

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, PINELLAS COUNTY

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Plaintiff,

Case No. [REDACTED]

vs.

AARON SMITH-LEVIN,

Defendant.

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PROCEEDINGS: Defense's Motion to Set Bond

DATE: November 21, 2025

BEFORE: The Honorable Kathleen T. Hessinger  
County Court Judge

PLACE: Pinellas County Justice Center  
14250 49th Street North  
Clearwater, Florida 33762

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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ALSO APPEARING:

Kayla B. Albritton, Assistant Public Defender

P R O C E E D I N G S

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Pearlman --

MR. PEARLMAN: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: -- the courtroom is really pretty much left for Andrew -- Aaron Smith-Levin.

MR. PEARLMAN: Yes, Your Honor. If he's up and able to be brought out, we can address it.

THE COURT: They have him.

MR. PEARLMAN: Sorry. Last time you wanted to address that last so I was letting that kind of percolate.

THE COURT: No, no, no. That -- that was fine. I assumed that when you weren't here that was exactly what we were doing so (unintelligible.)

MR. PEARLMAN: Uh-huh. And Happy almost Thanksgiving.

THE COURT: Yes. You too. All right. We've got Mr. Smith-Levin here. We have a motion to set bond. Let me hear your argument.

MR. PEARLMAN: Your Honor, obviously, we had a pretty extensive hearing regarding the motion to revoke bond. There was video that was shown that, obviously, we had not seen at that point. Your Honor believed that it was appropriate at that time given the factual scenario and the evidence that you viewed

1 to revoke bond.

2 At that time, I had indicated to my client and  
3 to the Court we'd file the motion to have that -- the  
4 motion for bond to be heard as soon as Your Honor  
5 thought it was appropriate. The Court gave us this  
6 date.

7 We are hoping given the lack of any prior record  
8 and the -- I hesitate to use the word "lesson," but  
9 the -- the point that Your Honor was attempting to  
10 make, we believe and I've had communication with my  
11 client's family and my client at a great extent as  
12 far as what is to be expected of him and what is not  
13 appropriate or acceptable in any way, especially to  
14 the Court, but just from a day in and day out  
15 perspective of life.

16 My client has very strong feelings about,  
17 obviously, the entity he is protesting against, but  
18 at the same time he understands that there are --  
19 there are lines and they are there for a reason and  
20 everyone is entitled to the protection of the law.  
21 He will, obviously, honor --

22 THE BAILIFF: Sir, put the phone away.

23 MR. PEARLMAN: -- all aspects --

24 THE BAILIFF: Put the phone away. All right.

25 MR. PEARLMAN: He will honor all aspects of the

1 court order. He understands very clearly the point  
2 Your Honor wanted to make to him.

3 THE COURT: Okay. And, State, what do you want  
4 me to hear?

5 MS. MEE: Yes, Your Honor. And this is Morgan  
6 Mee for the record.

7 Your Honor, I have been in consistent contact  
8 with the victim in this case as well as the victim --  
9 well, the victim -- victims in both of the battery  
10 cases.

11 During the motion to revoke bond, the main basis  
12 was that new law violation as well as the video that  
13 was presented in court that day. I was made aware at  
14 that time that there were additional concerns coming  
15 from both victims as we are -- the Court is aware  
16 this Defendant has a YouTube channel, which he posts  
17 consistently on specifically targeting the Church of  
18 Scientology, as well as specifically addressing the  
19 victims, which in the State's view would potentially  
20 be rising to a violation of the no contact order.

21 And there are specific instances and I would  
22 specifically like to point out the fact that the  
23 argument that was made during the motion to revoke  
24 bond was that there have been zero incidents since  
25 September 20th; however, I've been provided an entire

1 packet with specific references to instances in which  
2 the victim felt that this Defendant was specifically  
3 targeting him in these YouTube videos as well as  
4 specifically contacting him or making reference to  
5 him by name.

6 Just for an example, I have -- sorry -- I want  
7 to pick the one that stands out to me. On October  
8 28th, a YouTube video was posted. In this video the  
9 Defendant identified Mr. Gaffney by name as well as  
10 presented a photograph and he requested his followers  
11 to encounter church security personnel and photograph  
12 them or video them and send him the footage that is  
13 obtained.

14 And, Your Honor, that's just one example of  
15 several others in this packet that I have here and  
16 the State's main concern here, as well as I believe  
17 the Court's concern, is the rising level of this  
18 Defendant's behavior and, at this point, he's  
19 inciting others to get involved.

20 And, so, although potentially this Defendant is  
21 staying away, he is inciting others to participate  
22 and that is the State's concern especially with the  
23 fact that there's not only one victim in this case,  
24 there are two, and clearly this is targeted towards  
25 this church in particular.

1           THE COURT: I'm pretty certain I said in my no  
2           contact order that there -- he's not to have any  
3           other third parties have contact with the victims in  
4           this case.

5           MR. PEARLMAN: Well, I don't -- I don't think  
6           that he was asking to have contact with them in a  
7           communicative or interaction way. It's more to  
8           document things that they -- my client and the  
9           organization he's associated with the concerns they  
10          have.

11          I think at the end of the day here now his  
12          strong feelings towards the Church of Scientology and  
13          as it exists, he's entitled to have those feelings.  
14          It's the actions that are crossing the line. He's  
15          been protesting for over three years at this time  
16          regularly --

17         (Attorney-client conversation.)

18          MR. PEARLMAN: Okay. I think his -- his  
19          approach on that wasn't about a direct contact at all  
20          towards the listed victim. It was that --

21          THE COURT: That's exactly what I heard from  
22          what the State just said. I mean, that's the exact  
23          message I received from the State what he is saying.

24          MR. PEARLMAN: Well, what he was saying was that  
25          a lot of the security guards were wearing masks and

1 beginning to wear masks. His point was to identify  
2 who they were based on their actions. His -- the --  
3 the newer allegation that Your Honor saw is its own  
4 entity. The original involving the powder aspect of  
5 it was a back and forth between security and the  
6 protestors and water being thrown on the protestors  
7 and chalk getting thrown in the direction of the  
8 listed victim in this case.

9 So, it's -- the point that Your Honor has made  
10 and I think is -- is exactly on point, which is the  
11 escalation and trying to prevent further contact  
12 between listed victims in this situation. And I  
13 think that he -- his understanding is very different  
14 now than it was before we had that hearing and Your  
15 Honor laid out exactly the concerns you had.

16 I don't think it was an intentional contact with  
17 that person. It was a -- they're wearing security  
18 masks. We want to know who they are if they do  
19 things that they find to be inappropriate or  
20 unlawful.

21 MS. MEE: And, Your Honor, if I may?

22 THE COURT: Yes.

23 MS. MEE: Just a specific quote is, "Now anyone  
24 who interacts or comes across any Scientology  
25 organization security guard in downtown Clearwater,



1       whether you're a protestor or not, ex-Scientologist  
2       or not, I don't care. If you come into contact with  
3       one of these security guards, please feel free to  
4       take a photo, take a video, and send it to me."

5 (Attorney-client conversation.)

6               THE COURT: He's asking others to --

7               You need to stop talking, Mr. Smith-Levin,  
8       because I can honestly tell you 100 percent you are  
9       not helping yourself and, quite frankly, every time  
10      your poor attorney comes into this courtroom, he gets  
11      whacked with something new that he didn't know about.  
12      Okay. It's happened every time we've been in this  
13      courtroom because what you're presenting to him and  
14      what he's finding out bit by bit apparently every  
15      time he comes into this courtroom for an issue that  
16      you've done is that it's really not what you're  
17      representing. Okay.

18              So, your credibility with me right now is not  
19      that great. You're not helping yourself. You are  
20      escalating, which I have said already now twice and  
21      this is my third time.

22              And after we've had that no contact order where  
23      I specifically told you you're to have no third  
24      parties have contact, you are now asking on your  
25      YouTube channel to have other people do exactly what

1 I told you you couldn't do. And it is that have them  
2 have contact with them, have them send you content  
3 which you're now is violating the no contact order of  
4 me telling you you're not to have any third parties  
5 do that.

6 So, you're trying to skirt everything that I  
7 tell you to do, Mr. Smith-Levin. You're not getting  
8 the message. Your hatred for the Scientology is  
9 going to land yourself into jail for a very long time  
10 if you do not stop your behavior. You have  
11 escalated. It's now all about your YouTube channel.  
12 It didn't take me but two seconds to see in the first  
13 video where you were shoving your phone into  
14 somebody's face. Okay.

15 You're not the first person that I have that  
16 wants to, you know, get posts off a YouTube channel  
17 by shoving your phone into people's faces to -- to  
18 make it look good. All right. And you got one lady  
19 who's sitting over in jail for a year and a half  
20 because she had to -- was feeding her YouTube channel  
21 with a bunch of nonsense. And you're on that same  
22 path because you are not getting the message.

23 I specifically gave that no contact order on  
24 October 17th and I'm hearing you're doing this on  
25 October 30th?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Can I reply, ma'am?

2 THE COURT: You --

3 THE DEFENDANT: Please.

4 THE COURT: -- reply at your own risk.

5 THE DEFENDANT: Please. Please. The no contact  
6 order was for Mr. Gaffney, Your Honor. The video  
7 and -- the video was -- had quite literally, I'm not  
8 exaggerating, ma'am, nothing to do with Mr. Gaffney.

9 What I showed was all of the Scientology  
10 security guards who interact with the protestors  
11 cover their face with protective masks. I have some  
12 sources who used to work in that security force that  
13 were helping us identify the people who were hiding  
14 their identities.

15 Mr. Gaffney had already identified himself to  
16 the Court. Prior to that, I had no idea who he was.  
17 My video asked for people to get photos or videos of  
18 other --- I specified other security guards who were  
19 covering their faces so that we could have a complete  
20 list of their identifies, Your Honor. It was not to  
21 violate or to be cute with the protection order in  
22 any way.

23 THE COURT: You want to add anything, Ms. Mee?

24 MS. MEE: Yes, Your Honor. I would just further  
25 emphasize the fact that this is now -- the scope has

1       widened. We've gone beyond one individual. There  
2       was a second individual and this Defendant just  
3       admitted right there that he's willing to go beyond  
4       that. It's -- the fact that this is all focused on  
5       the Church of Scientology, do you want to just  
6       come -- do we want to come forward and have another  
7       victim next?

8               Like, that's where this is arising to and that's  
9       the State's concern. That's why the State wants him  
10      held in custody at this time.

11             THE COURT: You know, you told me, Mr. Smith-  
12      Levin, last time when you were about ready to go to  
13      jail how this occurred before that motion for no  
14      contact and you had learned your lesson and you were  
15      behaving yourself much better and -- and that you had  
16      heard me loud and clear.

17             And from what I'm hearing right now is you  
18      really didn't hear me loud and clear is that you  
19      really are just doing everything you can to skirt  
20      that -- that no contact order. You're basically --  
21      you've gone from you're picketing and your right  
22      to --

23             MR. PEARLMAN: Protest.

24             THE COURT: -- protest -- thank you -- I missed  
25      the word -- the right to protest to now targeting

1 people, trying to get content for your YouTube  
2 channel and you've escalated the situation.

3 And, so, you really haven't gotten the message,  
4 Mr. Smith-Levin, in regards to you go out there, you  
5 can have your protest signs and do all you want. Now  
6 you're trying to target people. You're trying to --  
7 what is it that they call it when they put people's  
8 personal information out there? I forget -- they  
9 use -- there's a --

10 THE DEFENDANT: Doxxing, Your Honor.

11 MS. MEE: Doxx.

12 THE COURT: Doxx. There -- thank you. Doxxing  
13 people --

14 (Attorney-client conversation.)

15 THE COURT: -- which it seems to me you're  
16 trying to stir up problems for other security guards  
17 that you know that you can't do so now you're trying  
18 to get other people to do it.

19 No. I don't really think you should talk  
20 anymore, Mr. Smith-Levin.

21 MR. PEARLMAN: If I can just briefly interject,  
22 Your Honor, for the -- because, again, as you're --  
23 you stated I get more information every time I walk  
24 in.

25 THE COURT: You do.

1           MR. PEARLMAN: So, it's a reactive component.  
2       Where I'm at with this -- and I've talked to my  
3       client at length. I've talked to his associates at  
4       length. I think that there is a concern of  
5       escalation on both sides that they were responding  
6       to. Whether it was true or not or whether it was  
7       perceived or not -- well, it was perceived --  
8       whether -- how accurate or objective it is, I can't  
9       speak to that.

10           What I can say is I think that was why things  
11       after three years suddenly -- this -- his channel's  
12       been around for a long time. He's been involved for  
13       a long time. I think it was viewed as that.

14           What I can say is he has taken a very different  
15       understanding and tact since Your Honor revoked his  
16       bond and put him into custody which was the  
17       objective. And I can tell you after these  
18       conversations, I think he has no problem taking  
19       those -- what he thought he was doing he thought was  
20       legal.

21           I didn't know that was going on. I would have  
22       given different advice to avoid these scenarios, but  
23       I don't think he was in bad faith. I thought -- I  
24       think he believes in good faith he was trying to  
25       identify individuals because of an escalation because

1       that -- the whole powder throwing incident was an  
2       escalation from both sides that being said.

3           THE COURT: But then, after that, he on his own  
4       shoved a video in --

5           MR. PEARLMAN: He did.

6           THE COURT: -- the alleged victim's face. He on  
7       his own walking past that door saw the opportunity  
8       when the door was open to turn around immediately and  
9       start shoving his phone into everybody's faces. So,  
10      he has on his own taken the step of escalating on the  
11      situation.

12          And then, you know, I don't take it lightly,  
13      Mr. Smith-Levin, when I order somebody not to do  
14      something and then you go and just try to toe the  
15      line and that's exactly what you did. Nope.

16          THE DEFENDANT: Can I say one more thing, ma'am,  
17      please?

18          THE COURT: No. No. I'm just telling you the  
19      message that I'm receiving --

20          THE DEFENDANT: I totally understand.

21          THE COURT: -- Mr. Smith-Levin.

22          THE DEFENDANT: I understand.

23          THE COURT: -- and you are basically just  
24      stirring up trouble, stirring the pot, and walking  
25      the line of that no contact order.

1           THE DEFENDANT: Can I please say one more thing,  
2           ma'am?

3           Well, correct or not, I want to say the research  
4           that I did indicated that for licensed security  
5           guards in the State of Florida, it was actually a  
6           violation of a state law to cover your face, to  
7           protect your identity while carrying out your duties.

8           THE COURT: Great. Then call --

9           THE DEFENDANT: In my videos --

10          THE COURT: You know what? Then call the police  
11          and tell them that they're violating state law.

12          THE DEFENDANT: That's what I --

13          THE COURT: Don't go -- no, no, no, no, stop.  
14          You're not helping yourself, Mr. Smith-Levin. If you  
15          think it's such a big violation of state law, then  
16          you call the police and let them investigate it, not  
17          sit there on your YouTube channel and just try to  
18          stir problems. And that's where you are.

19          MR. PEARLMAN: Okay.

20          THE DEFENDANT: Understood.

21          MR. PEARLMAN: I do think he understands, Your  
22          Honor. I do think the point is made and I do  
23          think -- because part of what I have to do now I --  
24          I've not yet been retained on the new battery  
25          allegation, but I wanted to go the psychological eval



1 and counseling route.

2 Whether -- again I -- I need to be able to show  
3 what's going on. I need him to have an objective  
4 other than kind of the dynamics of his own group,  
5 have an outside perspective. I wanted to begin that  
6 process. He is more than willing to begin the  
7 process.

8 I was going to ask for a GPS monitor to ensure  
9 compliance and I've already reached out to Solutions.  
10 They can get him in for the mental health eval and  
11 treatment almost (unintelligible). I do have a game  
12 plan. These things keep --

13 THE COURT: I know. You keep getting --

14 MR. PEARLMAN: -- shifting --

15 THE COURT: -- whacked in the back of the head  
16 every time this guy comes into the courtroom.

17 THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor, we've never even  
18 spoken. We haven't had a conversation about any of  
19 this. I'm not misrepresenting myself to my lawyer.

20 MR. PEARLMAN: No, no. I've got -- I've got --  
21 correct. I've got a game plan for him on the  
22 treatment which we -- we've discussed previously. At  
23 the end of the day for me there -- there -- this can  
24 be fixed. His behavior can be adjusted to be what  
25 has been in line for the three years he's been

1 heavily involved in the protests. The escalation has  
2 to be de-escalated and I think he understands that.

3 He, you know, his thoughts have been to his  
4 family the entire time. He wants to get back to his  
5 children. At the end of the day he's willing to do  
6 what Your Honor is asking.

7 And what happened prior to versus what happened  
8 at the motion for the revocation of the bond he had a  
9 different mindset. I think he was trying to be in  
10 good faith and, again, if I had known I wouldn't  
11 have -- I would have said don't do this, but there's  
12 a different person here than there was at that  
13 motion. I know this information is coming out, but  
14 that all happened prior to the motion.

15 That's where we're at. We will execute the  
16 plan. We will provide the counseling component to  
17 this that I think will be helpful and it is up to  
18 Your Honor, obviously, if you think he has not gotten  
19 that message. I believe he has. I believe you have  
20 a different person before you. He has never been in  
21 trouble before and I think this is a --

22 THE DEFENDANT: I've never been arrested before.

23 THE COURT: Well, I -- I don't see a different  
24 person. I just see a person just trying to give  
25 excuses for his behavior. So, I really don't see a

1 different person.

2 MR. PEARLMAN: I understand.

3 THE COURT: What was the last date that you have  
4 in that group of -- that information, Ms. Mee, about  
5 what he's saying and escalating on his YouTube  
6 channel?

7 MS. MEE: Yes, Your Honor. The most recent note  
8 from -- that has been provided to me is dated  
9 November 15th, at which time the Defendant turned  
10 over his social media accounts to his friends who  
11 posted material proclaiming he is falsely accused  
12 and, "This means war. We are doubling down."

13 THE COURT: That's interesting because it was  
14 November 13th that I revoked his bond.

15 MR. PEARLMAN: Correct. That wasn't him  
16 posting.

17 THE COURT: Well, but he -- his YouTube channel  
18 was turned over to his friends and now we're doubling  
19 down?

20 MR. PEARLMAN: I -- he can't and I can't control  
21 them.

22 THE COURT: He can control his own YouTube  
23 channel and why he turned it over to them I do not  
24 know. I'd be interested in to hear what the phone  
25 records are reflecting from the jail.

1           My mindset when I came in here today was to put  
2           him on GPS and supervised ROR. I'm not sure that --  
3           I think I'm not there yet based on what I'm hearing  
4           when I've got him in jail and now we've got basically  
5           doing exactly what I just said. He's asking others  
6           to do his bidding that I told him he couldn't do.

7           And, so, now they're using the fact that he's  
8           gotten himself into more trouble and he's created  
9           more problems to use it as a calling card to get  
10          other people to do other stuff and I'm -- I do have  
11          concerns.

12          So, today, I'm going to deny the motion to set  
13          bond and I'll do it without prejudice. Okay.

14          MR. PEARLMAN: I appreciate the without  
15          prejudice, Your Honor.

16          THE COURT: All right. Deny motion to set bond.

17          Mr. Levin-Smith (*sic*), you got yourself into  
18          this situation and you can't seem to bring it down.  
19          Even after my lecture to you on the 17th pointing out  
20          what I was seeing happening -- of October -- you then  
21          have all this that you're doing on the YouTube  
22          channel basically asking people to do what I told you  
23          you couldn't do.

24          And then I put you in jail and you turn over  
25          your YouTube channel two days later and have

1           everybody doing what you can't do.

2           THE DEFENDANT: It's the only way I make money,  
3           Your Honor, is my channel.

4           THE COURT: Well, you know what? That's exactly  
5           it. And I know that's the way you're making your  
6           money. I'm sitting here listening to your lawyer  
7           saying you want to get home to your family and kids  
8           and I'm sitting here thinking what does this guy do  
9           for a living? Why is he sitting there protesting?  
10          Then I'm like, oh, he's -- what he's doing for a  
11          living is he's making money off of his YouTube  
12          channel attacking the Church of Scientology. So --

13          THE DEFENDANT: I'm a former -- I'm a child  
14          trafficking victim of the Church of Scientology.

15          THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Smith-Levin, you're not  
16          helping yourself. Okay? You may be a victim of the  
17          trafficking or whatever it is, but you have gotten  
18          yourself so ingrained in this that you are escalating  
19          and I'm not going to have somebody killed on my  
20          watch.

21          MR. PEARLMAN: Your Honor, I'm --

22          THE COURT: And that's what I'm concerned about.

23          MR. PEARLMAN: I'm going to go in the back and  
24          speak to my client. I'm going to ask his friends and  
25          family, please wait so we can have a candid

1 conversation outside about what's going on and the  
2 next steps so that I can have the best chance to get  
3 my client out of custody.

4 So, if they could please wait while I talk to  
5 him in the back and we're going to go from there.

6 THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to do an order on  
7 this. Is this thing set for -- I have something set  
8 on this already? A pretrial or something, right?

9 MR. PEARLMAN: I don't know if anything's set  
10 right now.

11 THE CLERK: Yes, Your Honor. It's set for a  
12 pretrial on --

13 THE COURT: On December 18th?

14 THE CLERK: Yes.

15 THE COURT: Okay.

16 THE BAILIFF: Your Honor, the gentleman in the  
17 gray hoodie pulled out his phone. He was either  
18 taking pictures or video. I had no idea. That's why  
19 I interrupted the court session to tell him to put it  
20 away, but I don't know if he was taking pictures or  
21 photos.

22 THE COURT: Sir? You in the gray hoodie. You.

23 THE BAILIFF: You, sir. You, sir.

24 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. Yes, ma'am.

25 THE COURT: You were taking videos or --

1 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah. I took a picture.  
2 I apologize. I didn't know whether --

3 THE COURT: You are to delete that picture right  
4 now.

5 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I will, absolutely.

6 THE COURT: You are to take out your phone right  
7 now --

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

9 THE COURT: -- and delete the -- the photo.

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Unintelligible.)

11 THE COURT: Go walk up there, Deputy, and watch  
12 that he's doing that.

13 THE BAILIFF: Yes, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: You are not allowed to have any type  
15 of videos, phones, or recordings in this courtroom  
16 without permission from the Chief Judge.

17 (Courtroom conversations.)

18 THE BAILIFF: You took another one?

19 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No, no. I did -- it's  
20 called double delete just so that you know --

21 THE BAILIFF: Okay.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: -- that it's not -- it's  
23 a double delete situation. That was the only  
24 (unintelligible.)

25 MR. PEARLMAN: Your Honor, I think we need to

1 have my client back out. I think he would like me  
2 not to represent him anymore.

3 THE COURT: Well, I got one of his friends over  
4 here taking videos and pictures here in the  
5 courtroom.

6 THE BAILIFF: Your Honor, he did show me a  
7 couple -- one video that he had it on his phone and I  
8 observed when he deleted them.

9 THE COURT: All right. I better not show up on  
10 that YouTube channel because then you're going to  
11 have more issues. Do you understand that?

12 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am.  
13 My apologies.

14 THE COURT: All right.

15 MR. PEARLMAN: If we can have him brought back  
16 out, please. I think he would like to go a different  
17 direction.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 (Courtroom conversations.)

20 THE COURT: All right. Yes.

21 MR. PEARLMAN: I don't know if my client would  
22 like me to continue representing him. I think that  
23 he believes I'm not doing a sufficient job for him  
24 and that there are concerns about my representation.

25 So, at this point, if he wants me to withdraw, I



1           just need him to lay it on the record and he can seek  
2           different counsel.

3           THE COURT: All right. File your motion to  
4           withdraw and go from there.

5           Mr. Smith-Levin, you've got one of the best  
6           attorneys in Pinellas County. So, you choose to have  
7           him withdraw, that's -- that's your choice.

8           THE DEFENDANT: I didn't ask him to withdraw,  
9           Your Honor.

10          MR. PEARLMAN: Okay.

11          THE COURT: So --

12          MR. PEARLMAN: So, if you want me to continue to  
13          represent you --

14          THE DEFENDANT: I didn't ask you to withdraw.

15          MR. PEARLMAN: Okay.

16          THE COURT: All right.

17          MR. PEARLMAN: It felt different, but that's  
18          fine. I'll file the motion accordingly if it's  
19          appropriate.

20          THE DEFENDANT: Well, in the last three months,  
21          I've had 15 minutes of consultation with you and I  
22          have issue with that. I didn't ask for you to  
23          withdraw.

24          THE COURT: All right. Well, you guys figure  
25          out --

1 MR. PEARLMAN: Sure

2 THE COURT: -- whether you can resolve your  
3 differences. If not, then you are to -- you can file  
4 your motion --

5 MR. PEARLMAN: Yep. Absolutely.

6 THE COURT: -- and I'll hear it. Okay.

7 MR. PEARLMAN: Just wanted to be clear on the  
8 record --

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 MR. PEARLMAN: -- that I will continue to do  
11 what I'm going to try to do to the best of my  
12 ability.

13 THE COURT: All right. Let me do this order  
14 real quick.

15 MR. PEARLMAN: If we could all come outside,  
16 please?

17 THE COURT: Hold on. Don't leave, Mr. Pearlman.  
18 I need to --

19 MR. PEARLMAN: Give me the order.

20 THE COURT: -- do the order here.

21 (Courtroom conversations.)

22 THE COURT: Sorry about that.

23 MS. ALBRITTON: Hey, Deputy, just -- I just want  
24 to raise that some phones can recover deleted --

25 THE BAILIFF: I know.

1 MS. ALBRITTON: -- photos and stuff. So, do you  
2 have their, like, names?

3 THE BAILIFF: Yeah. We grabbed -- yeah --

4 MS. ALBRITTON: Okay.

5 THE BAILIFF: -- yeah, we did, and I'm about to  
6 (unintelligible.)

7 (Courtroom conversations.)

8 THE BAILIFF: You want to just let her know too?

9 THE COURT: Here you go, Madam Clerk.

10 MS. ALBRITTON: Sure.

11 THE BAILIFF: Your Honor? Ms. Albritton has  
12 something --

13 MS. ALBRITTON: Can I just approach?

14 THE COURT: Yes.

15 MS. ALBRITTON: I just, you know, was expressing  
16 my concern that some phones can recover deleted  
17 pictures and videos. So, they might just -- going to  
18 be able to get what they have.

19 THE COURT: Yes. Well, if I show up on the  
20 YouTube channel, we'll know if he did or not.

21 THE BAILIFF: I -- I did observe that he deleted  
22 it. Then my corporal came up and got his information  
23 so he's writing a report on him. That way it was  
24 documented.

25 THE COURT: Okay.

1           THE BAILIFF: So, just in case something does  
2       come up.

3           THE COURT: I appreciate it. Thank you.

4           THE BAILIFF: Yes, Your Honor.

5           THE COURT: And I appreciate it. Somebody I  
6       know knows a lot about phones. All right.

7           THE BAILIFF: I have a hard time turning them on  
8       and off. So...

9       (Proceedings concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF PINELLAS

I, Kristine Madorno, a digital court reporter for the Sixth Judicial Circuit, do hereby certify that I was authorized to and did transcribe the foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true and correct record of said proceedings.

DATED this 10th day of December, 2025.

/S Kristine Madorno  
Kristine Madorno  
Digital Court Reporter  
Sixth Judicial Circuit