North Charleston office 1495 Remount road suite b 843-417-0201, that's
something to do with pcr. I need you call these people tomorrow first thing in the am
a find out exactly what needs to be done first appeal or a pcr. My mental health
nurse Abbi Long 843-719-4551 she can better explain these things to you! This tablete
is about to die please look uthis stuff tonight when I get another tablete in about a
hour I'll send you some more information! Love you xoxoxo

Lawyer

Reference #: 86,420,911
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 04/12/2021 10:18 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Sent: 04/12/2021 10:33 PM
Status: Recipient Read

I'm sorry baby. I'm visiting your mom after work tomorrow. We'll work on something for you. I love you

Lawyer

Reference #: 86,450,496
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/13/2021 11:35 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Daniel A Selwa attorney at law for a pcr 843-492-5449! They are saying that I need to appeal it first and I only have 10 days to do so(appeal my guilty plea) then do a pcr, mom is supposed together a packet emailed to he from my mental health nurse here. Love you

RE: ?

Reference #: 86,451,008
From: Nicole Herzberger (Public: Nicole41481)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/13/2021 11:40 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey! I'm in hospital orientation that's why can't answer my phone. Sorry. Lee I can't believe they gave you 12 years. Like wtf! So fucked up...a petty thing what happened that day. I'm so sad about this and heartbroken. Are you going to try to get appeal? Or what is your plan? I'm not going anywhere and definitely not looking to date anyone I can barely juggle a job and parenting. I will definitely visit you! Are you ok?

Hardship

Reference #: 86,451,047
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 04/13/2021 11:40 AM

To: Dana Alford (Public: Danajayne)
 Sent: 04/21/2020 7:17 AM
 Status: Recipient Read

Thank you for gettin my sisters #! So how does this thing work,? Does it cost money everytimei send you a message, does it cost money every time u send mea message, if so how much,? Jw cause we can bring them in out rooms with us when they lock us down, soi was one of the first onesout today so I was able to get a tablet assigned to me, so I don't wanna get all crazy n be sending an ass of msgs if it cost money every time! I do kno one thing tho, having a brokeup rib cage in county jail ain't no fun at all, can't get comfortable and it hurtsto breathe! Well I'm fixing to lay back down till we come back out around 1:30, y'all be safe out there and stay away from them corona's if you gunnadrink drink dos-equies or something :)

Monday

Reference #: 58,891,862
 From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
 Sent: 04/21/2020 7:20 AM
 Status: Recipient Read

Good morning momma, I got a tablet this morning! Well they assigned it to me for the day. So if you have any questions you can message me on here! I will b able to come out for deck around 1:30 so I'll call u then! Love you and hop u have good day

Monday

Reference #: 58,895,192
 From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 To: Hope Dreher (Public: Hdreher02)
 Sent: 04/21/2020 9:24 AM
 Status: Recipient Read

Hey sis, how you and babygirl doing? Tell ms Ruth I said hello! So if you haven't herd by now they are trying to charge me with attempted murder on a police officer! Which is deffinatly not true, the police was about to pull me over after I left your house, but the boy Brandon swainey in the passenger seat put a gun to my head and told me if I didn't get away from the police he was gunna blow my brains out, so I hauled ass. The chase started on old whiteville road in Monck's corner and I'm guesssingnby now u seen where it ended since it was on live PD! Brandon was hurt

pretty bad in the wreck, broke his back, broke his hip and something else! The police never even asked me what happened that's the only reason I'm in jail, is be cause they didn't do proper investigation! Cause if they did proper investigation he would be in jail and not me! I want you and Ms Ruth to stay in contact with Vikki (843)452-0589, her and cupcake are supposed to be working on me a lawyer, I have a court date may22nd at 2:30! I am about to lay back down but I will call you when I come out for deck around 1:30! Bubba loves y'all! Xoxoxo

Monday

Reference #: 58,896,263

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: William Murray (Public: Murray0815)
Sent: 04/21/2020 9:49 AM
Status: Pending C.O.D.

Yo, see if you can get tiffany number for me please bro! IMA call you when they let me out on deck around 1:30

Monday

Reference #: 58,902,089

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 04/21/2020 11:48 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Momma you must not have done something right cause i haven't got a notification that you have sent me them pictures! Call you when I come out around 1:30

RE: Monday

Reference #: 58,903,314

From: Hope Dreher (Public: Hdreher02)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/21/2020 12:10 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Reference #: 59,028,629

From: Vickie Taylor (Public: Vickiebubb)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/23/2020 1:01 PM
Status: Recipient Read

I'm up and rolling just so you know love you

RE: What's up

Reference #: 59,037,794

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Vickie Taylor (Public: Vickiebubb)
Sent: 04/23/2020 3:11 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Thank you! I just talked to Bubba/pops, he said this Brandon told him last thing he remembers was snatching the steering wheel out of my hand, then waking up in the hospital! So with that being said that proves that I did not intentionally swerve towards the police officer, Brandon did that when he snatched the wheel!!!! So yeah, I already let Teresa know, thank you again Vikki I owe you big time!!! IMA call you here in a few! Love y'all give cupcake a big hug n kiss n tell her I said thank you for everything!!!!

Hey

Reference #: 59,043,997

From: Nicole Herzberger (Public: Nicole41481)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/23/2020 4:44 PM
Status: Recipient Read


Hey...well I guess with all that's gone down it's time to kick the habit??Still pissed off tho! Hope your day is going ok. Leaving work shortly. Miss u

RE: Hey

Reference #: 59,044,362

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)

This copy was exported from SmartJailMail on 5/17/2021 at 10:30 AM US/Eastern by Sergeant. D. Jones



Status: Recipient Read

Hey momma the phones are down and probably will be for a while, so when u get this please reply and let mknw what you herd back please and thank you, and I need you to do a favor for friend Mr Morton, IMA pass him the tablets so he can text it, love you and have a good day. Her name is heather and just ask her how shes doing and ask her to please answer the homewav cause she has me worried her new number is 706 979 1503 and igf she don't answer then please text her please i really scared something is not right .thank you and god bless you. Danny

RE: Hey

Reference #: 68,831,874

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Nicole Herzberger (Public: Nicole41481)
Sent: 09/16/2020 9:54 AM
Status: Recipient Read

No haterade drinking going on this way babe, you the only person I got to talk to back here so yeah I was feeling some type of way! I need you to please do me a Hughes favor my mom was posed to call and figure some stuff out for meso could you please call her for me and ask heto reply to me on thtablete asap because the phones are down in here and its got me stressing something serious! So anyways, hows that pussy of ours doing?

RE: Your Dad

Reference #: 68,858,884

From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 09/16/2020 4:11 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey my sweet boy! I am still waiting to hear from the investigator. He reached out to the one they sent to talk to Brandon but he hasn't got back with him. Your Fad has the Cadillac at Matt's house now. I bought a toolbox/workbench for the garage to put your tools in so I'm going to start getting them from Vikki's. I came to get my toes done because my big toes are killing me. So I keep asking you how do you feel about me getting a roommate? With me being unemployed I really need the money. I want to make the old sim your room would that be ok? I tried to make the call for your friend but I didn't get an answer. I look forward to hearing from you! I'll e you and miss you! Momma XOXOXOXO

Hey

Reference #: 70,308,980
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 10/05/2020 2:05 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey momma can you please call TRIDENT HOSPITAL MAIN CAMPUS and ask them if they have a patient by the name of MELISSA GIACONA. Im asking you to do this for a friend because he received a call last night saying his wife was in a really bad car accident and was in the hospital. He does not have any money to be able to make calls or get in touch with anyone to figure out what is going on so please do this for me ASAP and write me back on here and let me know what you find out. So I found out that they aren't gonna let me out until these people pick up there feet and do something about brandons situation in this matter! So hopefully u can get everything done today the pin code is either 1988/ or 2812

You

Reference #: 70,344,679
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 10/05/2020 8:57 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey baby so you didn't have a card in your wallet. I took money off of my charge card to put on your account. Your Dad will have to step up and take care of next week because I know I won't have it. Call me when you can. I love you have a good night and I love you most!!!XOXOXOXO

Lee

Reference #: 70,513,864
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 10/08/2020 8:48 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey! I hope your doing ok. You know how much it upsets me when you hang up on me! I went and talked to Alan Taporek this week and he hopes you are doing any counseling or therapy that is offered at the jail. I also had lunch with Brian Adam's Brian is running for the state house senate he suggested the same thing. You need to be involved in anything positive you can do while in county. I have one more appointment I am going to try and make next week and see what advice I get from it. I'm leaving next Thursday going to Washington with Natalie and I will be back the following Monday. You need to be talking to your Dad and Matt about telling the investigators what Brandon told them that he remembered jerking the wheel! I'm going outside to stain the new fence I miss you and I love you most! Momma

RE: Lee

Reference #: 70,569,216

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)

To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)

Sent: 10/08/2020 9:24 PM

Status: Recipient Read

Why are yall going to washington? What is the status on my taxes and my stimulus? Please reply soon I'm bout to fire Lisa and take my chances I'm tired of her playing with my life likim a pawn in a chess game she doesn't care to win, tired others people just tired. Love ya

RE: Lee

Reference #: 70,571,584

From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)

To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)

Sent: 10/08/2020 9:48 PM

Status: Recipient Read

Going with Natalie to see her Mom in Washington. Don't do anything with Melissa until you get this testing done this week coming. One check went to the hospital in Columbia and the stimulus check has to be tracked before they will cut a new one. Love you. Hope you picked up on my earlier message. Love you

RE: Lee

Reference #: 72,772,015
 From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 To: Gage Gundros (Public: ggundros1990)
 Sent: 11/07/2020 11:10 AM
 Status: Pending C.O.D.

Yeah you can buy the caddy, send me your number and I'll call and tell you where to go and give you my pops number a stuff. Write me back on here asap with your number, don't be fucking with that food bro! Tell your gal to hook me up with a friend so I got someone new to talk to, tell the friend I ain't no buster macaroni either, I got money and get money, I'm 5'7" 150 blue eyes salt and pepper hair and hung like a horse! Know you don't wanna hear all that but her friend is who its intended for!

Rule 5

Reference #: 73,096,973
 From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
 To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 Sent: 11/11/2020 4:26 PM
 Status: Recipient Read

Hey so I e messaged AJ but have not got a response. I will go by Williams tomorrow. Lee son I need you to understand this is your word against Brandon's and as far as the solicitor and the police are concerned you were driving and an officer was severely hurt. You would get further I believe if you accept some responsibility for what has happened. It is a damn shame that your Dad is living with Matt after listening to the interview. Also your friends that you were at the party said you pulled in did a 3 point turn and left that you didn't get out of the car. But Brandon talks about you being at the party and him moving your car so someone else could get out. I also talked to your lawyer about the car wreck and he said they talked to you yesterday and gave you an update. They hope to be in mediation in the next couple of weeks and hope to settle the case the. If not the case will go to court. I have to go take them the copy of my power of attorney tomorrow. I have a note to find out if this is state or federal charges what else do you want me to check on with the lawyer tomorrow? Love you most Momma

RE: Rule 5

Reference #: 73,106,333
 From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)

Sent: 11/11/2020 6:37 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Mom I haven't spoken with anastapoulo in weeks/ probably a monthly ago they said we were in mediation and I have a msg/messages to prove they are telling you whatever just to quiet you down or geyou away! I have accepted what I done wrong since day one momma, first off thespolice ain't shit and will not ever amount to shit, they way the do in Berkeley county is absolutely absurd, if they think I'm gunna tell them i did something that I did not do, they have lost there fuckinminds! Aint nobody gunna change my point of view, brandon did snactch the wheel causing all this so with that being said all i can say is i cant wait for my day in court to cuss all these son of a bitches out! I will not fold for no man or womanjudge solicitor none of them can scare me! People continue to let berkelecounty ruin their lives, well I'm not gunna just let them take mine away and be quite while they do it, ima fight till the put my ass in an incinerator of a coffin! Sorry you haft to read this momma but i was raised whats right is right and what's wrong is wrong, and to stand on my own two feet like a man, to lead not follow, so that's what idling! They only indicted me at astate level not a federal levelanthe! Love you xoxoxo call billy tell him i need some money please anybody

RE: Rule 5

Reference #: 73,117,736
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 11/11/2020 8:47 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Billy who

RE: Rule 5

Reference #: 73,149,571
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 11/12/2020 12:13 PM
Status: Recipient Read

RE: Hey

Reference #: 81,814,583
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 02/24/2021 9:25 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Lee I have ALWAYS done the best I can do for you! Come to think of it I have done everything that has been done! So some appreciation would be nice instead of just cutting me off! But anyway I did go talk to Matt and Brandon and explained the situation. Brandon was a little zoned out but listened Matt said he would talk to him tomorrow and make him understand he needs to help you. I told him I would come back tomorrow. Love you later! XOXOXOXO And I've never been ok with you being where you are.....

RE: Hey

Reference #: 82,049,559
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 02/27/2021 4:01 PM
Status: Recipient Read

You can go to a bar and hang out for hours drinking and conversating with friends, but you can't go sit in ur car at someone house for a few hours trying to free your son ROM jail, or possibly doing years in prison!

Magazines

Reference #: 82,049,835
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 02/27/2021 4:04 PM
Status: Recipient Read

What time can i callyou, or what time do u get off work?

RE: Good morning

Reference #: 86,574,195
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 04/14/2021 2:33 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Call this lawyer office Adams and bishoff ask to speak with alley 843-277-0090, talk with them about withdrawing my guilty plea, tell her about Brandon grabbing the wheel andd tell hey you can get him to sign that affidavit stating that he did see if i should go through with withdrawing this guilty plea or not! Love you

RE: Lawyer

Reference #: 86,574,256
From: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/14/2021 2:33 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Call between 4:30 and 5 or anytime after 5:30.

RE: ?

Reference #: 86,577,188
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Nicole Herzberger (Public: Nicole41481)
Sent: 04/14/2021 2:59 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Ive tried calling you and cant get through, I left you a msg on the homewave. Im fucked man , this shit sucks!!!

RE: Lawyer

Hey....yes it's sucks. Gotta feel like an impending doom that won't end soon. I feel for you babe but you'll get threw it. Once I get my work schedule we should plan a time everyday that we can talk. I left you a message in HomeWAV. Tomorrow which is Thursday I get the hair follicle drug screen...then meet with the labor and licensing investigator to go over things. Kinda got me nervous...as if it could get worse. I sure hope nothing else gets added against me cuz this is a pain in my ass. It's gonna be dirty as fuck my drug screen. But fuck it I'm being straight up honest with them. That's all I can do.

RE: Lawyer

Reference #: 86,649,200
From: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/15/2021 9:40 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Her reply: 85% it is a serious violent offense I'm going to work on Brandon and the affidavit. I love you

RE: Lawyer

Reference #: 86,652,293
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/15/2021 10:18 AM
Status: Recipient Read

I believe he is back at Williams house 123 red cedar, Williams number is 843-489-0853. Love you

RE: Lawyer

Reference #: 86,657,900
From: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/15/2021 11:27 AM
Status: Recipient Read

I spoke with William last night. He said he ran Brandon off but he will be back because he has things there. I asked William to please try to get it signed. I'm printing a new copy today to take over there after work. Let's keep working on every angle. I love you

Yo

Reference #: 86,668,577
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Aj Pellum (Public: Redbankjulio)
Sent: 04/15/2021 1:11 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Yo i was just reminding you to put \$5 on here if you can, make sure it come to me my mom had tried putting money on her a lil while back but it stayed on her side so i couldn't use it to watch movies, only she could use it to send msgs! I know my momma out a town right now but please keep an eye on here when she gets back, go by and check on her every now and then please bro. Love you bro

Hey

Reference #: 86,712,636
From: Nicole Herzberger (Public: Nicole41481)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/15/2021 8:06 PM
Status: Recipient Read

I hate this for you and me that we didn't get a chance really to explore our relationship. Today I met with the Labor and License Officer. This is so serious that they mentioned contacting DSS...I just can't risk that and it may already be too late. I dont know yet. Praying not. The detectives contacted my old job and showed my boss the video of me smoking meth on HomeWAV...that's why I was terminated. Has hair follicle today and I'm stopping meth as of recently. Going to do outpatient therapy. I'm required to be abstinent from all substances or I'm screwing myself of nursing and potentially loosing Sky. I dont know what to say or do. I know they are watching to see if I talk with you and could call DSS on me. I'm sorry Lee. Wish I could give you a hug because I know we both need one right now. Miss you

RE: Lawyer

Reference #: 86,758,178
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/16/2021 11:26 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey they are moving me right now I'll call you when I can

Nevermind

Reference #: 86,759,005
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/16/2021 11:36 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Man these stupid mofos here, they made me believe I was leaving, I just went and took my covid test! Can you please check with my lawyer and make sure she filled my paperwork for me please? Love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,780,453
From: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/16/2021 2:58 PM
Status: Recipient Read

I'm glad you didn't leave yet. Do you mean file your Intent to Appeal or something else? I left another Affidavit for Brandon to sign at William's house. I hope he shows up soon. I love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,781,313
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/16/2021 3:06 PM

Status: Recipient Read

I'm trying to get her to withdrawal my guilty plea, and file a intent to appeal.
Thank you love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,781,734

From: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/16/2021 3:10 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Ok. I will check with her now. Did you send that request to her in writing? If you didn't, please do it. Keep a paper trail. Love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,786,311

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/16/2021 3:53 PM
Status: Recipient Read

I sent it to her via the tablets , that should be good enoughg, correct? I'm trying to hire Alley with Adams and bishoff but its hard for me to do so in here my mom shoulbe home Sunday and then she can hire her

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,789,224

From: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/16/2021 4:20 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Your attorney sent a message saying that she did file a motion to withdraw your plea. You definitely need to get a different attorney for this portion of your case. I'm going to keep checking with William all weekend. I really want Brandon to show up and get that signed. I would track him down if I had any idea where he might be. But

where do homeless drug addicts hang out? I love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,789,646

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)

To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)

Sent: 04/16/2021 4:24 PM

Status: Recipient Read

Lawyer said a motion to withdrawal my guilty plea has been filed, so if that's granted I'm gunna fire Lisa gay and hire Alley with Adams and Bishoff it will cost probably 10grand but I already have 5/6 and my dad said he will get a loan to pay the rest I gave him your number to call you he is with my ant pat and her number is 843-870-5123. I'll y'all you around 530/600, love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,792,383

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)

To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)

Sent: 04/16/2021 4:50 PM

Status: Recipient Read

Can you please text my mom and let her know that I need her to hire Alley with Adams and bishoff, and let her know that my father is gunna take out a loan to add with the money that I got so they can take my case, please and thank you, love you

Hey

Reference #: 86,817,352

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)

To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)

Sent: 04/16/2021 8:35 PM

Status: Recipient Read

So momma lisa and aj just met with Brandon and got the papers signed, now monday morning i need you to take all my money and hire Alley at Adams and bishoff 843-277-0090, it will probly cost like 10grand but dad will take a loan out for the rest of the money. Please do this monday cause they will be coming soon to take me to

prison, the faster and harder yall work on things the better chance i got at this, so you and dad please work together! I need to be a part of my daughters life!!!! Love you xoxoxo

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,817,961

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/16/2021 8:40 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Im gunna hire Alley with Adams and bishoff on monday, well i will have my mom hire them! Can you make copies of theaffidavit and take on to Lisa Gay so she can turn it in with my guilty ple withdraw paper work to thjudge, and then have my mom take the original to Alley. Please andthank you! I love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,825,571

From: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/16/2021 9:36 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Brandon didn't sign tonight. He told me to meet him tomorrow at 3 at the Econo Lodge. I'll be there. I don't think he'll show up. Good night. I love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,826,258

From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/16/2021 9:41 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Why didnt he sign? What happend?

?

Reference #: 86,827,829
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 04/16/2021 9:54 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Now lisa just text me and said he didnt sign, man look yall gotta know how to talk explain to him that he is not gunna get in trouble , just anseer my call so i can explain to u over thephone how to talk to him! Please listen to me cause im tired of this shit no body wants to listen to me, now look at me listening to other people got me doin 12years!!!

RE:

Reference #: 86,829,064
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/16/2021 10:05 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Lee I read the messages. Lissa is supposed to be contacting Melissa and meeting Brandon tomorrow at 3. I'm doing all I can from where I'm at. I'm coming home Sunday cutting my vacation short 3 days. I love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,830,137
From: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/16/2021 10:13 PM
Status: Recipient Read

He wants to talk to an attorney. He asked "how do I know that I won't get 12 years". I messaged Melisa and she replied "you can ask him to sign a documents and notarize it i do not need to talk with him if he wants to consult an attorney it should not be me". He didn't say that he wouldn't sign but he isn't signing at this time. I'm meeting him at 3 tomorrow. I hope he shows up.

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,833,476
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/16/2021 10:41 PM
Status: Recipient Read

K, i will call you tomorrow, ill call you tomorrow. Love you

RE:

Reference #: 86,834,325
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 04/16/2021 10:49 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Look i need you to hire Alley monday, cause if you dont im gunna be fucked!! Point blank period!!! Please andthank you, i might not be able to talk to you on monday, they may pick me up for prison, but i need you to understand that lisa gay will not do anything good for me! So whatever you do get with my father and hire Alley With Adams&Bishoff! Please n thank you,i love you, im nottrying to sound likean ass, but i know whats best and wht needs to be done, so please hear me out and take heed, as soon as Alley is hired fire Lisa, if that cant be done just put all my money on my account and pray ill make it home! Love you

RE: Nevermind

Reference #: 86,848,698
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/17/2021 9:33 AM
Status: Recipient Read

You got to explain to him that he will not get into any trouble because they will not charge him with anything, he was just scared andgrabed the wheel to try to end the chase! All its gunna do is be telling the truth to where they know i didn't intentionally swerve to hit that cop, cause i would never do such a thing! Love you

Reference #: 86,849,075
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
Sent: 04/17/2021 9:39 AM
Status: Recipient Read

I also need you to call my lawyer and make sure also files the paperwork to appeal my guilty plea, just in case the don't withdrawal my guilty plea, i can still appeal it!
Please and thank you, love you

Reference #: 86,854,288
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 04/17/2021 10:50 AM
Status: Recipient Read

Mom i wish i would have talked you out of going to Hawaii, i cant get Lisa to answer her phone, only replys to me via text, and these tablets are crap so hard to text on, half the time they don't have service and won't send msgs. I just feel like no body is fighting for me at 100% and I'm just gunna be shiped to prison where I'll be for a long time! So please whatever you do, just make sure you hire Alley Monday, because i only have ten days after court to file certain paper work, and i dont believe Lisa gay is going to do it because she is a liar/manipulative an just fucked me so bad! I need Alley to get a copy of all my text on this Tablets cause it shows where Lisa did not properly represent me! So ill call you later when I come out at 730, please have a paper and pen and take a few notes so you know what I need you to say and do Monday, please thank you, i love you and i hope and pray that when u get back you anddad can not argue and work together the get me out of this mess! Please please please take this very serious I love you xoxoxo

RE: .

Reference #: 86,881,027
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/17/2021 2:55 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey babe I know and agree with all your saying. Call Ms Lissa and give her the notes because I will be at the airport and possibly on a plane. I ask you if you wanted me to cancel my trip and trust me I have felt like shit most of my trip. Me and your Dad and are the same page and we will work together to get this done to the best of our ability. Lissa is being a huge help and is very knowledgeable about the law. Why do you think they are moving you on Monday? Ms Lissa AJ and your Dad were going to see Brandon today so let's pray he signs the paper and that will be a big help! I love you most please pray son God will help us through this I have to trust in him for all that's right and fair. XOXOXOXO

RE: .

Reference #: 86,882,421
 From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
 Sent: 04/17/2021 3:07 PM
 Status: Recipient Read

Ive already told Ms Lisa everything, but I need answers, when I ask for someone to do something I expect some one to reply back to me stating that its been done they are trying to do it or its not been done, not just being in the dark with no answer! Like i will feel better if you text me back and say "son first thing Monday morning I will hire Alley with adams and bishoff and have her on your case" because that's what i need is a good lawyer you and Lisa can only do so much, please hire her for me!!!! I'll just call you sometime tomorrow, i left you a few msgs on homewave. I love you

RE: .

Reference #: 86,886,086
 From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
 To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 Sent: 04/17/2021 3:40 PM
 Status: Recipient Read

Son I plan on trying to hire her if she will take the case with the money you have. Does your Dad have the other \$1400 he owes you? When is he going to try to get a loan. Lissa went to pick your Dad up this morning and he wasn't at Aunt Pats. Lissa and Aj are out looking for Brandon now. I will update you with anything I find out. I love you.

RE: .

Reference #: 86,891,507
From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
Sent: 04/17/2021 4:28 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Dad put one thousand in my account maybe 900 so he only owes me 400/500. You take him to the bank Monday, and he will get a loan, just look at home wave message, and like i asked please answer my phone call later so i can talk to you, can u do that please? Mom 12 years of my life are on the line here, i need you to pay close attention and work every angle! I only have 10 days after my court dates last monday to get this paper work filed, i cant file it my lawyer has to, i have askwd Lisa to check with lawyer but get no answer, that's why im texting to talk to you i haft to hope anpray you do these thing and put pressure on these people, cause just sitting back and waiting on things to happen is not gunna work for this, this is serious mom please promise me you wilgive your undivided attention to this process! Love you

RE: .

Reference #: 86,893,622
From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/17/2021 4:47 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Lee I promise I will continue giving all I can do. Lissa just sent me pictures Brandon signed the paper! Now we have something else to take to the lawyer! I have to be at the airport at 1:00 which is 7:00 your time. I love you. Try and call Ms Lissa

RE: .

Reference #: 86,896,380
From: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
Sent: 04/17/2021 5:12 PM
Status: Recipient Read

Hey. AJ went to pick up your dad but he wasn't home. Brandon met me at the hotel. He signed his initials on the paper. He doesn't trust anyone. He is scared to get in trouble. I explained that he wouldn't get in trouble. I don't know what your dad is doing. I love you

RE: .

Reference #: 86,896,915
 From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 To: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
 Sent: 04/17/2021 5:18 PM
 Status: Recipient Read

K they are taking the tablets, that letter needs to be copied one copy given to Lisa gay and the other need to go to Alley with Adams and bishoff! Dad probably got on his bike and went to goose creek to try and talk with brandon because lisa was supposed to pick him up last night but she didnt so he was kinda upset so heis probably just doing the best he can to help, that's all! Please help dad help me even if he needs a place to stay mom i need my parents back both of y'all, dad is doing better anhe will take a loan out come to hirthe new lawyer! I gotta go I love you, xoxoxo

RE: .

Reference #: 86,897,052
 From: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 To: Lissa Henderson (Public: Lissap112)
 Sent: 04/17/2021 5:19 PM
 Status: Recipient Read

Can you make copiesand take a copy to Lisa gay for she can turn iit, i gotta give the tablete ck to the police, I will call you when i come out my room at 730, love you

RE: .

Reference #: 86,905,651
 From: Teresa Dreher (Public: TLD)
 To: GEORGE DREHER (Inmate: 4057)
 Sent: 04/17/2021 6:41 PM
 Status: Recipient Read

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July 29, 2021

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AUG 03 2021

SC Court of Appeals

The South Carolina Court of Appeals
Post Office Box 11629
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

**Re: Notice of Intent To Appeal State of South Carolina
In the South Carolina Court of Appeals
Appeal From Berkeley County
Case No.: 2020-GS-08-02020, 2020-GS-08-02022**

State of South Carolina, Respondent vs. George Riley Dreher

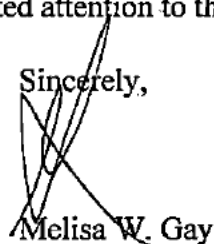
Dear Clerk:

Enclosed please find a copy of the State's Response and Memorandum in Opposition to Defendant's Motions to Withdraw Guilty Plea. This document was inadvertently left out of our original package.

In the event that you have any questions, concerns, or are in need of any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact my office at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your anticipated attention to this matter. I am,

Sincerely,


Melisa W. Gay

Enclosures as stated

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P. O. BOX 11629
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