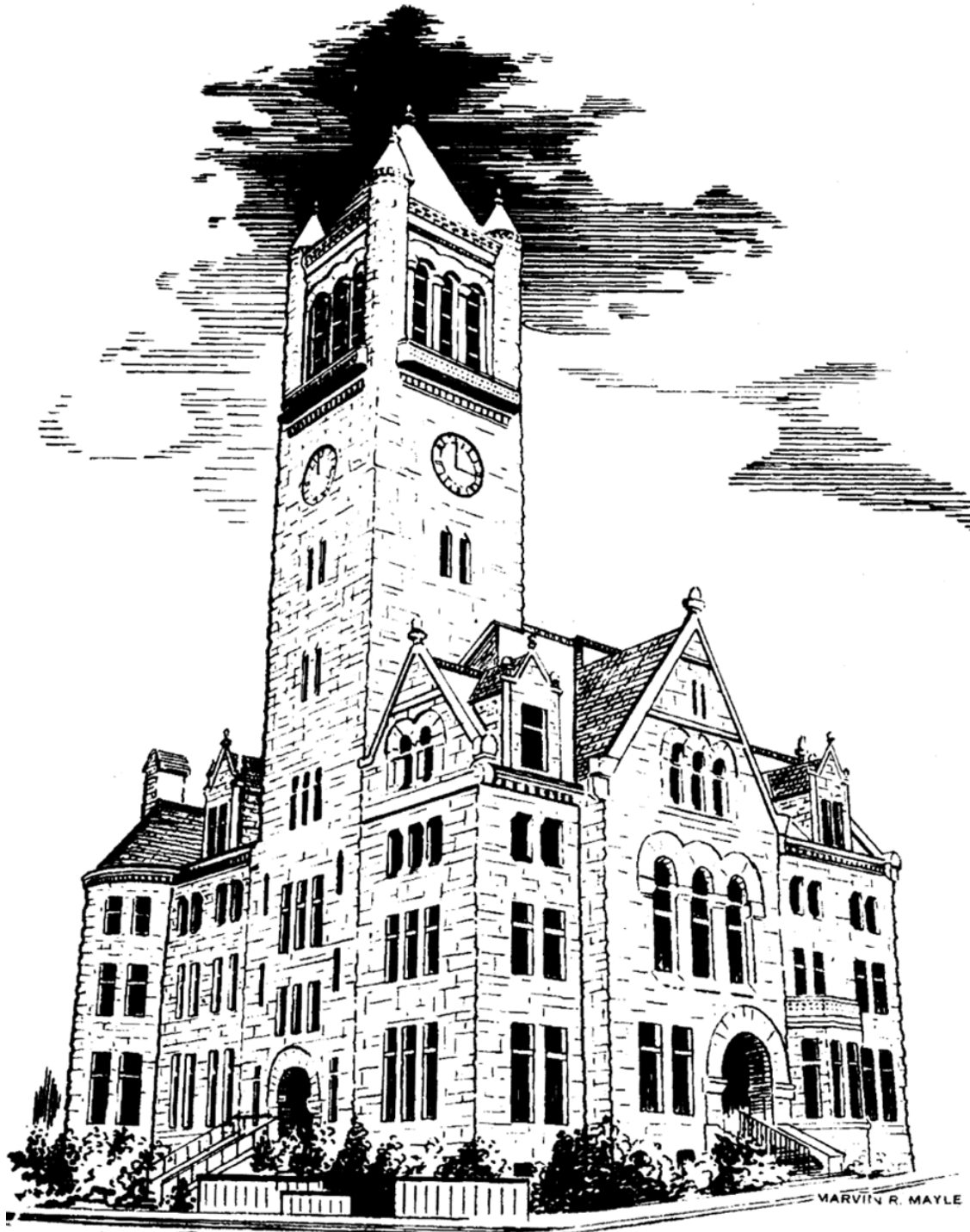


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ESTATE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary or of administration have been granted to the following estates. All persons indebted to said estates are required to make payment, and those having claims or demands to present the same without delay to the administrators or executors named.

Third Publication

MICHAEL R. ELWELL, late of Perry Township, Fayette County, PA
Administratrix: Kristen L. Behrens
c/o Dilworth Paxson, LLP
1650 Market Street #1200
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Attorney: Kristen L. Behrens

MICHAEL EDWARD HORVATH,
a/k/a MICHAEL E. HORVATH, late of Uniontown City, Fayette County, PA
Executrix: Robin Snyder
c/o Law Office of
Steven M. Zelinger, LLC
1650 Market Street #3600
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Attorney: Steven M. Zelinger

JAMES JONES, a/k/a JAMES E. JONES, late of Connellsville, Fayette County, PA
Administratrix: Janice Pritts
c/o Erin M. Salas, Attorney at Law
172 Stotler Drive
Delmont, PA 15626
Attorney: Erin M. Salas

ROBERT NELAN, late of Newell Township, Fayette County, PA
Administrator: Arlene Clay
410 Miller Street
P.O. Box 332
Newell, PA 15466

GERALDINE LEE TERNITSKY, late of Menallen Township, Fayette County, PA
Administrator: Jack R. Heneks, Jr.
c/o 39 Francis Street
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: Jack R. Heneks, Jr.

GEORGE W. VARGO, late of Borough of Masontown, Fayette County, PA
Executrix: Melissa J. Polosky
c/o Webster & Webster
51 East South Street
Uniontown, PA 15401

PAUL WISSLER, a/k/a PAUL H. WISSLER, late of Bullskin Township, Fayette County, PA
Co-Executor: Daniel Wissler
c/o Tremba Greiner & Brooks
1310 Morrell Avenue, Suite C
Connellsville, PA 15425
Attorney: John Greiner

Second Publication

JOZEF BANIOWSKI, late of Masontown Borough, Fayette County, PA
Executor: Jerry Baniowski
c/o Newcomer Law Office
4 North Beeson Boulevard
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: Ewing D. Newcomer

LORIE ANN HERCIK, a/k/a LORIE A. HERCIK, late of Hopwood, North Union Township, Fayette County, PA
Administrator: Alec D. Hercik
c/o Higinbotham Law Offices
68 South Beeson Boulevard
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: James E. Higinbotham, Jr.

CHARLES HIGBEE, late of Dawson, Fayette County, PA
Administratrix: Jessica Higbee
c/o 92 East Main Street, Suite 24
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: Michelle Kelley

RONALD MARASKY, late of South Union Township, Fayette County, PA
Personal Representative:
Jeffrey P. Jordon
c/o 76 East Main Street
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: Douglas S. Sholtis

TONI Y. REAGAN, a/k/a TONI YVONNE REAGAN, late of German Township, Fayette County, PA
Executrix: Jordyn M. Reagan
c/o Webster & Webster
51 East South Street
Uniontown, PA 15401

First Publication

BETTY B. HUSBAND, late of the Borough of Dawson, Fayette County, PA
Personal Representative:
Richard A. Husband
c/o Richard A. Husband Esquire LLC
208 South Arch Street, Suite 2
Connellsville, PA 15425
Attorney: Richard A. Husband

ROBERT MINER, late of Connellsville, Fayette County, PA
Executor: Michael Miner
c/o Goodwin Como, P.C.
92 East Main Street, Suite 1
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: Amanda Como

BETTY ROHLF, a/k/a BETTY FRANGOS ROHLF, a/k/a BETTY F. ROHLF, late of Uniontown, Fayette County, PA
Executrix: Barabra Jane Rohlf
c/o Ventresca & Ventresca, LLP
5500 Brooktree Road, Suite 101
Wexford, PA 15090
Attorney: Kenneth M. Ventresca

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS NAME ADVERTISEMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of December 16, 1982, P.L. 1309, No. 295, as amended, 54 Pa.C.S.A. 311, that on September 21, 2026, an application for the conduct of a business in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, under an assumed or fictitious name was filed in the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, for the conduct of a business in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, under the assumed or fictitious name, style or designation of Rt. 40 Laundry Station, with its principal place of business at 1166 National Pike, Hopwood, Fayette County, Pennsylvania 15445. The name and address of the only entity interested in said business is Route 40 Laundry Station LLC, 1166 National Pike, Hopwood, Pennsylvania 15445.

G.T. George, Esq.
Goodwin Como, P.C.
92 E. Main Street
Suite One
Uniontown, PA 15401

Notice of Filing of Articles of Incorporation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for a nonprofit corporation which has been incorporated under the provisions of the Nonprofit Corporation Law of 1988. The name and address of the corporation is Friends of Laurel Caverns State Park, 111 Heritage Hills Road, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

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JOHN F. WARMAN

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COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL/CURRENT OWNER/MINERAL TITLE

A DECADE OF EXPERIENCE E&O INSURED WILL TRAVEL ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS

JUDICIAL OPINION**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
CRIMINAL DIVISION**

COMMONWEALTH OF :
PENNSYLVANIA :
v. :
ALEXANDER HOFFMAN : No. 704 of 2025
Defendant. : Honorable Linda R. Cordaro

OPINION

Linda R. Cordaro, J.

September 18, 2026

Currently before this Court is Defendant's Omnibus Pretrial ("OPT") Motion. At a hearing on August 28, 2026, this Court heard testimony from the victim, Joseph Helmecki, and from Officer Travis Shandor of the German Township Police Department and Uniontown Police. Additionally, the Court watched three videos from a dashboard camera that was located on Mr. Helmecki's semi-truck parked in the yard. The Court also received the preliminary hearing transcript as evidence.

The Defendant's OPT Motion includes a motion for discovery and a motion for bail. These issues have been resolved and are now moot.

After consideration, and for the following reasons, Defendant's Motion is DENIED.

BACKGROUND

The following facts were established via the testimony at the OPT hearing and from the preliminary hearings, as well as the dashboard camera videos. The Defendant and Mr. Helmecki had resided together for approximately six (6) years at the time of this incident. On April 11, 2025, the Defendant arrived at the residence in the late afternoon and appeared intoxicated. Mr. Helmecki was dispatched to go to work, and as he was getting his belongings together, the Defendant came into the kitchen with a .22 revolver and began waving it around. The Defendant fired a shot at Mr. Helmecki's freezer door. The Defendant then put his hands around Mr. Helmecki's throat. The Defendant then put the revolver within inches from Mr. Helmecki's head and the Defendant asked Helmecki if he was "ready to meet his maker." Mr. Helmecki subsequently grabbed the revolver from the Defendant, which then fired off a round. After obtaining the revolver, Mr. Helmecki ran through the glass door, with the revolver, onto the porch and observed Defendant getting his .22 rifle. Mr. Helmecki then ran towards a shed located on the property behind where his semi-truck was parked. At that point, Mr. Helmecki called 9-1-1. From behind the shed, Mr. Helmecki saw the Defendant walking towards him with the rifle in hand. The Defendant then got into Mr. Helmecki's semi-truck and turned it off, as it had been running. The Defendant then fired the rifle in Mr. Helmecki's direction, but it hit a pole on the shed. The Defendant then walked back into the house and moments later, police arrived. As a result of this incident, the Defendant was charged with attempted homicide, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, simple assault, recklessly endangering another person, harassment, disorderly conduct, person not to possess a firearm, and terroristic threats.

DISCUSSION

Habeas Corpus

The Defendant argues that the Commonwealth cannot sustain its burden as to the attempted homicide charge. The Defendant contends that no gun shot was heard outside on the dash camera video and further contends that no evidence suggests a shot was fired near Mr. Helmecki with the requisite intent. The Court is not persuaded by this argument.

Criminal attempt requires the intent to commit a specific crime and a substantial step towards that act. See 18 Pa. C.S.A. § 901(a). Foremost, the Court finds the testimony of Mr. Helmecki is credible. At the preliminary hearing, Mr. Helmecki testified that from the time the Defendant arrived home that evening, the Defendant was speaking of killing Mr. Helmecki.

HELMECKI: ... And then he called his mom. He got on the phone with is [sic] mom and was talking to her and asking her what he should do, kill him now or kill him later.

ADA KELLEY: Do you know who he was referring to?

HELMECKI: My, it would be me.

Preliminary Hr'g. Tr. 5: 7-11.

Additionally, the Defendant pointed a gun in Mr. Helmecki's direction, then attempted to choke him, and then again pointed a gun at Mr. Helmecki, mere inches from his head while saying "you are going to meet your maker." At that point, Mr. Helmecki grabbed the gun and ran outside with it. The Defendant did not end the incident there, but he then decided to get another firearm and follow Mr. Helmecki outside.

The Defendant contends that there is no evidence that suggests that a shot was fired outside. However, Mr. Helmecki testified at both the preliminary hearing and at the OPT hearing that the Defendant fired a shot in his direction outside.

HELMECKI: He [the Defendant] walked over, he got in my truck. He shut my truck off. And when he shut my truck off, I was standing behind the log. There is a, we had a log that's holding that second, whatever you call it, pavilion thing, whatever. He fired a shot at me. He hit the tarp.

Preliminary Hr'g. Tr. 11: 10-14.

The Court found that a gunshot is audible in the dash camera videos that were played at the OPT hearing. For these reasons, the Court finds that the Commonwealth has sufficiently established a prima facie case on the attempted homicide charge.

Therefore, the Defendant's Motion is DENIED as to Count I on habeas corpus in regard to attempted homicide.

Additionally, the Defendant argues that Count 7 of the Information, the persons not to possess charge, should be dismissed because pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(33)(C), the Defendant is exempt from the firearm prohibition.

The Defendant has a 1998 misdemeanor conviction for domestic violence in South Carolina. The Defendant contends that he qualifies for restoration after five (5) years

because he has not had any subsequent domestic violence offenses. However, the statute makes clear that “Restoration under this subparagraph is not available for a current or former spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim, a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, a person who is or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse, parent, or guardian, or a person similarly situated to a spouse, parent, or guardian of the victim.” 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(33)(C). The Defendant has not offered any evidence to suggest that he would be eligible pursuant to this provision.

Therefore, the Defendant’s Motion is DENIED as to habeas corpus for persons not to possess a firearm.

Motion to Suppress

The Defendant argues that the casings that were found under the porch of the home should be suppressed because the one inventory receipt included ten (10) items, but a subsequent receipt included eleven (11) items. The eleventh item were the casings found under the porch. This was a simple clerical error that was not done with any malice or ill intent. Officer Travis Shandor testified that he was the one who seized the casings from under the porch and wrote in item number 11 on the receipt. Officer Shandor testified that Chief Kodric wrote down the first 10 items, and Officer Shandor wrote down the eleventh item.

For the reason that this was merely a clerical error that has a clear explanation, the Defendant’s Motion is DENIED as to suppress the casings found under the porch (“the 11th item”).

Therefore, Defendant’s OPT Motion is hereby DENIED.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 18th day of September, 2026, in consideration of the Defendant’s Omnibus Pretrial Motion and for the reasons stated in this Court’s opinion, it is hereby ordered that the Motion is DENIED to both habeas corpus and the motion to suppress physical evidence.

The Commonwealth shall list this case for trial.

BY THE COURT:
Linda R. Cordaro, Judge

ATTEST:
Clerk of Courts

BENCH BAR CONFERENCE

Bench Bar Conference
Wednesday, October 14, 2026
The Historic Summit Inn

AGENDA

8:30 - Meet the Sponsors & Breakfast Buffet

9:00 - 12:15 - Conference Seminars (2.0 Substantive and 1.0 Ethics CLE Credits)

Witchcraft Trials

Mark W. Podvia, Esquire - Emeritus Faculty, The Pennsylvania State University

Fall into Pro Bono

Judy Hale, Esquire, MPA - PBA Director of Pro Bono Services and
Meghann E. Mikluscak-Hewitt, Esquire - Summit Legal Aid PAI & Pro Bono Director

Guardianship Updates

Honorable Joseph M. George, Jr. - Fayette County Court of Common Pleas

12:30 - Lunch Buffet

Fees to Attend

FCBA members - \$85

Non-members of the FCBA - \$135

Attorneys admitted to practice in Pennsylvania after January 1, 2021 - \$50

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