

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO
Judge Robert E. Blackburn**

Case No. 19-cr-00506-REB

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

ROBERT LEWIS DEAR, JR.,

Defendant.

ORDER RE: INVOLUNTARY MEDICATION

Blackburn, J.

The matter before me is the **Motion For Sell Hearing** [#128]¹ filed December 8, 2021, which is quintessentially a motion for the administration – involuntarily and forcibly if necessary – of antipsychotic and other related medications. The defendant filed a preliminary response [#133]. From August 31 to September 1, 2022, I held a hearing on the motion and took the matter under advisement.

Having judicially noticed all relevant adjudicative facts in the file and record *pro tanto*; having considered the testimony of six expert witnesses presented at the hearing; having considered the other evidence presented at the hearing, including reports prepared by some of the expert witnesses; having considered, but not necessarily accepted, the reasons stated, arguments advanced, and authorities cited by the parties

¹ “[#128]” is an example of the convention I use to identify the docket number assigned to a specific paper by the court’s case management and electronic case filing system (CM/ECF). I use this convention throughout this order.

in their papers and during the hearing; and having considered and applied the four ***Sell***² factors to the existing, relevant evidence, I enter the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and orders. Ultimately, I grant the relief requested in the motion.

I. BACKGROUND

Mr. Dear faces a 68-count indictment which includes possible sentences of life in prison on each of three counts which allege violation of 18 U.S.C. § 248(a)(1) and (b). Those three counts allege, *inter alia*, that Mr. Dear used force in an effort to intimidate a person and class of persons and that use of force by Mr. Dear resulted in the deaths of three people. No doubt, these three counts constitute extremely serious crimes.

The other counts in the indictment also involve serious alleged crimes. These counts are based on the general allegation that Mr. Dear shot at several people outside of a Planned Parenthood Clinic. Excluding the two people allegedly killed outside of the clinic, Mr. Dear allegedly seriously injured three other people by shooting them. Then, Mr. Dear allegedly forced his way into the Planned Parenthood Clinic by shooting through a door. Once inside, he allegedly engaged in an approximately five hour standoff with officials from several public safety agencies. Allegedly, Mr. Dear shot and killed one police officer during the standoff. Some 27 other people in the clinic allegedly were forced to shelter in place inside the clinic as a result of Mr. Dear's actions.

The court ordered the defendant, Robert Dear, to be committed to the custody of the Attorney General, through the United States Bureau of Prisons, for a competency evaluation to be administered at the United States Medical Center for Federal Prisoners at Springfield, Missouri (Springfield). *Order* [#82], p. 5 & *Order* [#100], p.7. Ultimately, I declared Mr. Dear incompetent to proceed to trial. *Order* [#121]. In addition, I ordered

² A reference to ***Sell v. United States***, 539 U.S. 166, 179-81 (2003).

hospitalization and treatment to determine if there is a substantial probability that in the foreseeable future Mr. Dear will attain the capacity to permit proceedings to go forward. *Id.*

Based on subsequent evaluations of Mr. Dear at Springfield, a psychologist and a psychiatrist at Springfield determined that Mr. Dear is unlikely to be restored to competency in the foreseeable future in the absence of the administration of antipsychotic medication. Mr. Dear refuses voluntarily to take antipsychotic medication. As a result, the government filed its **Motion For Sell Hearing** [#128] to determine if Mr. Dear should be medicated involuntarily in an effort to restore him to competency. Mr. Dear opposes the motion and the imposition of involuntary medication.

II. STANDARD OF REVIEW

It is well-settled law that Mr. Dear “possesses a significant liberty interest in avoiding the unwanted administration of antipsychotic drugs under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.” *U.S. v. Valenzuela-Puentes*, 479 F.3d 1220, 1223 (10th Cir. 2007) (quoting *Washington v. Harper*, 494 U.S. 210, 221-22 (1990)). In *Harper*, the Supreme Court of the United States held that “the Due Process Clause permits the State to treat a prison inmate who has a serious mental illness with antipsychotic drugs against his will, if the inmate is dangerous to himself or others and the treatment is in the inmate’s medical interest.” *Washington v. Harper*, 494 U.S. at 227.

Prior to the opinion of the Supreme Court in *Sell v. United States*, 539 U.S. 166 (2003), the government could request an order of involuntary medication for a criminal detainee only on a showing that the defendant was dangerous to himself or others. *Valenzuela-Puentes*, 479 F.3d at 1223. In *Sell*, the Supreme Court established a

quadripartite test to determine whether or not it is proper to order involuntarily administered medications to attempt to render a defendant competent to stand trial when the defendant is not a danger to himself or others. Under **Sell**, the court may order the government to involuntarily administer drugs to a mentally ill, non-dangerous defendant in order to render him competent to stand trial only if the government establishes four things:

(1) “*important* governmental interests are at stake;” (2) the “involuntary medication will *significantly further*” those interests; (3) the “involuntary medication is *necessary* to further those interests,” e.g., less intrusive alternative treatments are unlikely to be effective; and (4) the administration of the medication is “*medically appropriate*” and in the defendant's best medical interests.

United States v. Chavez, 734 F.3d 1247, 1249 (10th Cir. 2013) (quoting **Sell**, 539 U.S. at 180-181) (emphasis in **Sell**).

Addressing the second **Sell** requirement, whether involuntary medication will significantly further governmental interests, a court may find that the second requirement has been satisfied only if it makes two specific subsidiary findings:

- (A) that involuntary medication “is substantially likely to render the defendant competent to stand trial”; and
- (B) “that administration of the drugs is substantially unlikely to have side effects that will interfere significantly with the defendant’s ability to assist counsel in conducting a trial defense”

Sell, 539 U.S. at 181.

“(I)nstances of involuntary medication of a non-dangerous defendant solely to render him competent to stand trial should be ‘rare’ and occur only in ‘limited circumstances.’ ” **United States v. Valenzuela–Puentes**, 479 F.3d 1220, 1223 (10th Cir. 2007) (quoting **Sell**, 539 U.S. at 169, 180). Before undertaking an analysis under

Sell, a court first must “consider the applicability of *Harper*” *Valenzuela–Puentes*, 479 F.3d at 1224; see also **Sell**, 539 U.S. 181 - 182 (“There are often strong reasons for a court to determine whether forced administration of drugs can be justified on . . . alternative grounds before turning to the trial competence question.”).

To issue an order for involuntary medication under **Sell**, the “district court must find all necessary underlying facts by clear and convincing evidence.” *U.S. v. Chavez*, 734 F.3d 1247, 1250 (10th Cir. 2013); see also *U.S. v. Bradley*, 417 F.3d 1107, 1114 (10th Cir. 2005) (in **Sell** hearing, “factual findings . . . ought to be proved by the government by clear and convincing evidence.”) Evidence is clear and convincing when the evidence gives the fact-finder “an abiding conviction that the truth of [the] factual contentions [is] ‘highly probable.’” *Colorado v. New Mexico*, 467 U.S. 310, 316 (1984) (citing C. McCormick, Law of Evidence § 320, p. 679 (1954)); *Valenzuela–Puentes*, 479 F.3d at 1228–29 (10th Cir.2007).

III. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. My findings of fact³ are based on and supported by clear and convincing evidence. Based on the evidence in the record, each finding of fact is, at minimum, highly probable.

2. Mr. Dear is 64 years old. However, his age is not an impediment to the restoration of competency through the administration of antipsychotic medications and is not likely to exacerbate any of his underlying medical conditions or any of the possible side effects.

3. Mr. Dear suffers from a mental disease or defect rendering him mentally

³ Any finding of fact more properly deemed a conclusion of law, or any conclusion of law more properly deemed a finding of fact, shall be as more properly characterized.

incompetent to the extent that he is unable to understand the nature and consequences of the proceedings against him or to assist properly in his defense. Thus, logically and legally, Mr. Dear is also unable to voluntarily and knowingly waive his right to counsel and exercise his right to proceed pro se. Therefore, Mr. Dear is not presently competent to proceed. *Order* [#121].

4. Mr. Dear suffers from Delusional Disorder, Persecutory Type. This finding is based primarily on the credible and cogent hearing testimony and reports of Lea Ann Preston Baecht, Ph.D., ABPP, a board certified forensic psychologist who has had frequent and fairly recent contact with Mr. Dear in a clinical setting at Springfield. Dr. Preston Baecht evaluated Mr. Dear at Springfield in conjunction with Dr. Robert Sarrazin, Chief of Psychiatry at Springfield. Other experts, including those for the defense, credibly have given Mr. Dear the same or a similar diagnosis.

5. Delusional Disorder is a psychotic disorder recognized by the American Psychiatric Association in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, Text Revision (DSM-5 TR, March 18, 2022).

6. All relevant evidence indicates that the symptoms of Mr. Dear's Delusional Disorder are chronic. There is no evidence that those symptoms have abated or decreased spontaneously at any time since at least 2016.

7. Prior to the initiation of proceedings in this case, Mr. Dear was housed at the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo (CMHI). At CMHI Mr. Dear was treated briefly with olanzapine administered orally and may have received an injection of Haloperidol. On these occasions, Mr. Dear was not treated with therapeutic dosages for a significant period of time. Otherwise, from 2016 to the present, no antipsychotic medication has been administered to Mr. Dear.

8. Mr. Dear suffers from high blood pressure or hypertension. Consistently, he has refused medical treatment for this condition.

9. Mr. Dear suffers from high cholesterol or hyperlipidemia.

10. Mr. Dear suffers from stage three A chronic kidney disease.

11. Mr. Dear claims he suffered a heart attack as the result of a medication administered to him at the CMHI. The medical record, as well as the assessment and opinion of Dr. Matthew Holland, a cardiologist, demonstrate that Mr. Dear has not suffered a heart attack. In addition, there is no competent evidence that Mr. Dear currently suffers from significant cardiovascular disease.

Generally, the QT interval measured by any electrocardiogram (EKG) administered to Mr. Dear was within normal limits. Any aberration involving a prolonged QT interval is attributable to the stress of a serious illness, e.g., pancreatitis, affecting Mr. Dear at the time of the EKG.

12. Mr. Dear does not suffer from an intellectual disability or a neurocognitive disorder, such as dementia.

13. From 2016 to the present, Mr. Dear has assiduously refused to accept medical treatment, including antipsychotic medication, for the symptoms of his Delusional Disorder.

14. Based on the evidence presented in support of and opposition to the motion, it is not known precisely when Mr. Dear began to suffer from Delusional Disorder. More likely than not, Mr. Dear has suffered from Delusional Disorder for at least 10 years and possibly for as many as 30 years. All of the evidence in the record shows Mr. Dear has suffered from Delusional Disorder at least since late 2015. That conclusion is based primarily on the assessments of Mr. Dear at the CMHI and at Springfield, which

assessments began in 2016.

15. On a date not specified in the record, a hearing concerning Mr. Dear and applying the involuntary medication standards of *Washington v. Harper*, 494 U.S. 210, 221-22 (1990), was conducted at Springfield. The hearing officer concluded that Mr. Dear has a mental illness, but does not present a danger to himself or others in a correctional environment. Given those findings, the hearing officer concluded Mr. Dear is not subject to involuntary medication under the *Harper* criteria.

16. When he is in custody in a tightly regulated and highly structured prison-like environment, Mr. Dear does not present a danger to himself or others.

Competency Restoration

17. A competency restoration evaluation of Mr. Dear was conducted at Springfield by Dr. Preston Baecht and Dr. Sarrazin. Dr. Preston Baecht was a staff psychologist at Springfield for 21 years. Dr. Sarrazin has been a psychiatrist at Springfield for 20 years and the Chief of Psychiatry for 18 years. He has worked with competency restorations for 18 of those years.

18. Often, Delusional Disorder can be treated successfully with antipsychotic medication. When successful, such medications minimize but do not eliminate the presence of delusions in the patient's mind. When delusions are sufficiently controlled by antipsychotic medication, a person suffering from Delusional Disorder can be restored to competence.

19. Dr. Sarrazin prepared a Proposed Treatment Plan [#143 - under restriction] for Mr. Dear. The treatment plan includes administration – involuntarily, i.e., forcibly, if necessary – of four different antipsychotic medications. Generally, only one primary medication would be administered at a time. If that medication was well tolerated, did

not cause substantial and unmanageable side effects, and was deemed efficacious, other medications would not be tried. However, if a primary medication was not tolerated well, caused substantial and unmanageable side effects, and/or was deemed ineffective, administration of that medication would be terminated and another antipsychotic medication would be administered.

20. In the experience of Dr. Preston Baecht and Dr. Sarrazin working with psychotic patients at Springfield, antipsychotic medication restores a psychotic patient to competence in at least 70 to 75 percent of the cases in which antipsychotic medication is used.

21. Some published studies reflect a competency restoration rate for psychotic patients treated with antipsychotic medication in the same range experienced by Dr. Preston Baecht and Dr. Sarrazin. However, some published studies reflect a lower competency restoration rate. The results of some published studies are less persuasive because some studies involved fairly small sample sizes, medication trials of less than three months, and/or indications that patients in the study failed to fully comply with the medication regime being studied.

22. In view of their assessments of Mr. Dear at Springfield and their long experience with competency restorations at Springfield, Dr. Preston Baecht and Dr. Sarrazin both conclude that administration of antipsychotic medication to Mr. Dear is substantially likely to restore Mr. Dear to competence. They both estimate credibly that there is at least a 70 percent chance that Mr. Dear would be restored to competency with the use of antipsychotic medication.

23. Dr. George Woods, a neuropsychiatrist, and Dr. Richard Martinez, a professor of forensic psychiatry, each testified at the hearing. They both disagree with

the conclusion that the treatment plan is substantially likely to restore Mr. Dear to competence. I have considered carefully the testimony of Dr. Wood and Dr. Martinez on this point. Given the long experience of Dr. Preston Baecht and Dr. Sarrazin in competence restoration and their personal observations of and interactions with Mr. Dear, I find that their opinions on this issue have a substantially stronger factual and clinical foundation, and, thus, are entitled to greater weight than those opposed to them when assessing Mr. Dear and the likelihood that the treatment plan is substantially likely to restore Mr. Dear to competence.

24. Psychotherapy alone is not likely to be an effective treatment for Delusional Disorder.

25. Antipsychotic medication is not substantially more effective or less effective when administered involuntarily versus voluntarily.

26. The proposed antipsychotic medications paliperidone, aripiprazole, haloperidol, and olanzapine have been shown to be effective treatments for Delusional Disorder.

27. In his Proposed Treatment Plan [#143 - under restriction], Dr. Sarrazin proposes administration of paliperidone, aripiprazole, haloperidol, and/or olanzapine to treat Mr. Dear's Delusional Disorder. Olanzapine is not proposed as a primary medication. Rather, it is proposed as a possible adjunct medication at a low dose. Dr. Sarrazin testified that, in some cases, a low dose of Olanzapine is an effective addition to treatment.

28. In his testimony at the hearing, Dr. Sarrazin proposed to treat Mr. Dear initially with a low dose of an antipsychotic medication with careful monitoring of Mr. Dear's tolerance of the medication, response to the medication, and possible side

effects. Throughout the proposed course of treatment, Mr. Dear would be monitored routinely to assess Mr. Dear's tolerance of the medication, response to the medication, and possible side effects.

29. Based on the evidence in the record concerning the efficacy of these antipsychotic medications, I find that the closely monitored treatment of Mr. Dear with paliperidone, aripiprazole, or haloperidol as the primary medication is substantially likely to render Mr. Dear competent to stand trial. Olanzapine as an adjunct medication at a low dose may aid in this treatment. Most likely, treatment with these medications must continue for at least four months

30. Clear and convincing evidence in the record shows it is substantially likely that the proposed treatment plan will render Mr. Dear competent to stand trial whether Mr. Dear voluntarily complies with the treatment plan or must be medicated involuntarily.

Side Effects of Antipsychotic Medications

31. The more common side effects of antipsychotic medications are restlessness, sedation, drowsiness, apathy, inability to focus, or lack of motivation. At Springfield, when any of these side effects presents in a patient, it is addressed by adjusting the dosage of the antipsychotic medication, changing the time of administration, splitting the dose from once per day to one-half dose twice per day, changing the antipsychotic medication, and/or using a secondary medication to treat the side effects.

32. In some cases, restlessness and sedation can be of sufficient severity that they impact competency. Often, these side effects can be treated, as described above, to ameliorate these side effects.

33. Less common side effects of antipsychotic medication include elevated blood glucose levels, weight gain, elevated cholesterol levels, tremors, shakiness, or stiffness. When necessary, these less common side effects are ameliorated in the same general fashion as the more common side effects.

34. Haloperidol, one of the medications specified in the treatment plan, is a so-called first generation antipsychotic medication. When compared to second generation antipsychotic medications, first generation antipsychotic medications are more likely to cause side effects such as shakiness, unintentional muscle contractions (acute dystonias), and stiffness. However, these side effects respond very quickly and positively to medications known as benzodiazepines.

35. Tardive dyskinesia is a possible, but not a probable, side effect. Tardive dyskinesia manifests as involuntary movements of the jaw, lips, and/or tongue. This is a potential, and possibly permanent, side effect usually is associated with high doses of first generation antipsychotic medications administered over a period of years. This side effect appears in only about five percent of cases using first generation antipsychotics and in about two percent of cases using second generation antipsychotics.

36. Neuroleptic malignant syndrome is a very rare side effect of antipsychotic medication, primarily first generation antipsychotic medication. This side effect appears in less than one percent of cases. Symptoms of neuroleptic malignant syndrome include a high temperature, severe stiffness, muscle break down, and possible kidney damage. Generally, this side effect appears with the first dosages of a new antipsychotic medication or an increased dosage. If this side effect appears, the medication is stopped, and the patient is hospitalized, if necessary.

37. Sudden cardiac death is an extremely rare side effect of antipsychotic medication. This side effect appears in less than one percent of cases. Underlying cardiovascular disease is a contributing factor in sudden cardiac death in people taking antipsychotic medication.

38. None of the foregoing possible side effects – whether described as common, less common, or rare – vitiate the need or efficacy of treatment by antipsychotic medication.

39. If Mr. Dear is given antipsychotic medication at a Bureau of Prisons medical facility, he will be closely monitored in an acute psychiatric care hospital setting.

40. If Mr. Dear is given antipsychotic medication at a Bureau of Prisons medical facility, his blood pressure, blood glucose level, cholesterol level, and weight gain or loss will be routinely and closely monitored. EKGs would be used to assess and monitor the electrical activity of his heart. The creatinine level of Mr. Dear would be monitored to assess his kidney function. In addition, Mr. Dear would be observed routinely and closely to see if he is exhibiting any of the side effects of antipsychotic medication.

Effect of Antipsychotic Medication On Other Medical Conditions

41. There is no reliable evidence that Mr. Dear suffers from significant cardiovascular disease. There is no evidence that administration of antipsychotic medications will have an adverse effect on the cardiovascular health of Mr. Dear, even at his age. Such medications are not contraindicated in even patients who, unlike Mr. Dear, have documented and significant underlying heart disease.

42. Mr. Dear suffers from hypertension. The antipsychotic medications in the proposed treatment plan were selected by Dr. Sarrazin with a goal of eliminating or

minimizing any negative effects on the hypertension of Mr. Dear. Under the proposed treatment plan, the blood pressure of Mr. Dear would be monitored routinely during the course of treatment.

43. Mr. Dear suffers from high cholesterol. Under the proposed treatment plan, the blood cholesterol level of Mr. Dear would be monitored routinely during the course of treatment.

44. Mr. Dear suffers from stage three A chronic kidney disease. The antipsychotic medications specified in the treatment plan are not contraindicated in patients with chronic kidney disease. Under the proposed treatment plan, the renal function of Mr. Dear would be monitored routinely during the course of treatment.

45. If the administration of antipsychotic medication has any significant adverse effect on any of the health conditions listed above, that effect could be effectively extenuated, if not eliminated altogether, by adjusting the dosage of the antipsychotic medication, changing the dosage time, changing the antipsychotic medication, and/or using a secondary medication to treat the adverse effect.

46. Based on the evidence in the record concerning the side effects of the antipsychotic medications at issue, I find that administration of these antipsychotic medications is substantially unlikely to cause side effects that will interfere significantly with Mr. Dear's ability to assist counsel in conducting a trial defense.

47. The proposed treatment plan, including the involuntary administration of the recommended antipsychotic medications, is substantially likely to render Mr. Dear competent to stand trial.

IV. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. I found all necessary underlying facts by clear and convincing evidence. **U.S.**

v. Chavez, 734 F.3d 1247, 1250 (10th Cir. 2013); see also *U.S. v. Bradley*, 417 F.3d 1107, 1114 (10th Cir. 2005) (in *Sell* hearing, “factual findings . . . ought to be proved by the government by clear and convincing evidence.”).

2. Because Mr. Dear does not present a danger to himself or others in a correctional setting, he is not subject to involuntary medication based on the standards stated in *Washington v. Harper*, 494 U.S. 210, 221-22 (1990).

3. Considering the first *Sell* factor, I conclude based on clear and convincing evidence that important governmental interests are at stake in this case. The interest of the government in bringing to trial an individual accused of a serious crime satisfies the first *Sell* factor. *Sell*, 539 U.S. at 180. When considering whether a specific crime is a “serious crime,” I have considered, inter alia, “the possible penalty the defendant faces if convicted, as well as the nature or effect of the underlying conduct for which he was charged.” *Valenzuela-Puentes*, 479 F.3d at 1226.

Mr. Dear faces a 68-count indictment. Each count charges a serious crime. Three counts include possible sentences of life in prison for violation of 18 U.S.C. § 248(a)(1) and (b).

All of the crimes in the indictment involve substantial penalties as well as alleged conduct of a particularly violent and heinous nature with pernicious effects. The government has an important interest in bringing a competent Mr. Dear to trial on each of these charges. Additionally, the government has an important interest in seeking to conduct a trial as soon as reasonably practicable to preserve the existence and integrity of all relevant and admissible evidence.

4. Considering the second *Sell* factor, I conclude based on clear and convincing evidence that involuntary medication of Mr. Dear under the proposed treatment plan will

significantly further the important governmental interests in bringing this case to trial. As detailed above, and based on clear and convincing evidence, administration of antipsychotic medications to Mr. Dear under the proposed treatment plan is substantially likely to render Mr. Dear competent to stand trial. In addition, and again based on clear and convincing evidence, administration of these medications under the proposed treatment plan is substantially unlikely to have side effects that will interfere significantly with the ability of Mr. Dear to assist counsel in conducting a trial defense when Mr. Dear is competent to stand trial.

5. Considering the third **Sell** factor, I conclude based on clear and convincing evidence that involuntary medication of Mr. Dear under the proposed treatment plan is necessary to further the important governmental interests at stake here. There are no alternative, less intrusive treatments which have any real chance of achieving a restoration of competency. For years, Mr. Dear has tendentiously refused medication to treat his Delusional Disorder. Given that history, and based on clear and convincing evidence, involuntary medication of Mr. Dear is the only realistic means by which he is substantially likely to be restored to competence, so he and the government can participate in a fair and lawful criminal trial of the serious charges in this case.

6. Considering the fourth **Sell** factor, I conclude based on clear and convincing evidence that involuntary medication of Mr. Dear under the proposed treatment plan is medically appropriate. Such treatment is in the best medical interest of Mr. Dear in light of his psychiatric and medical condition.

Under the proposed treatment plan, and again based on clear and convincing evidence, involuntary medication of Mr. Dear is not substantially likely to engender dangerous and unmanageable side effects. Medication of Mr. Dear is not substantially

likely to exacerbate any of the existing medical conditions of Mr. Dear, including high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and stage three A chronic kidney disease.

Mr. Dear suffers from Delusional Disorder, Persecutory Type, which is a psychotic disorder. In Mr. Dear, the symptoms of this disorder are chronic and likely to persist unless they are treated. The primary symptom of this disorder in Mr. Dear is persistent delusional thoughts that various people and government agencies are constantly persecuting Mr. Dear. Importantly, clear and convincing evidence establishes that involuntary medication of Mr. Dear is substantially likely to mitigate and control this primary symptom. Elimination of delusional thoughts is neither likely nor anticipated. However, quieting or substantially limiting the strength and frequency of his delusional thought is substantially likely. It is in the best medical interest of Mr. Dear to attempt a treatment of this disorder which is substantially likely to ameliorate the primary symptom of the disorder.

The implementation of the reticulated, sequenced, ingravescent treatment regimen using the antipsychotic and other medications and treatment modalities recommended in the proposed treatment plan is medically appropriate, i.e., in Mr. Demetrian's best medical interest in light of his psychiatric condition.

7. In light of the efficacy, the side effects, the possible alternatives, and the medical appropriateness of the proposed course of antipsychotic medication treatment, the government has demonstrated by clear and convincing evidence a need for that treatment sufficiently important to surmount Mr. Dear's protected interest in refusing such treatment.

8. On this evidentiary record, and based on the foregoing findings of fact, which have been established by clear and convincing evidence, the government has satisfied

the quadripartite requirements of **Sell** and is entitled to the entry of an order facilitating the involuntary administration of antipsychotic medications to Mr. Dear.

V. ORDERS

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED as follows:

1. That the **Motion For Sell Hearing** [#128], which is quintessentially a motion for the administration – involuntarily and forcibly if necessary – of antipsychotic and other related medications., is granted on the terms stated in this order;
2. That the treatment plan [#143 - under restriction] is approved and ordered implemented, together with the addition of the other specific augmentative requirements stated in this order;
3. That any medication, test, monitoring, procedure, or assessment required or prescribed by the treatment plan or this order may be administered involuntarily and forcibly if necessary, using the force reasonably necessary in the circumstances;
4. That as soon as practicable, Mr. Dear shall be returned to the United States Medical Center for Federal Prisoners at Springfield, Missouri (Springfield), or another suitable facility (as defined by 18 U.S.C. § 4247(a)(2)), for implementation of the treatment plan;
5. That prior to the initiation of the treatment plan, the treatment staff of the BOP shall obtain baseline data on Mr. Dear by EKG, blood test, or other medically appropriate testing for cardiovascular function, electrolytes (including magnesium), renal function, blood pressure, body weight, blood glucose, cholesterol, and lipids;
6. That under the treatment plan, Mr. Dear shall be treated initially with a low dose of one of the three primary antipsychotic medications included in the treatment plan;

7. That throughout the implementation and use of the treatment plan, Mr. Dear shall be monitored carefully to assess his tolerance of any antipsychotic medication administered, his response to the medication, and the possible side effects of the medication;

8. That throughout the implementation and use of the treatment plan, Mr. Dear shall be monitored carefully to acquire and assess data about his cardiovascular condition, electrolytes (including magnesium), and renal function;

9. That throughout the implementation and use of the treatment plan, Mr. Dear shall be monitored carefully to acquire and assess data on his blood pressure, weight gain or loss, blood glucose, cholesterol, and lipids;

10. That an EKG shall be conducted on Mr. Dear within a reasonable time after any increase of the dose of an antipsychotic medication, addition of a new or different antipsychotic medication, or any other significant medical/clinical change in the condition of Mr. Dear which implicates cardiovascular function;

11. That during implementation and execution of the treatment plan, treatment staff of the BOP shall not administer medications known to prolong the QT interval, other than medications specified in the treatment plan;

12. That during implementation and execution of the treatment plan, the serum potassium and magnesium levels of Mr. Dear shall be maintained to the extent medically practicable in the normal range for patients of the same or similar age as Mr. Dear;

13. That during the implementation and execution of the treatment plan, treatment staff of the BOP may, if necessary, involuntarily perform any physical and laboratory assessments and monitoring which are required by this order or are clinically

indicated to monitor for side effects from the administration of any medication used to implement and administer the treatment plan;

14. That pursuant to and subject to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. § 4241(d)(2)(A), Mr. Dear shall remain in the custody of the Attorney General for continued hospitalization and treatment in a suitable facility for such a reasonable period, not to exceed four months, to determine whether there is a substantial probability that in the foreseeable future the defendant will attain the capacity to permit the proceedings to go forward;

15. That by January 19, 2023, counsel for the government shall file a status report to inform the court of the status of Mr. Dear, including a summary of the implementation and execution of the treatment plan;

16. That unless ordered otherwise, implementation and use of the treatment plan shall continue throughout the course of these criminal proceedings; and

17. That under 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(1)(A) and (4), the period of delay resulting from these ongoing competency proceedings shall be excluded in computing the time within which trial must commence under 18 U.S.C. § 3161(c).

Dated September 19, 2022, at Denver, Colorado.

BY THE COURT:



Robert E. Blackburn
United States District Judge