

David Kipper
Proffer Exhibit E
Depp v. Heard
CL-2019-0002911

FILED

MAY 23 2022

JOHN T. FREY
Clerk of the Circuit Court
of Fairfax County, VA

From: David Kipper
Sent: Monday, August 18, 2014 7:54 AM PDT
To: Christi Dembrowski
Subject: Update

Christie,

I am alerting you to some concerning issues that arose last night after we spoke. Amber called us at around midnight asking that we come over to their house. They evidently had a fight, she claims he pushed her, and she asked him to leave the house. We found him in the bar area, sitting quietly, and upset. We spent a long time with him discussing how he felt, what had happened, his thoughts on what sobriety actually meant for him, and how committed he truly was to the journey we were on. As we discussed in my home at our first meeting, and several times since, the "journey" was a series of transitions – first to stabilize him at an acceptable/comfortable medication dose until his filming was complete, then detoxifying him from all these substances (using other medications to insure comfort and safety), and finally re-balancing his brain chemistry with stabilizing medications – not addictive and safe. We have completed the first two phases and are now ready for round three. This was the discussion you and I had on the phone prior to Debbie and I going over there at midnight.

Its difficult for me to read too much into the conversation that followed. He is uncomortable, is pessimisctic that he will ever be able to stop doing drugs, actually romanticizes the entire drug culture, and has no accountability for his behaviors. When reminded that he has had these feelings his entire life, he is able to have a glimmer of perspective, but this very history reinforces his feeling that past is prelude. He admitted to me and Debbie that he was willing to do this treatment for everyone else, but has never been clear as to how much he wanted this for himself. This conversation was unfortunately

Defendant's Exhibit

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wrapped around a centerpiece of bad feelings with Amber. He has fundamental issues with anger, and when he gets mad at her for her bad behavior he has tremendous ambivalence and guilt about these feelings even being valid. When we discussed soliciting support from those in the sobriety community that he respected (Elton, Chuck) he gave what seemed to be lip service, referencing these folks more for their celebrity than their struggle with sobriety and what they could bring to his table. I also think that his need to be liked trumps his ability to actually reach out to these guys with the vulnerability that would ultimately give him the support he needs from the community he respects. There is also an issue of patience. He is driven almost reflexibly by his id – he has no patience for not getting his needs met, has no understanding of delayed gratification, and is quite child-like in his reactions when he does not get immediate satisfaction. His motivation is also labile, and this speaks to the issue of his accountability. He has tremendous respect for you, which Debbie and I believe could be an essential positive in his ability to remain committed. Even when he speaks of his children, I don't believe he grasps the responsibility he must have in their lives. He describes the events surrounding Lily Rose's E.Coli near-death experience without much emotion, and the conversation becomes about him, not her. He admits to feeling close to suicidal at the moment when he thought she might die, but doesn't parlay this experience into anything close to a revelation about proper parenting.

So, here we are. He agreed to sleeping on all this last night. He did not sound at all committed to continuing the care once we arrived in Los Angeles, but he did waiver a bit when we suggested that he and Amber take a few days apart once we landed. I think this would be critical if we are to continue his treatment. This is not so much a denouncement of Amber, but a recognition that the focus now needs to be exclusively on him. For my two cents I think he needs to remain committed, endure some discomfort (he has actually had very little), get neurochemically stable, seek an ongoing therapeutic relationship with a doctor I know that could help him, and get into the recovery

community on whatever level he would accept. Short of this, his chances remain slim. He is discouraged and angry, but this is not unusual at this phase of treatment. Our best course now is to get him back to Los Angeles, get his pharmacologic fine-tuning initiated, and add in the therapist while we have his attention.

I think if you were to call him today and "take his pulse", encourage him to stay the course and trust us, it would go a long way toward keeping him on track. I am not willing to quit, since I know this is a predictable bump in anyone's treatment, and we can make a difference in his life. The problem is him - he needs to be on his own team. I am available to chat, at any time. One way or the other, we need to leave the island if there is any chance of him getting well.

Another set back or failure for him would only reinforce his bad feelings about himself, his destiny to always fail, and the dark road his life has occasionally traveled.

Much respect and still hope, David