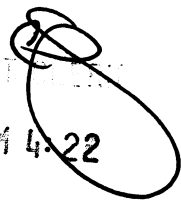


IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF COCONINO

2018 JUL 12 PM 4:22



FILED

Dan R. Slayton, Judge  
Division 2  
Date: July 12, 2018

Carrie Faultner, Judicial Assistant

NOTICE

STATE OF ARIZONA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

STEVEN EDWARD JONES,

Defendant.

Case No. CR2015 00862

**ACTION: STATE'S MOTION TO APPOINT DEFENDANT COMPETENT COUNSEL FOR TRIAL**

The Court is in receipt of the State's Motion to Appoint Defendant Competent Counsel for Trial. While there has been no response filed by defendant through current counsel, this Court is in receipt of a Motion to File an Amicus Pleading by the Public Defender's Office through former indigent counsel for the defendant. Because the question raised by the State is capable of being addressed without a response by the defendant, and because this Court's ruling would be the same regardless of whether the defendant agreed or disagreed with the motion filed by the State, this Court will issue its ruling without waiting for a response from defendant.

In the State's motion, the State erroneously reasons that this Court's authority to appoint indigent counsel upon a finding of indigency and upon request of a defendant somehow translates into authority to appoint a public attorney *to prepare* to represent the defendant while defendant is represented by competent private counsel of his choosing. In essence, the State asks this Court, *to force upon the defendant*, absent a finding of indigency and without request by defendant, and while the defendant is already represented by competent private counsel of defendant's choosing, a public attorney to prepare to try the case should the Arizona Bar not complete their investigation in time for the March trial.

Noticeably absent is any citation to any legal authority by the State supporting this unusual and unprecedented request.

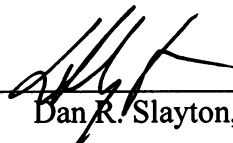
This Court has no authority to grant such a request and summarily denies the State's Motion

to Appoint Defendant Competent Counsel.

This Court further denies the Coconino County Public Defender's Motion to Allow Filing of Amicus Pleading in Response to the State's Motion to Appoint Competent Counsel for Trial.

7.12.18

Date



Dan R. Slayton, Judge

cc:

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