

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
ORLANDO DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VS.

CASE NO: 6:22-cr-201-WWB-LHP

EVAN EDWARDS

ORDER

Pursuant to prior notice (Doc. Nos. 220-221), a status conference was held today with the parties regarding Defendant Evan Edwards' competency. As discussed at the status conference, the Bureau of Prisons has issued a forensic evaluation finding Evan Edwards incompetent to proceed, and that his competency is unlikely to be restored in the foreseeable future. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 4241(d). The United States raised objections to the forensic evaluation and made an oral request to appoint an additional expert, and to provide that expert with 30 days to review Evan Edwards' available records and reports and render an opinion as to his competency and/or restoration. Counsel for Evan Edwards objected.

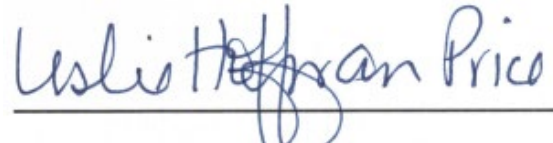
For the reasons discussed at the status conference, the United States' oral motion is **GRANTED IN PART AND DENIED IN PART**. Dr. Ryan Darby, M.D., a forensic neurologist, is hereby appointed to review any and all available records and reports for Evan Edwards and to prepare and submit a report as to Evan

Edwards' competency and potential for restoration in the foreseeable future. *See* 18 U.S.C. §§ 4241(d), 4247(c). Dr. Darby shall submit his report to the Court (via Chambers email) and to Evan Edwards' counsel on or before **October 29, 2024**. **This deadline will not be extended absent truly exigent circumstances.** In all other respects, the United States' request is denied.

An in-person status conference with counsel is scheduled for **9:30 a.m. on Friday, November 1, 2024**. At that status conference, the parties should be prepared to address: (1) Dr. Darby's report and whether the United States continues to object to the Bureau of Prison's September 23, 2024 forensic evaluation; (2) further proceedings in this case, including, but not limited to, whether a contested restoration competency hearing will be held or whether proceedings under 18 U.S.C. § 4246 should go forward; and (3) any other issues related to the litigation of this case as to Evan Edwards.

For the time being, absent motion and/or objection from Evan Edwards' counsel, and given that the Court previously revoked Evan Edwards' pretrial release (Doc. No. 190), the Court **ORDERS** that Evan Edwards remain in the custody of the Attorney General and remain at the Federal Medical Center, Devins.

DONE and **ORDERED** in Orlando, Florida on October 8, 2024.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leslie Hoffman Price". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

LESLIE HOFFMAN PRICE
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE