

February 2, 2009

Presiding Judge  
Canyon County Court  
Caldwell, Idaho

CR09-3528N  
CR09-3531N

Your Honor,

My son, Gregory Dallas Cheney, will come before you today for arraignment.

I apologize for sending a handwritten letter, and want to assure you this is not an attempt to circumvent justice.

This letter is from someone who spent ten years as a Chaplain at Mercy Medical Center, and was also a pastor.

Part of my job as a Chaplain was to assess the emotional and spiritual state of patients and sometimes family members, help provide intervention and advocate for appropriate psychological evaluation and care.

My request is simple. Please reward Gregory for psychological evaluation and possible treatment.

My request is based on the following observations:

1. Gregory was considered to be exceptionally bright by teachers, FFA, 4-H, Church and Group Leaders. While at Kuna High he was Idaho State Group Youth Ambassador, President of Kuna FFA and Idaho State FFA Treasurer. He was also a speech and debate winner.

Upon graduation, he was awarded several scholarships and accepted to College of Idaho.

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He was manager of Zangoria's Kura store at age 19. He served a term on the Kura Fire District Board and at age 21 ran for a seat in the Idaho State Legislature, narrowly losing to the incumbent.

Following marriage, the birth of two sons, job changes and a number of financial setbacks, he joined the Marine Reserve.

2. Following his Marine MOS, he exhibited a marked personality change as well as an extreme change in physical appearance. He was more reckless, but also moodier, even sullen. Also, more volatile.

3. There have been at least two other suicide threats or attempts in the past two years. Also at least one episode of threatened violence to another. These are only the ones of which I am aware.

4. During custody evaluation preceding his divorce this past year, a psychologist or social worker described him as unstable and a "time bomb."

5. His erratic behavior and poor judgement has resulted in his termination from the Nampa Police Department and later from the Marine Reserve.

6. After stating that so far as he was concerned for the past year, I was dead, he has made attempted to make contact four times in the past two weeks. On January 15 he called requesting a co-signer for an apartment at Boise State University. Then two attempted calls which went

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to my sister's cell phone - at 1:34 AM on Tuesday, January 27 and at 1:34 PM on Friday, January 30. The proximity of the last two calls to the event which resulted in his arrest indicate to me he was stressed.

Based on my experience dealing with others in crisis situations, I believe he is a very ill young man. I would like to see him get the help he needs before he seriously injures himself or others.

He may be angry with me for this request, but I love my son and am willing to risk it to help him.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Judith A. Leter  
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