



JUNE 30, 2004: PSYCHOSOCIAL HISTORY

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: The patient was interviewed briefly on the ward. Documents referenced include Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS) sheets; Oregon State Hospital (OSH) records; the court order; Springfield Police Department records; an evaluation by Rebecca S. McAlexander, MA, dated 6/23/04; and Lane County police records. Additional background information was provided by the patient's grandmother, Gladys Giffen.

BIOLOGICAL DATA: Mr. Giffen is a 19-year-old Caucasian single male. His birth date is 3/13/85. He was born in Cottage Grove, Oregon. The patient comes to OSH Ward 48C pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 161.370, as ordered by Lane County Judge Cynthia D. Carlson. The patient is currently facing charges of Menacing and Harassment. At the time of the arrest on 6/18/04 Mr. Giffen was living with his grandmother in Springfield, Oregon. He was not working when he was in the community.

On 6/18/04 at 2211 hours police were dispatched to the home of Gladys Giffen, the patient's grandmother. Upon their arrival Gladys told the police that the patient had been upset about the dinner she had made. He became very angry and threw a box fan across the room. He also tipped over chairs and threw some off the couch. He then went to his room. When he returned, he had a 13-inch knife in his hand. He held the knife over his head with an overhand grip. He grabbed his grandmother's wrist, pulled her closer to him, and told her, "Time for you to die." The grandmother was able to get away and run to the neighbors. The grandmother reported that the patient had lived with her for six years and he has had many mental issues and was seeing a psychiatrist by the name of Mary at White Bird. The grandmother said that he has been hitting and pushing her around the house the last two months. She does not want him back in her house.

While at the Lane County Jail Mr. Giffen was seen by Rebecca McAlexander, MA, for an evaluation. He was diagnosed with psychosis, schizophrenia, and a personality disorder. The night prior to the patient's admission to OSH he spoke about possible suicidal ideation with a plan to deprive himself of fluids or "throw myself off something to break my neck." Upon admission to OSH he was diagnosed as follows: Axis I rule out psychotic disorder not otherwise specified and rule out anxiety disorder not otherwise specified, and Axis II diagnosis deferred. He is not currently on any prescribed medications.

BACKGROUND DATA: Mr. Giffen was born in Cottage Grove, Oregon. His date of birth is 3/13/85. His parents got divorced when he was a baby. He lived with his father. He reported that his father did abuse him. He would not discuss the abuse. He said that he did not believe that his parents abused

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GIFFEN, Michael Todd

70380

48C - FETS - SALEM

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drugs or alcohol. When he was in the fifth grade, he said his father tried to "dump" him on his mother. He said he stayed with her for a few months but then went back with his father. Then he and his father moved to Arizona. In the middle of his sixth-grade year his father sent him back to Oregon to live with his aunt. At the end of his sixth-grade year his aunt sent him to live with his grandparents, where he has been ever since. He said that the last time he saw his mother was when he was 10 or 11 when his father tried to leave him with her. He last saw his father in 2002 on Christmas Eve when he came and forced him to "go to all these places." The last time he went to a movie theater was then, and he saw Lord of the Rings Two. He reported having two brothers and two sisters, all younger than he. He has never seen them. He said his only support in Oregon is his grandparents.

Mr. Giffen went to school until the sixth grade. He said that he was receiving okay grades when he went to school. He also said that everything was fine until the sixth grade. When asked what happened at that time to make him not want to go back to school, he would not say. Later on in the interview I brought up the subject again, and he said that was when he got "real quiet and was afraid to be around other kids." He said he would like to get his GED if it is the only option. He said that he liked computers. His favorite game is Tactical Ops. He also likes to use the Internet. I asked him what type of game Tactical Ops was, and he went into this long description of the game. He even smiled and looked up at me while he was describing the game. He said it was a cool game. He also likes to watch cartoons. His favorite types of movies are horror and science fiction. He has seen all three Lord of the Rings movies, two of which he downloaded off the Internet. He also likes animals. He said he had a Dalmatian dog when he was growing up. When he moved to Arizona, the dog went to his grandmother's, and she gave him away. When he lived in Arizona, he said he had rats and iguanas as pets. He started to talk about the science teacher he had in Arizona, who had full-grown iguanas. He said he liked them because he could "hold them and it was fun." While telling this story, he was looking at me the whole time and smiled at times. He normally did not have any eye contact with me.

He is currently facing misdemeanor charges for Menacing and Harassment.

ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION: I spoke with the patient's grandmother today (7/7/04), and she went a little bit more into the history behind the patient. She said that the patient has a half brother and sister who have been having the same problems that the patient is currently demonstrating. She believes that this is something hereditary that has been passed down

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from their mother. She stated that the patient is the only one who has ever been hospitalized in the family. She stated that she believes he is anorexic as he has lost approximately 70 pounds. She stated that she does not want him to return to her home. She stated that for the last two years she did not know when she came home if she would find him alive. She said that he was cutting himself, had out of control anger, and had an obsession with knives. She said that he kept his bedroom door locked. He would run when they came into the house, and he would crawl throughout the house instead of walking. She said that he used to be real talkative and then he began shutting everyone out. She said that he tortured her to no end with the knife. He would stick her with the knife. He would state to her, "I want to kill you." She said he would talk as if something was trying to control his mind.

She went on to describe abuse that he was subjected to as a child. She said that her son, whom Mr. Giffen was living with, had a girlfriend who used to beat him all the time. She then said that he married another girl who was abusive as well. She said that one time after Mr. Giffen starting cursing at her son's wife, the wife poured dish soap down his throat, a full bottle, beat him, put him in a diaper, and put him in the backyard. She said that her son came home and found Mr. Giffen like this. She said there was one point when they were digging out the new foundation in their house and whenever the wife got mad at the patient, she would have him go under the house and close it off so he could not get out. She said that every time they could not handle Mr. Giffen, he would be taken to the grandmother's house, the current source of information, for her to deal with. She said he was constantly being taken to her.

HISTORY OF ILLNESS: Mr. Giffen said that he first became "real quiet and afraid of other kids" in the sixth grade. At the age of 13 he was locked up in a facility in Roseburg for a few days. The police took him there because they were afraid he was going to kill himself. He has a long history of seeking treatment for his mental illness. He has seen a therapist at Options. He has been evaluated by Dr. Stergar. He went to Lane County Mental Health for anxiety attacks. He has also been going to White Bird to see Mary Sennet. He has been on Prozac and Zoloft in the past for anxiety problems. He was taking these until April 2004 when he just decided not to take them anymore. When asked why, he stated that he forgot to take them for a couple of days and figured it would not be good to start taking them again. He also said that he did not feel they were helping because he "wasn't feeling any different." He has a history of suicidal ideation. While in jail he thought about killing himself for a few days. He said he would jump from a second-story walkway or dehydrate himself. When asked if

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he thought of killing himself now. he said, "No." He has been on constant supervision since his arrival at OSH. He is not currently taking any medications.

VOCATIONAL ASSESSMENT: He has never had a job. I asked him if there was any area that he had any interest in working. He said possibly computer programming. He needs to work towards earning his GED so he can be able to take some vocational courses.

PRESENT SUPPORT SYSTEM: He does not know where his mother is. He has not seen her since he was 10 or 11. His father is living in Arizona. He has not seen or spoken to him since Christmas Eve 2002. He was living with his grandparents here in Oregon prior to his arrest. His grandmother has indicated that she does not want him back. He would like to return to his grandmother's house. He said that he has been talking to his grandmother on the phone since he has been here. He says he has nowhere else to go.

FINANCIAL: He indicated he was getting general assistance. He also said he had applied to receive social security. He does not know where he is at in the approval process. He said that his grandmother, who lives in California, has given him some savings bonds in the past. He thinks he might have a check at his grandmother's here in Oregon for some of those. He said that he has medical, dental, and mental health insurance through the Oregon Health Plan Plus. Due to his mental illness, it is recommended that upon his release someone be assigned to assist Mr. Giffen in managing his finances.

ASSESSMENT

SUBSTANCE ABUSE: He reports no drug or alcohol use. There is no data to suggest otherwise.

CRIMINAL HISTORY

OREGON SID#: OR15587707
FBI#: 695236EC0

DEFENSE ATTORNEY: David Phillips, phone number 541-484-2611

Mr. Giffen was arrested on 6/18/04 for grabbing his grandmother by the arm and threatening her with a knife. He stated to her, "It is time for you to die." She was able to get away from him, go to the neighbors, and call the police. He was charged with Menacing and Harassment. This is his only

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arrest. He does not have any known escapes or elopements. There is no known history of violence toward pets. In my interview with him he talked about his childhood dog and iguana. His current charge involves threats of violence toward a person. His grandmother also reported to the police that he had been pushing her around the house for the last few months.

CULTURAL/LANGUAGE NEEDS: Mr. Giffen said he does not have a religious preference. He said he went to church when he was growing up but cannot remember what type of church it was. He only speaks English. He said he would like to learn how to speak Spanish because he thinks it would be useful. He would also like to learn how to speak Japanese because he watches a Japanese cartoon called Anime that he thinks is cool. He does not require any cultural services.

CURRENT IMPRESSIONS: The patient comes to OSH after being determined to be unable to aid and assist his attorney with his current criminal charges. The patient is facing charges regarding threatening to kill his grandmother with a 13-inch knife. In my interview with the patient he was real resistant toward providing information until I asked him what his hobbies were. During my interview he stared down at the floor and was slow in answering the questions. He picked at the skin on his arms and had limited eye contact. There were two times during my interview that he looked at me for a long period and even smiled. That was when he was talking about his favorite computer game, Tactical Ops, and when he talked about the iguanas that his sixth-grade science teacher had. There is no evidence to suggest that drugs or alcohol had any influence on his current charges. He did admit that he stopped taking his prescribed medications in April. This may have been a contributing factor to his behavior. The patient is not currently on any medications. He has not been participating in any of the groups that are offered on the unit. After talking to him about the groups, he said he would try to go to some. He did express that he would like to be off of the constant watch as he says he does not have a desire to harm himself. His needs are to participate with mental health treatment to keep his mental illness stable.

INTERVENTIONS AND DISCHARGE PLANNING: The social worker will assist the patient's treatment team in developing his plan of care and act as liaison between Mr. Giffen, his attorney, and others in the community. I recommend that he participate in as many group activities as possible. As Mr. Giffen will be returned to jail when he is able to aid and assist to face his charges, no discharge to the community would be considered for him at this time. I recommend he follow up at a mental health clinic upon release. Mr. Giffen does have mental health insurance and has been receiving general

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assistance. He said he might consider going to a group home if that is his only option. His lack of education and employment history may prove to be a barrier for him to succeed once he is released. A goal for Mr. Giffen would be to become more comfortable around people so that he could be released to a group home.

COPY/SIGNED REPORT IN RECORD

Carrie Daniel, MSW/lh

D. 7/7/04

R. 7/7/04

T. 7/8/04

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