



November 7, 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 Carmaine:

This is to follow-up on Mr. Jones' request to remove my letter of November 4th from the court file, which you did. As stated in my letter, I wrote to you because the Minnesota Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board (PRB) Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility Complaints and Investigations publication states complaints against appointed counsel should be first raised with the court handling the matter. While it is not clear this applies to mental health proceedings, I followed that process. I certainly meant no disrespect to the court by using E-File, which a clerk had advised me I should do.

I think my letter should have remained in the court file, but it is true I don't represent anyone in the litigation.

In any event, the letter makes a serious charge about the improper representation of Mr. Russell by Mr. Jones, which I have formally raised with you per the PRB's suggestion. Please let me know if you will be responding to the letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. B. Gottstein", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

James B. (Jim) Gottstein, Esq.

Cc: David Russell
via e-mail