

YAVAPAI COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
Firm No. 00048700
Joshua I. Fisher, SBN 024890
Deputy County Attorney
255 East Gurley Street
Prescott, AZ 86301
(928) 771-3344
ycao@yavapai.us

FILED
DATE AND TIME:
5/08/2020 03:24 PM
DONNA MCQUALITY, CLERK
BY: E. SIEH
Deputy

Attorneys for STATE OF ARIZONA

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF YAVAPAI

STATE OF ARIZONA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ANTHONY JAMES RICHARDS,

Defendant.

CAUSE NO. P1300CR201600476

**STATE'S RESPONSE AND
OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO
REDUCE BOND/MODIFY
RELEASE CONDITIONS**

Assigned to Hon. Tina R. Ainley

1 The State of Arizona, by and through Sheila Polk, Yavapai County Attorney, and
2 her deputy undersigned, files its opposition to Defendant's motion to reduce the bond
3 currently set. As the analysis below clearly shows, Defendant's current bond is
4 appropriate to ensure his appearance and to protect the public's safety.


 The state and national governments have declared emergencies due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Yavapai County Attorney and the Yavapai County Sheriff take these matters seriously and have taken action accordingly. The Yavapai County Sheriff is determined to protect the health of all inmates as well as his employees. In doing so, he is working in coordination with Yavapai County Community Health Services and is following their recommendations in terms of the quarantine of new inmates, cleaning of facilities, etc.

In light of the pandemic, all Deputy Yavapai County Attorneys are authorized to stipulate to release, in cases where there might normally be an objection, if the facts of the pending case as well as defendant's criminal history pose a minimal risk to community safety. Additionally, consideration will be given to defendant's age and medical history. However, this case is not one where a stipulation can be reached and, therefore, the State objects to Defendant's release. The defendant is alleged to have committed murder in the first degree, and to have gone to some to considerable lengths to conceal the crime. The victim's representative opposes release in any form. Defendant has no true ties to the local community and, prior to his arrest, resided out of state. Based upon the nature the offense, the need to protect the public, and the absence of ties to the local community, the State believes any further modification of release conditions would be inappropriate.

The situation regarding the pandemic and the conditions in the jail is fluid and developing by the day, if not by the hour. If the Court deems it necessary, during a hearing on the issue of Defendant's release, the State can present the testimony Captain Jeff Newnum, YCSO jail commander (or his fully informed subordinate), to testify regarding the current situation in the jail and what measures the jail is taking to ensure the health and safety of the inmates and the staff.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 8th day of May, 2020.

Sheila Polk
Yavapai County Attorney

By: 

Joshua I. Fisher
Deputy County Attorney

COPY of the foregoing

mailed emailed hand-delivered

This 8th day of May, 2020 to:

Hon. Tina R. Ainley
Yavapai County Superior Court Division 3

Craig Williams
Attorney for Defendant

By: _____