



NEWS RELEASE

APACHE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

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March 5, 2009

Psychological Examiners Appointed

ST. JOHNS – At a Status Hearing earlier today, John V. Scialli, M.D. and Shelly Uram, M.D. were named to perform complete diagnostic evaluations and mental health examinations of the juvenile, pursuant to the recent Memorandum of Agreement. Both are board certified child psychiatrists. Defense counsel shall retain the right to request a third evaluation, if deemed necessary.

A request by the Guardian ad Litem for an audio record of the February 20th Admission Hearing and copies of the sealed competency evaluations was granted. Counsel for the child's mother expressed her desire for a copy of the sealed evaluations. The Court will make a ruling upon receipt of the written request.

Over the objection of defense counsel, the Court ordered that the juvenile be allowed contact with family members filing approved written requests with the court. Such requests will continue to be filed under seal and the County Attorney will stipulate that any statements made by the juvenile to approved visitors, won't be used in the State's case-in-chief in the unlikely event of a renewed prosecution.

Efforts to enroll the juvenile in school continue. The child has relocated to another school district and the Juvenile Probation Department will work with the Guardian ad Litem and Dr. Daniel Cady in an effort to secure enrollment or equivalent services.

A Status Conference has been set for Thursday, April 2, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. with parties granted permission to appear telephonically. A Disposition Hearing will be set upon determination of the time needed for completion of the mental health evaluations.

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