

**STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DISTRICT COURT OF MINNESOTA  
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

DISTRICT COURT  
PROBATE/MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION  
4<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR COURTS TOWER  
HENNEPIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER  
300 SOUTH SIXTH STREET  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55487-0340  
(612) 348-6000



May 18, 2023

Amanda Jung  
Competency Education Coordinator  
Anoka Metro Regional Treatment Center  
3301 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Anoka, MN 55303

RE: Juliet Kay Higgins, Court File Numbers 27-CR-22-18209; 27-MH-PR-23-117

Dear Ms. Jung,

The Court received notification that AMRTC plans to grant Juliet Higgins a provisional discharge and place her in an unspecified assisted living customized living facility.

On September 13, 2022, Ms. Higgins was charged with Domestic Assault by Strangulation. On February 21, 2023, Referee Mercurio ordered Ms. Higgins to be conditionally released with no bail and with the following conditions:

- Obey all laws;
- Attend all future Court appearances;
- No contact with the alleged victim, JA and stay away from a three-block radius of where J.A. lives, works, or goes to school;
- Comply with all Court Orders in Court File No. 27-MH-PR-23-117;
- Do not possess any firearm, ammunition, or other item used as a weapon; and
- Stay away from 5841 73<sup>rd</sup> Avenue N, Brooklyn Park, MN

On February 21, 2023, this Court placed Ms. Higgins under civil commitment, issuing an Order for Commitment as a Person Who Poses a Risk of Harm Due to Mental Illness ("Commitment Order"). See Court File No. 27-MH-PR-23-117. On April 27, 2023, Ms. Higgins was transported from the Hennepin County Jail to

AMRTC.<sup>1</sup> On May 15, 2023, AMRTC notified the Court that it intended to transfer Ms. Higgins to an unspecified assisted living/customized living facility and that this action will go into effect on May 22, 2023.

The Court requests AMRTC address compliance with this Court's Order for Commitment as a Person Who Poses Risk of Harm due to Mental Illness dated February 21, 2023, Court File No. 27-MH-PR-23-117, which requires notice to the "Criminal Division and parties at least **14 days** prior to the Proposed change in status." See Amended Order for Commitment as a Person who Poses a Risk of Harm Due to a Mental Illness dated February 21, 2023 at 5, Court File No. 27-MH-PR-23-117. Moreover, any such proposed change requires the AMRTC to show "1) whether the Respondent is competent, 2) how the proposed plan will meet Respondent's treatment needs, and 3) security risks and how they will be addressed." *Id.*

In the event AMRTC cannot continue to house Ms. Higgins, we note that the conditions of release stated above still apply.

By the Court,

Julia Dayton Klein  
Assistant Presiding Judge of Probate Mental Health

cc: Hon. Juan Hoyos, Judge of District Court  
Dominik Haik, Assistant Hennepin County Attorney  
Raissa Carpenter, Assistant Hennepin County Public Defender  
Brittany Lawonn, Assistant Hennepin County Attorney  
Terry Hegna, Esq.

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<sup>1</sup> The Court notes that Minn. Stat. § 253B.10 requires the Commissioner of Human Services to prioritize patients being admitted from jail or a correctional institution and, in any event, requires patients under civil commitment for competency treatment and continuing supervision under Minnesota Rule of Criminal Procedure 20.01 to be admitted to a state-operated treatment program within 48 hours. Here, Ms. Higgins waited in jail for over two months for placement in a state-operated treatment program.