

BAIL BOND BOARD MEETING

SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2022

THOSE PRESENT: Judge Raquel West
Judge Clint Woods
Judge Craig Lively
Valencia Simpson
Becky Bertrand
Keith Day
Kellie Holmes
Glenda Segura
Rhonda Brode
Tom Roebuck
Dustin Galmor
Captain Lewis
Quentin Price
Haylee Fournier
Valencia Fontenot
Charlie Hallmark

1 JUDGE WEST: I'm going to call the meeting
2 to order. And so I've got a jury coming back, so
3 hopefully this will be a fairly quick one. First item
4 is to review the minutes from last month's meeting.

12:35PM

5 Everyone should have gotten that E-mail to them.

6 MS. SEGURA: I forgot to print them. Okay.

7 JUDGE WEST: Well, they were E-mailed to
8 everyone.

9 MS. SEGURA: Okay. So you'll --

12:35PM

10 JUDGE WEST: So we'll need a --

11 JUDGE WOODS: Motion to approve.

12 JUDGE WEST: That is a motion by Judge
13 Woods.

14 JUDGE LIVELY: Second, Lively.

12:35PM

15 JUDGE WEST: Second by Judge Lively. Any
16 other discussion on that? All those in favor?

17 (RESPONSES MADE.)

18 JUDGE WEST: Any opposed? All right.

19 Thank you. That passes.

12:36PM

20 Report from the D.A.'s office, everybody
21 should have that in their packet. Anything to add on
22 that from the district attorney's office, Mr. Price?

23 MR. PRICE: No, Your Honor.

24 JUDGE WEST: All right. And then --

12:36PM

25 MR. PRICE: Quentin Price.

1 JUDGE WEST: Quentin Price.

2 Consideration and approval of applications
3 for bondsmen.

4 MS. SEGURA: We have one.

12:36PM 5 JUDGE WEST: We have one that was sent to
6 everyone -- two, that's what I thought there were two.

7 MS. BERTRAND: E-mail. Everyone gets one.

8 MS. SEGURA: Okay. Yeah, you need --

9 JUDGE WEST: And so -- go ahead, Becky.

12:36PM 10 MS. BERTRAND: I have the first one is
11 going to be Clark Simmons. He will be an employee for
12 Allied Bail Bonds. Everyone should have received this a
13 couple of days ago. Everything is in order. So that's
14 the first one.

12:36PM 15 JUDGE WEST: All right. We need a motion
16 on that one?

17 JUDGE WOODS: I make a motion to approve
18 Clark Simmons' application.

19 MR. DAY: Second, Keith Day.

12:37PM 20 JUDGE WEST: Keith Day. All right. Any
21 discussion with regard to the Clark Simmons'
22 application? All those in favor?

23 (RESPONSES MADE.)

24 JUDGE WEST: Any opposed?

12:37PM 25 All right. That passes. Then the second

1 one?

2 MS. BERTRAND: The second one is going to
3 be for Chris Romano. He works for Bail America and has
4 for several years now. This is just a renewal. And
12:37PM 5 again, everything is in order. My apologies for being
6 late. I had it but just didn't get a chance to E-mail
7 it out until this morning.

8 JUDGE WOODS: I make a motion to approve
9 his application.

12:37PM 10 MR. DAY: Second.

11 JUDGE WEST: I've got a second motion and a
12 second by Mr. Day. Any discussion on Chris Romano?

13 All those in favor?

14 (RESPONSES MADE.)

12:37PM 15 JUDGE WEST: Any opposed?

16 All right. That passes as well. Any
17 complaints?

18 MS. HOLMES: No, ma'am.

19 JUDGE WEST: Report from treasurer,
12:37PM 20 anything to add on that?

21 MR. HALLMARK: Nothing to report.

22 JUDGE WEST: All right. Any requests for
23 release of property or CDs?

24 MS. SEGURA: No.

12:38PM 25 JUDGE WEST: And report from the auditors'

1 office. Anything to add on that one?

2 MS. BRODE: Yes, ma'am. Tatania from the
3 sheriff -- I'm sorry -- Rhonda Brode. Tatania from the
4 sheriff's office brought something up to my attention.

12:38PM 5 The -- I get the outstanding bond fee assessment every
6 month. And Brennon Mitchell has been in default since
7 November of '21. Brennon Mitchell was able to bond
8 someone out in August, so my question to the jail is how
9 could that happen? Brennon Mitchell is from Mitchell
12:38PM 10 Law Firm from Orange, Texas. So I need the jail to
11 research and tell me exactly how this could happen if
12 they were in default. I did go back and research.

13 MS. BERTRAND: When an out of county bond
14 comes in, it's like an out of county -- or Orange out of
12:39PM 15 county. There is specifically no name typed in to
16 identify this person in Orange County wrote this bond.

17 MS. BRODE: Yes, ma'am. It says Brennon
18 Mitchell. It's under Brennon Mitchell attorney. It's
19 not under Orange County.

12:39PM 20 MR. DAY: Well, it's -- Keith Day -- it --
21 was the bond posted as a Jefferson County bond in Orange
22 County or did he come to Jefferson County and post it?

23 MS. BRODE: Do you know?

24 CAPTAIN LEWIS: I don't.

12:39PM 25 MS. BRODE: I want to say he posted because

1 he owes a bond fee here, wouldn't he have posted here?

2 MR. DAY: Well, before he would have --

3 CAPTAIN LEWIS: No.

4 MS. BRODE: No?

12:39PM 5 MR. DAY: Well, before he would have.

6 MS. BRODE: He has two fees due --

7 MR. DAY: Right.

8 MS. BRODE: -- one from November, one from
9 August. That's what prompted us.

12:39PM 10 MR. DAY: Well, then, yeah, he would come
11 here to post it. Because they wouldn't have -- they
12 would have charged him in Orange County.

13 MS. BRODE: And it's not under Orange
14 County, it's under Brennon Mitchell. Which is confusing
12:40PM 15 to me, Orange County did increase on theirs, but...

16 CAPTAIN LEWIS: Do you have the name of the
17 person he bonded?

18 MS. BRODE: Orange County did increase.
19 But at the same time -- okay. The report that I get
12:40PM 20 from the sheriff's office is specifically who owes us
21 money. So it could be what you said. But at the same
22 time would he owe us a bond fee if he bonded in Orange
23 County or would he --

24 JUDGE WEST: He bonded someone here. I'm
12:40PM 25 pretty sure it's on one of my cases actually. So we

1 know -- we can find --

2 MR. DAY: Yeah. He had to have come to the
3 jail. Because they would have charged him in Orange
4 County as opposed to bond fee in Orange County. So he
12:40PM 5 had -- he would have had to come here to post that bond.

6 MS. BRODE: So when he came here and he is
7 in default --

8 MR. DAY: Didn't this just happen to an
9 actual Jefferson County bondsman?

12:41PM 10 MS. BERTRAND: I mean, it did. But the
11 circumstance was that surety was writing a bond in
12 another county.

13 MR. DAY: Not one here.

14 MS. BERTRAND: Not one here in our jail,
12:41PM 15 which I think -- I still think it's a scenario here. We
16 won't know unless we pull it up in AS-100. But if he
17 was arrested and Orange County posted the bond in Orange
18 County for a Jefferson County warrant, then he's going
19 to pay the fee over there. That bond is going to
12:41PM 20 transfer over here. When that bond transfers --
21 Captain, I can't say --

22 CAPTAIN LEWIS: She would probably be able
23 to tell you that when they entered that bond in, they do
24 not see specific names. It's only going to be Orange
12:41PM 25 County listed. You're going to see a specific name

1 because that's how your report runs from Valencia.

2 MS. BRODE: That's coming from another
3 county.

4 MR. DAY: This is out of -- this was
12:42PM 5 posting --

6 JUDGE WEST: Kelly is going to look so
7 we'll know in just a couple of minutes.

8 MS. BRODE: I mean, I understood the system
9 stopped it. So can the sheriff's office override this?

12:42PM 10 This is what my concern is.

11 JUDGE WEST: Right. So I guess we need to
12 know if the sheriff's office sees it first, if they saw
13 it, why did they override it? If they don't see it, how
14 can they see it? That's the question.

12:42PM 15 CAPTAIN LEWIS: Normally, when we go -- a
16 bondsman comes up with the bond, we do not see a out of
17 county bond. So we only take Jefferson County bonds
18 unless we have approval from someone else. They come
19 and we check the bond status. Normally, it says D or
12:42PM 20 something up there showing they're in default. If
21 they're in default, we supposedly hand the bond back to
22 the bonding company, let them know they're in default,
23 and they can't post that bond.

24 JUDGE WEST: And see, this is a lawyer.

12:42PM 25 And so it's -- it might look different because it's not

1 a bonding company. It's a lawyer. Is that something
2 that would make it look different or no?

3 CAPTAIN LEWIS: It probably normally looks
4 the same. But again I don't have any knowledge of this,
12:43PM 5 so I'm sorry. But this is the first time I'm ever
6 hearing about it.

7 JUDGE WEST: Right. So what we'll do is
8 just between this meeting and the next meeting if y'all
9 can look into it, we'll get the information on when it
12:43PM 10 happened and everything. Kelly has got that because
11 it's one of my cases. So we can get you all the
12 information and then do a little research and then we'll
13 talk about it next meeting. And if you will put it on
14 agenda, Glenda, for us to follow up. For next meeting,
12:43PM 15 if you'll make sure we have that on the agenda?

16 MS. SEGURA: Okay.

17 JUDGE WEST: And we'll follow up, just to
18 see.

19 MS. BRODE: So if we could find out, like
12:43PM 20 you said, Captain, you see the D. But do you -- does
21 the computer stop you from putting something in the
22 system?

23 CAPTAIN LEWIS: No.

24 JUDGE WEST: Okay. All right. Well, let's
12:44PM 25 just -- yeah. Everybody do some research before the

1 next meeting and we'll see what we can do to make it
2 where that doesn't happen again and where the --
3 whatever policy needs to change at whatever step a long
4 the way. All right.

12:44PM

5 Anything else then? All right. Is there a
6 motion to adjourn?

7 JUDGE WOODS: Motion to adjourn.

8 JUDGE WEST: Granted. Whatever I was just
9 supposed to say.

12:44PM

10 (MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:44 P.M.)

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