

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

THE STATE OF OHIO	)	CASE NO. CR 07 480367
	)	
Plaintiff	)	JUDGE JOHN P. O'DONNELL
	)	
-vs-	)	<b><u>JOURNAL ENTRY</u></b>
	)	<b><u>AUTHORIZING</u></b>
THEODORE WRIGHT	)	<b><u>INVOLUNTARY MEDICATION</u></b>
	)	
Defendant	)	

The defendant Theodore Wright is charged in a two-count indictment with Aggravated Arson, in violation of Ohio Revised Code § 2909.02, and Burglary, O.R.C. 2911.12. The date of the alleged offense is February 4, 2006.

The defendant was arraigned on May 16, 2006. Thereafter, he was referred to the Court Psychiatric Clinic for a competency evaluation. Based upon that evaluation, on July 18, 2006, the defendant was found not competent to stand trial and referred to Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare's Cleveland Campus for competency restoration.

On March 20, 2007, a restoration to competency hearing was postponed at the defendant's request while he awaited a second evaluation by the Court Clinic. The hearing went forward on April 17, 2007, and the court found that the defendant had been restored to competency. Trial was scheduled for May 7 and the defendant was released pending trial under court supervision. The defendant came to the courthouse on the trial date but refused to appear in the designated courtroom and then simply left the building. A capias was issued and the defendant returned to custody on May 16.

At another trial date on June 6, the defendant refused to leave his pod in the county jail to be brought to the courtroom for trial. Because of the defendant's continued intransigence his

counsel requested another hearing on the issue of competency. At that hearing, on August 3, the defendant was again found not competent but restorable and was sent back to Northcoast for restoration. He was remanded to the custody of the Cuyahoga County sheriff pending the availability of a bed at Northcoast. While he was waiting to be transferred the court ordered the involuntary administration of psychiatric medication upon evidence presented by the jail psychiatrist. The defendant was finally admitted to Northcoast on December 15, 2007.

Northcoast's chief clinical officer, Michel Farivar, M.D., on February 7, 2008, corresponded to the court requesting involuntary treatment with medication. A hearing was held on February 14.

Based upon the evidence presented at the hearing, the court finds that the proposed course of involuntary medication: is medically appropriate; is substantially unlikely to have side effects that may undermine the fairness of a trial; and, taking into account any less intrusive alternatives, is necessary to further important governmental trial-related interests.

Therefore, the chief clinical officer of Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare – Cleveland Campus, or his designated, medically qualified agent, is ordered to administer to the defendant all prescribed psychiatric medications. The medications are to be administered by medical personnel only and by use of the most reasonable, least restrictive practical means available only after the defendant has declined consent.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

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Judge John P. O'Donnell

**SERVICE**

A copy of the Journal Entry Authorizing Involuntary Medication was sent by regular U.S. mail, this \_\_\_\_ day of February, 2008, to the following:

Marcus Wainwright, Esq.  
1200 Ontario Street  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113  
*Counsel for Plaintiff State of Ohio*

Patricia London, Esq.  
310 Lakeside Avenue  
Suite 400  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1021  
*Counsel for Defendant Wright*

Tammy Ristau  
Legal Assurance Administrator  
Northcoast Behavioral Healthcare  
1708 Southpoint Drive  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

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Judge John P. O'Donnell