



August 13, 2024

Judge Carmaine Sturino
Winona County Courthouse
171 West Third Street
Winona, MN 55987

Re: *In the Matter of the Civil Commitment of David
Austin Russell*, Respondent, Case No 85-PR-24-46

Dear Judge Sturino:

For the May 6, 2024 hearing on the petition to electroshock Mr. Russell against his will held *via* Zoom, Mr. Russell had asked a number of people to attend. At least eight people logged in to attend, were changed to observer status, but not let in.

M.S.A. § 253B.08, Judicial commitment; hearing procedures, Subd.3, provides in pertinent part, "The court may exclude any person not necessary for the conduct of the proceedings from the hearings except any person requested to be present by the proposed patient." (emphasis added) Attached hereto is an e-mail from Mr. Russell to his appointed attorney, David Jones, in which Mr. Russell directs Mr. Jones to request that people be allowed to attend his review hearing by Zoom.

If Mr. Jones has not complied or does not comply with his client's instruction to request that people be allowed to attend, Mr. Russell should be asked at the beginning of the review hearing if he requests that people be allowed to attend.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James B. (Jim) Gottstein".

James B. (Jim) Gottstein, Esq.

Cc: David Russell
David Jones
Paul Ellison

Jim Gottstein

From: David A. Russell <davarus@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 29, 2024 3:39 PM
To: David Jones
Cc: Jim Gottstein
Subject: Review Hearing currently scheduled for Aug. 6th.

Dear Mr. Jones,

I have asked people to attend my review hearing and I would like you to request they be allowed to be present by Zoom.

Sincerely,
David A. Russell