IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NUMBER: 05-2012-CF-035337-AXXX-XX

STATE OF FLORIDA,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

BRANDON BRADLEY,

ORIGINAL

Defendant.

TRANSCRIPT OF DIGITAL
STATUS CONFERENCE RECORDING

SOOTT ELLIS

The transcript of the hearing

taken in the above-styled cause at Moore Justice Center, 2825 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, Florida, 32940, on the 13th of January, 2014, before the Honorable Morgan Laur Reinman, commencing at 1:20 p.m.

Case # 05-2012-CF-035337-AXXX-XX

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RYAN REPORTING
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL REPORTERS

1670 SOUTH FISKE BOULEVARD OFFICE: (321) 636-4450

ROCKLEDGE, FLORIDA 32955 FAX: (321) 633-0972

		Page 2
1	APPEARANCES	
2		
3	APPEARING FOR PLAINTIFF	
4	JAMES MCMASTER, ESQUIRE	
5	Office of the State Attorney	
6	2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Building B	
7	Viera, Florida 32940 (321)617-7510	
8		
9	APPEARING FOR DEFENDANT	
10	AFFEAKING FOR DEFENDANT	
11	RANDALL MOORE, ESQUIRE Assistant Public Defender	
12	2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way Building E, 2nd Floor	
13	Viera, Florida 32910 (321)617-7373	
14	(Attorney for Brandon Bradley)	
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PROCEEDINGS

THE COURT: Okay. At this time, I'd like to address the motion for continuance filed by the State in the Brandon Bradley matter. Just for the record, this is Case No. 12-35337.

And, Mr. Moore, can we waive Mr. Bradley's presence for purposes of this?

MR. MOORE: Yes, yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. Purposes of this proceeding, the defendant's presence is waived.

Okay, I have reviewed the motion. But, Mr. McMaster, you may proceed with regard to the motion to continue.

MR. MCMASTER: Judge, as set forth in the motion, the State has just received a number of additional experts as potential witnesses in the case as well as an additional supplemental defense witness list adding 26 witnesses. And as also set forth in the motion, we have a scheduling problem with our medical examiner, Dr. Qaiser.

We do have a motion scheduled for this

Thursday afternoon to disclose the raw data that
the defense experts have relied on that we do need
for our experts. Assuming that that motion is
granted and the materials can be obtained in a,

relatively, short period of time, we are hopeful that we can continue in the next trial period and be ready to try this case at that time.

THE COURT: Okay. Just for the record, the case was scheduled to commence January the 28th and go through the month of February. The request for a continuance, do you know how long you're requesting a continuance?

MR. MCMASTER: Well, we were going to ask for the calendar call on February 26th, which would normally be the trial period beginning March 3rd. It appears that there is no court the first three days of March as presently scheduled. I know that this Court had made special arrangements to try the case starting January 28th through the month of February.

Mr. Brown and I discussed -- and I talked briefly to Mr. Moore -- if possible or if necessary, we could possibly start jury selection the last week of February. That would be the 24th, even before the scheduled calendar call. Do jury selection that week and then, hopefully, begin the testimony in March. We are aware of Mr. Moore's time problems with his pending retirement, so we're trying to get it done as soon as possible. And the

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State, also, would like to have the case proceed.

I knew that the Court had blocked that time off
during the last week of February.

THE COURT: Yeah. I had February 24th -that was March, hold on a second. I have
February 24th, that would be -- that's already
blocked off already for the trial.

MR. MCMASTER: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: It went February 24th -- you know, with all do respect, I am going to be gone March the 3rd, March the 4th, and March the 5th.

MR. MCMASTER: That's fine, Judge. I am hopeful that the State's experts are going to be able to complete their review of the materials and be ready for that proposed timeframe. If the Court is not available on certain dates, then we'll just continue on until we're finished.

THE COURT: Okay. That would also -- are you representing that you will be able to get the depositions? I think you put in your motion you wanted to do depositions of the two experts, I think?

MR. MCMASTER: We haven't made an ultimate decision as to whether we're going to depose the experts or not. It's just going to depend on what

their opinions are based on their review of the defense materials.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. MCMASTER: So once we have that, we'll know for sure about the depos. I have discussed with Mr. Moore that we have added an additional potential witness to the State's case, that is the co-defendant, Ms. Kirchner. And we have been discussing times to attempt to depose her. I believe she's currently scheduled for plea on January 23rd.

MR. MOORE: Well, Your Honor, all of the

THE COURT: Okay. Response from the defense?

disclosures were timely. But when we got the information, the State got it. But that's, you know, as far as their preparation is concerned, I think their point is a valid one with the -- you know, the Court is aware that I'm not going to be able to be here to be a part of this. And I've been, you know, from the beginning, I've been a big part of it. It's my case, our case, so I want to get this done before I leave. So if we -- I think --

THE COURT: It's my understanding, Mr. Moore,
I thought that your last day was March the 1st?

MR. MOORE: March 31st.

THE COURT: March 31st, okay, that does make

MR. MOORE: And I will be able to -- special

a difference.

arrangements can be made for me to work past that.

So, I mean, unless it gets put off until May or

June, then that would be a problem. But,

otherwise, if there is a continuity where we start at the end of February and continue into March and

maybe, perhaps, into April, then I can be here to

try that.

Most of the witnesses that we disclosed, with the exception of the experts, are witnesses, penalty-phase witnesses, that traditionally are not deposed by the State. And so I think a realistic estimate is that we can begin to start, at least the jury selection, at the end of February and probably wind this up before I leave, which would be March 31st. So I don't object.

THE COURT: I thought there was a representation that at least one of the expert -- experts you were planning to call in the guilt phase and the penalty phase?

MR. MOORE: Two of them.

THE COURT: Two of them?

MR. MOORE: Yes. In the guilt phase and the penalty phase.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. MOORE: I expect -- well, I don't know what the State is going to do with that, but we'll make the files available to the State, the data available to the State. And they should have ample time between now and the end of February to be prepared. As far as Dr. Qaiser is concerned, Your Honor, we would even stipulate to his testimony. We stipulate to his report. So that shouldn't be an impediment to the State.

They can even have another expert come in as they often do when they run into a problem where a medical examiner is not available. They call another expert especially where the cause and manner of death is not disputed. There is no reason why the State couldn't proceed with another expert. Dr. Podjaski, perhaps, with the Medical Examiner's Office. Just throwing that out there. That should, in itself, should not be a reason for a delay.

THE COURT: Well, if I grant the continuance, and I grant it for the last week -- to start the last week in February, then that resolves that.

Then that is not a problem with Dr. Qaiser.

MR. MCMASTER: That's correct. And just for the Court's consideration, Mr. Moore has been able to make arrangements with the public defender to continue on if the case is not concluded by March 31st. If the Court wishes not to inconvenience the jurors, we can start on March 6th with jury selection, and the Court would initially start the trial period.

THE COURT: Well, with all do respect, we have kind of moved heaven and earth to get the case set for the end of this month and have coverage of my other docket while I'm -- while we're proceeding with this case. So I need to see -- I need to talk to court administration about the dates and what would be more convenient for the Court whether to start. I just soon start February the 24th, and then we'll take those three days off, and then come back on the 6th.

MR. MOORE: I would propose that as well. I would endorse that as well. That's the best way to proceed if we're going to get it done.

THE COURT: I do have no court February 24th and 25th as well. I try to coordinate my days off when my son is out of school. And my son and I do

have some trips planned, and those are the days he's off. And I can't change those so. But, I mean, probably during after three weeks of trial --

MR. MCMASTER: Are you saying the 24th and 25th of February?

THE COURT: March 24th and 25th. But probably, with all do respect, after three weeks of trial, you'll probably appreciate two days off.

But I do have on my calendar right now -- and I have to check why they were off. I can't recall, but I do think they were breaks from school. He gets two breaks in the spring.

So I think March 3rd, 4th, and 5th -- and I know we have a trip planned then -- and then March 24th and March 25th. And then if I look, I was supposed to be out April 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. And I do think I have a trip planned then. But we'll just have to work around those dates.

Okay, I'm going to grant the motion for a continuance. I'm not going to give you the dates as of this moment. I'm going to need to check with court admin, and then I'll do a court order with the dates. What I anticipate happening is that we'll start February the 20 -- the week of February the 24th.

That's when I'm going to shoot for unless there's a problem with coverage from another judge, that would be the only reason to change those dates. Now, we have some -- here's another break. They have another break because they're not public school. The other thing is we had scheduled for the 16th, those were -- death penalty motions were scheduled for the 16th and the 21st at 3:00 p.m.

Is there any reason we can't go forward with those?

MR. MCMASTER: No, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Those dates?

MR. MOORE: That's fine.

THE COURT: And then we had on the 27th, we had scheduled hearings all day for non-death penalty motions.

Do we want to keep the 27th?

MR. MOORE: We don't need all day unless the State has motions to file that I'm not aware of. But as far as we're concerned, we won't take but maybe an hour.

THE COURT: Do we have enough time on the 16th and the 21st starting at 3:00 p.m.? That would be, like, two hours on the 16th and two hours on the 21st. Is that enough time for the

death penalty motions?

MR. MCMASTER: We'll know better on the 16th.

Let's see how far we get through the death penalty

motions. I think he's got a total of 41?

MR. MOORE: Right.

THE COURT: That was my concern. Do you think we have enough time?

MR. MOORE: Well, we've got two days, four hours. And if we can get those done, we can probably do the non-death motions too in that

THE COURT: Okay.

timeframe.

MR. MCMASTER: I just ask that it be left on for the 27th at this point. And if we can get to them on the 16th or the 21st, we'll do them then.

THE COURT: Well, what's going to happen in January 27th, I'm going to lose my senior judge coverage, probably. And if we all are -- that's a trial week. I need to be the one to try those cases. I can't have another judge come in one day and then me try them the second and third.

So what I'll probably do is give you -- I won't set it for the 27th, I'll probably take that day back. But if we don't get done on the 16th and the 21st with all of the motions, then I'll carve

out a time date. We'll figure out how much time we need, and I'll get a time in between now and the time the trial starts.

MR. MCMASTER: That's fine, Judge.

THE COURT: Okay. Anything else?

MR. MOORE: I'd ask the Court to enter an order to have Ms. Kirchner held at the courthouse when she comes to enter a plea so we can take her deposition.

THE COURT: Okay. She's going to be here -
I mean, right now the plea is scheduled for the

23rd at 3:00 p.m. So I'll enter that order at that

time that she's to be held. And maybe

Mr. McMaster, he'll know if the depositions have

been scheduled or not as of that time.

MR. MOORE: Well, they will. If the Court is going to enter that order, I'll set it up.

THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead and set it up so
I can make sure she's held until after the depo and
I'll have a date. Okay, I think Mr. Pirolo wants
to --

MR. MOORE: We -- supposed to be, we, both sides are supposed to be provided with a venire list by January 17th.

THE COURT: That will probably change. Like

I said, we've made lots of arrangements. I've already spoke with lots of people about getting -- about what we were doing, so that date will change.

MR. MOORE: We put for in the vicinity of February 18th, will be about, approximately, a week and a half before trial.

THE COURT: Okay. I will work on that, and that will be in the order too.

MR. MOORE: Okay.

THE COURT: I need to talk with them to see if they can get it. You know, with all do respect, we ordered extra jurors, so I'll have to make arrangements with regard to that. I hope we have enough time to get extra jurors. There's a certain turnaround time. We made it before, I hope we have enough time to get the extra jurors for that -- the end of February.

Okay, anything else? If anything else comes up like the venire list -- and we didn't mention it at today's hearing -- I would appreciate if you would bring it to my attention.

MR. MOORE: Nothing else, Your Honor.

MR. MCMASTER: Thank you.

THE COURT: Okay, thank you.

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