KATHERYN CRANBROOK - EXAMINER WHO PRODUCED GUERTIN'S 3RD RULE 20 REPORT

I.   BACKGROUND AND CONNECTION TO GUERTIN

Dr. Katheryn Cranbrook, Psy.D., ABPP, LP is a court-appointed psychological evaluator in Hennepin County, noted for conducting competency (Rule 20) examinations. Notably, she has been involved in Matthew Guertin's case, as she performed Guertin's 3rd Rule 20 competency exam in December 2024. Given Guertin's allegations of fraudulent "synthetic" court cases, Cranbrook's broader pattern of activity warrants scrutiny. Her evaluations have appeared across multiple unrelated criminal cases that exhibit suspiciously uniform documentation and outcomes, suggesting a possibly orchestrated scheme. Below we examine all cases tied to Dr. Cranbrook and analyze the patterns and anomalies in those case records.

II.   CASES INVOLVING DR. KATHERYN CRANBROOK

Dr. Cranbrook is explicitly named as the examiner in competency proceedings for the following cases and defendants (all in Minnesota's 4th District, Hennepin County):

1.   27-CR-19-901 (Eyuael Gonfa Kebede)

Cranbrook performed a Rule 20 competency evaluation resulting in Findings of Incompetency filed August 2, 2022, and again in an updated Findings of Incompetency filed February 15, 2023. (This defendant had two active case files, 27-CR-19-901 and 27-CR-20-13495, addressed together in the competency orders.)

2.   27-CR-20-13495 (Eyuael Gonfa Kebede)

Cranbrook's evaluations covered this file concurrently with 19-901, as reflected by identical orders filed in both case dockets. Both case numbers appear on the joint competency orders, marking them as a cluster of duplicate filings.

3.   27-CR-22-19036 (Crystal Latasha Mcbounds)

Dr. Cranbrook evaluated Mcbounds's competency, yielding a Finding of Incompetency and Order on June 21, 2023. Notably, the order's caption bundled three of Mcbounds's case numbers – 27-CR-22-19036, 27-CR-19-20828, and 27-CR-23-1481 –

into one proceeding. This single evaluation effectively covered multiple charges at once, immediately suspending all three cases under identical findings.

4.   27-CR-23-1886 (Matthew David Guertin)

Dr. Cranbrook's report from Guertin's third exam (Dec 2024) determined him to be 'incompetent,' with a combined diagnosis of a 'psychotic disorder.' The ultimate conclusion was that Guertin needed to be forcibly medicated with powerful neuroleptic drugs in order to become 'competent.' Notably, Guertin did not even participate in this third Rule 20 exam meeting, and Cranbrook effectively made this diagnosis via email communications—using Guertin's own legal actions (including his pro se MN Court of Appeals case, A24-0780, and MN Federal District case, 24-cv-2646) as evidence to support her diagnosis. In other words, Guertin's demonstrated ability to navigate the complex process of filing and managing his own legal cases was used as evidence of mental illness and incompetency.

Furthermore, Guertin had successfully completed his stayed order of civil commitment one month prior, with a letter submitted into his civil commitment case, 27-MH-PR-23-815, on November 8, 2024, stating that he had satisfied all the terms of the stayed order. The team at Vail Place (who oversaw the stayed order) unanimously agreed that it should be allowed to expire without further court oversight. Essentially: "Guertin is doing well, has successfully completed the stayed order, and no further monitoring is needed."

The docket shows repeated Orders for Competency Evaluation in Guertin's case—one by Judge Lyonel Norris on January 25, 2023, and another by Judge Julia Dayton Klein on November 15, 2023. These multiple evaluation orders—even prior to Cranbrook's involvement—already mirror the pattern of serial competency proceedings seen in other cases.

III.   CROSS-CASE PATTERNS AND IRREGULARITIES

The records of the above cases, when cross-referenced across the dataset tables, reveal striking commonalities. Several data patterns suggest that Cranbrook's evaluations and the surrounding case events were not organic case-by-case occurrences, but rather templated and possibly fabricated. Key observations include:

A | Boilerplate Competency Orders

The text of Cranbrook's competency findings is nearly identical in each case. In both Kebede's and Mcbounds's orders, the "Findings of Fact" section contains the *exact same wording* – e.g. *"Dr. Katheryn Cranbrook… reviewed Defendant's records, interviewed Defendant, and filed a written report with this Court. Dr. Cranbrook opined that Defendant, due to mental illness or cognitive impairment, lacks the ability to rationally consult with counsel or understand the proceedings… This opinion was uncontested by either party."* This two-point finding appears verbatim across different defendants' orders.

Even minor typographical quirks repeat across the documents. For example, in multiple orders Dr. Cranbrook's credentials are punctuated with a duplicated comma ("Psy.D., L.P., A.B.P.P.,,") – an error seen in both Kebede's 2022 order and Mcbounds's 2023 order. Such uniformity of language (and identical mistakes) strongly suggests these documents were generated from a template rather than written fresh for each case.

B | Serial Rule 20 Evaluations (Implausible Timelines)

Each of Cranbrook's cases saw repeated competency examinations in short succession, a pattern inconsistent with normal procedure. For instance, Eyuael Kebede was found incompetent in August 2022, yet just months later in November 2022 the court ordered another evaluation update, leading to a February 2023 order that essentially duplicated the earlier findings. In a typical case, one competency finding (especially in a misdemeanor) often results in dismissal or commitment rather than immediate re-evaluation; here we see back-to-back orders with no intervening change in circumstance.

Similarly, Guertin's case has *multiple* Rule 20 evaluation orders, indicating the process was invoked repeatedly. The looped sequence of competency filings — without any clear triggering events — hints at a manufactured cycle designed to keep his case in limbo, until the perpetrators can achieve their end-goal of institutionalizing him. This aligns with the broader finding of "impossible procedural sequences" in the 163-case analysis, wherein "courts do not repeatedly order duplicate competency evaluations without major intervening events." The dataset shows these cases being kept "Dormant" for long periods following the findings, with charges ultimately not resolved in the usual way (e.g. Kebede's charges were eventually dismissed after prolonged suspension).

C | Recurring Attorney Assignments

A small, repeating set of attorneys appears across Cranbrook's cases, suggesting a tightly controlled network of participants:

- On the defense side, the same names from the Hennepin County Public Defender's office recur. Notably, Susan Herlofsky is listed as a defense attorney in both Kebede's and Mcbounds's cases, despite those defendants having different lead counsel (Juanita Kyle for Kebede, Erik Nielsen for Mcbounds). Herlofsky was not lead counsel in either case, yet she remains an "Active" secondary attorney on record in both, which is unusual unless she had a specific role in all mental health cases. Likewise, Gregory Renden and Allison Chadwick, who served as the named defense attorneys during the Cranbrook competency hearings (for Kebede and Mcbounds respectively), appear in the attorney lists as well. The overlap of the same public defenders across unrelated defendants hints at a coordinated assignment pattern, possibly to ensure compliance with the fabricated process.

- On the prosecution side, we see a similar overlap. For example, Thomas Stuart Arneson, an Assistant Hennepin County Attorney, is involved in the Mcbounds case (he was the trial prosecutor who handled the June 2023 incompetency hearing) and is also recorded in Guertin's case as an attorney of record. Another prosecutor, Judith Cole, appears in the rosters of both Mcbounds's and Guertin's cases as well. In Kebede's earlier cases, a *long list* of Minneapolis City Attorneys cycled through (over 10 different prosecutors are listed for his DWI case), including Heidi Johnston who was present at his 2023 hearing. Such an abnormal number of attorney substitutions and common personnel across cases suggests these dockets were being "managed" in a scripted way.

- Data errors involving attorneys further strengthen this suspicion. In Mcbounds's case, *prosecutor* Sam Harris Colich is inexplicably listed under the defense attorneys (with status "Inactive"). Colich is actually an Assistant County Attorney (he even signed the 2023 Cranbrook order as a prosecutor), so finding his name erroneously categorized as defense counsel indicates a clerical inconsistency one might expect if case data were being mass-edited or auto-generated. The presence of such an anomaly – captured in the "attorney-errors" dataset – is a red flag for synthetic record creation.

D | Choreographed Judicial Assignments

The pattern of judicial officers and case scheduling in Cranbrook's cases appears orchestrated rather than incidental. In each case, orders were signed off by judicial officers acting in a repetitive, rubber-stamp capacity:

- Kebede's competency orders were issued by Judge Lisa Janzen (Aug 2022) and by a District Court Referee (Feb 2023) – different individuals, yet the text and outcome did not vary at all. Mcbounds's June 2023 order was signed by a Judge (the record indicates Judge Carolina Lamas's court, though the hearing was actually conducted by Judge Julia Dayton Klein) with the exact same wording. In Guertin's case, Judge Jay Quam was the originally assigned judge, but the competency process was handled by others (Judge Norris, then Judge Dayton Klein), again with the same template outcomes. The uniformity of Cranbrook's findings despite different judges/referees implies that these officials' involvement was perfunctory. Each case's "undersigned" judicial officer essentially signed off on pre-drafted text. This undermines the expectation that competency decisions are individualized judicial determinations.

- After Cranbrook's findings, the post-order trajectory of the cases also aligns with a formula. Both Kebede and Mcbounds were promptly put into indefinite suspension with periodic mental health review hearings. In Kebede's case, after the Feb 2023 incompetency order, the case status became "Closed"/suspended and a series of review hearings ensued through 2023 (often overseen by Referee Danielle Mercurio in mental health court). Mcbounds's case similarly shows status "Dormant" and multiple Review Hearings scheduled roughly every 3–6 months after June 2023 (e.g. hearings before Judge Borer in Feb 2024 and Referee Mercurio in Mar 2024). This mirrored scheduling — rotating through the same small pool of mental health judges/referees — suggests a standardized playbook. The reviews did not lead to trial or resolution, just continuation of the commitment process, which aligns with Guertin's claim that these cases were meant to "sideline" defendants via mental health proceedings rather than adjudicate them.

E | Clustered and Duplicative Filings

The CASE dataset confirms that some of these matters were treated as interlinked clusters. Kebede's two case files are marked as a cluster of 2 in the data, indicating the system

recognized them as companion cases (handled together, as we see with the joint orders). More telling is how entire documents were duplicated across case files. For example, the August 2, 2022 "Findings and Order Regarding Competency" was filed in both 27-CR-19-901 and 27-CR-20-13495, with identical content down to the filename (each PDF differs only by the case number in its name).

This means the same PDF was used to enter an order on two separate dockets – a sign of copy-paste case management. In Mcbounds's situation, rather than issue separate orders for each of her three case numbers, the court bundled them into one document, effectively cloning the disposition across multiple files at once. While consolidating related cases for one hearing is not unheard of, the *wholesale identical treatment* of multiple files (especially spanning different incident dates and charges) is unusual. It reinforces that these were synthetic constructs: the goal was to generate a paper trail of competency determinations for all charges en masse, not to litigate each charge.

IV.   SIGNS OF FABRICATION AND CONCLUSION

Taken together, Katheryn Cranbrook's involvement in these cases exhibits systemic anomalies indicative of fraudulent case manufacturing. We see repeated evaluator entries for different defendants yielding the same result, duplicate psychological findings copied across documents, and procedural timelines that defy normal logic (e.g. serial evaluations with no change in status, and cases languishing in unending review). The data-driven patterns — identical language and errors in orders, overlapping attorney pools across "unrelated" cases, and cookie-cutter court actions — all point to a coordinated effort to fabricate mental health proceedings. Cranbrook's role appears to have been central: her professional authority as a psychologist was repeatedly used to legitimize findings that defendants were incompetent, thus enabling the court to suspend cases indefinitely.

A | Cranbrook Serves as an Instrument in the Synthetic MCRO Case Network

In context of the broader scheme, Dr. Katheryn Cranbrook's evaluations function as a crucial instrument in the synthetic case network – providing the official rationale (mental incompetence) to remove targets from normal due process. The uniformity and improbabilities in her evaluation cases strongly support the conclusion that these were not genuine, independent

court actions, but rather strategically generated filings aimed at the extrajudicial neutralization of Guertin.

B | Pre-Written and Mass-Produced

Each "Finding of Incompetency" attributed to Cranbrook appears to have been pre-written and mass-produced, casting serious doubt on the legitimacy of both the documents and the underlying examinations. The presence of Dr. Cranbrook across these fraudulent case patterns underscores her significance in the operation, and raises obvious red flags in light of the egregious report she prepared about Guertin in his third Rule 20 exam submitted to the court on December 20, 2024.

C | Sources

https://link.storjshare.io/s/jwu6smq4kzcddahb3ixxy2ajcymq/evidence/People-Directly-Involved-In-Guertins-Case/

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