

CLINICAL SUMMARY	Patient: Saunders, Kevin C/Id# 01-51-81
OMH-PHI	Sex: Male DOB: 05/01/56
Admitted as Inpatient: 4/4/03	Facility/Agency Elmira Psychiatric Center
Summary completed: 4/9/03	Unit/Ward No. Adult Services Unit - 024

Dr Roberts 4/28/03: "By 4/17/03 he appeared to be somewhat improved. There does not appear to have been any additional improvements."

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Mr. Saunders is currently hospitalized on the Inpatient Unit of Elmira Psychiatric Center. The patient's legal status is CPL 330.20. A court order is being sought for recommitment to a forensic inpatient psychiatric setting.

HISTORY OF PRESENT ILLNESS

Mr. Saunders is a 46-year-old Caucasian male who was admitted to Elmira Psychiatric Center Community Clinic on May 8th, 2002, at the request of the Tompkins County Commissioner of Mental Health Services. The charges which prompted his CPL status are Burglary - 2nd degree, Arson - 3rd degree, Criminal Mischief - 2nd degree, and Criminal Contempt - 1st degree.

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The instant offense took place on February 6, 1997. While delusional, Mr. Saunders dressed as a woman in a long evening dress with stockings and high-heeled shoes and broke into his girlfriend's trailer. As per his statement to police, he intended to kidnap his former girlfriend, despite the fact that she had filed an order of protection against him, approximately one month before. While inside the trailer, Mr. Saunders used lighter fluid he found in the residence to set the place on fire. The trailer and a nearby car were totally destroyed.

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(note quote)

Upon his arrest, Mr. Saunders was also in possession of knives. According to interviews following his arrest, Mr. Saunders stated that he "... began to make connections..." between his life, his "ex-girlfriend's life and the characters in the novel Silence of the Lambs. At the time of the crime, he believed that one of the principal characters, Hannibal Lecter (a cannibalistic, serial killer who was a psychiatrist) was sending him messages over the radio. One of these messages "instructed ..." him "... to break into the trailer". Mr. Saunders had significant dependence and abandonment issues and told his girlfriend that "I'm not going to ever let you leave me".

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Mr. Saunders has a past history of marital assault, rages, assaults of his girlfriend, telephone threats toward his girlfriend and a reported rape of his girlfriend, which is also the subject of the instant offense. It is reported that his girlfriend left him after he assaulted her, and the rape occurred after he repeatedly pleaded with her to come to his house for a visit over the 1996 Christmas season. Due to fears for her safety, she obtained a court order of protection.

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The instant offense occurred approximately one month later.

FH = False History

The patient was admitted to the Rochester Psychiatric Center Forensic Unit on January 30th, 1998, and discharged on March 31st, 1998. The client was then referred to Tompkins County Mental Health Clinic for follow-up services. He was noncompliant with the order of conditions, and had refused to take medication. (None was prescribed)

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On the night of April 3, 2003, Mr. Saunders had a loud verbal altercation with his house-mate, Miss Richards, causing her to be fearful for her safety. On April 4, 2003, he presented to Cayuga Medical Center, after she sought help for him, due to an acute onset of agitation, following a forensic review while at Elmira Psychiatric Center. He had stopped eating and sleeping. While naked and hallucinating, he ran outside for five to six hours. He made threatening statements toward others and claimed to be Hitler. His house-mates said that he disconnected all of the electrical appliances in his home and left water running for hours. He made attempts to injure himself by running his hands under scalding water, banging his hands and scratching himself.

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< "playacting"

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At Cayuga Medical Center, he was agitated and confused. Lorazepam was administered.

During the ambulance ride to Elmira Psychiatric Center, he had periods of silence, alternating with periods of screaming and violent shaking. During the ambulance ride, he had periods of somnolence, alternating with periods of screaming and violent shaking every 15 minutes on four separate occasions.

Why no 1-to-1 at EPC?

PRESENTING SYMPTOMS: Upon admission to Elmira Psychiatric Center, on April 4, 2003, Mr Saunders stated he had no intention of taking any type of medication, with the exception of marijuana. He admitted to smoking marijuana on a daily basis and denied having a mental disorder. He was confused and was hearing voices and responding to internal stimuli by talking to unseen others while looking at the walls. He was highly distractible and unable to respond appropriately to questions during the interview. The patient was disoriented to time and place and was unable to answer questions to assess orientation to person in a relevant manner. Insight was lacking; judgement was severely impaired.

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COURSE OF HOSPITALIZATION: Mr. Saunders has refused to follow ward rules or routines. He assaulted a staff member for no apparent reason, while stating, "Spiders are from Mars". IM stat medication and four point restraint were required to prevent assaults to staff. When redirected, the patient responded by fighting and biting. He has been spitting out pills which were offered to him. He shows preoccupation with delusions, pertaining to genetic splicing and metabolism of medications. He has refused to remain clothed in public areas of the ward, requiring continual instruction from staff to put his clothes back on. Other patients have complained about Mr Saunders entering their rooms at night. He stalks female patients, including a young teenage female, who he chases around the ward. There have also been complaints from female patients that he follows them into the bathroom. Male patients have also complained about Mr Saunders stalking them at night. He threatens staff who redirect him away

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mental illness per 8/03

