

IN THE MATTER OF the Nova Scotia Criminal Code Review Board

AND IN THE MATTER OF the accused, **Randall Blanchard**

AND IN THE MATTER OF a hearing held pursuant to Section 672.81(1) (Annual Hearing) of the *Criminal Code of Canada*.

INTERIM DISPOSITION ORDER

WHEREAS on the 19th of May 2023, the accused was found *Not Criminally Responsible on account of a mental disorder* on charges of: **Assault Causing Bodily Harm** contrary to s.267(b) and on a charge of **Break and Enter with Intent** contrary to s.348(1)(a) and on a charge of **Unlawful Confinement** contrary to s.279(2); and on a charge of **Mischief in Relation to Property** contrary to s.430(3); and on a charge of **Uttering Threats to Cause Bodily Harm** contrary to s.264(1)(a); and on a charge of **Theft of Motor Vehicle** contrary to s.333.1(1); and on a charge of **At Large on Release order Fails to Comply** contrary to s.145(5)(a) x4; and on a charge of **Flight** contrary to s.320.17; and on a charge of **Dangerous Operation** contrary to s.320.13(1); and on a charge of **Failure to Stop at Scene of Accident** contrary to s.320.16(1); and on a charge of **Resists/Obstructs Peace Officer** contrary to s.129(A) of the *Criminal Code of Canada*.

AND WHEREAS the accused is presently detained at the East Coast Forensic Psychiatric Hospital.

AND WHEREAS a hearing was held at the East Coast Forensic Psychiatric Hospital on the 9th of June 2025, to make a Disposition Order pursuant to s.672.54 of the *Criminal Code of Canada*.

AND WHEREAS the East Coast Forensic Psychiatric Hospital is designated for the custody, treatment, or assessment of the accused, in respect of whom an assessment order, disposition or placement decision is made.

1. **IT IS ORDERED** that the accused ☐ continue to be detained in the East Coast Forensic Psychiatric Hospital, ☐ Gradual transfer to the Transition Program, ☐ Conditional Discharge be granted (the Conditional Discharge to be implemented within a reasonable period of time), ☐ Conditional Discharge be continued, ☐ Absolute Discharge be granted, ☐ no change to current Disposition, ☐ the Board approves the recommendations as submitted by the East Coast Forensic Psychiatric Hospital (See Schedule "A")
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2. **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that ☐ the Administrator of the East Coast Forensic Psychiatric Hospital implement a program for the safe custody and rehabilitation of the accused within the East Coast Forensic Psychiatric Hospital, in which the Administrator, in his discretion, subject to the mental condition and needs of the accused, may ☐ in the case of an accused who is deemed unfit, or ☐ on conditional discharge, subject to the following conditions: (See Schedule "A")
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Community Access Level:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

acknowledged for post-hearing submission per attached

THIS IS THEREFORE TO COMMAND YOU, the Administrator of the East Coast Forensic Psychiatric Hospital, in His Majesty's name, to execute terms of this Order.

DATED, this the 9th of June 2025, at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.



Raffi Balmanoukian, Chairperson
NOVA SCOTIA CRIMINAL CODE REVIEW BOARD

TO: **Randall Blanchard**, Accused
AND TO: **Dorothy Edem**, Director, Mental Health and Addictions Program, Nova Scotia Health Authority

Schedule "A"

Conditions:

- ☐ Keep the peace and be of good behaviour;
- ☐ Maintain good mental health;
- ☐ Adhere to the recommendations of the Community Mental Health Team;
- ☐ Comply with follow-up by the Forensic Community Program;
- ☐ Comply with conditions recommended by the Forensic Community Program;
- ☐ Abstain from alcohol, cannabis and / or illicit drugs and comply with random urine drug screening;
- ☐ Reside in the premises approved by the East Coast Forensic Hospital and abide the rules and regulations of the residence;
- ☐ Notify the Review Board and the East Coast Forensic Hospital of any change of address;
- ☐ Appear before the board when requested;
- ☐ Remain within the Province of Nova Scotia unless authorization in writing has been received from the Board.

No indirect or direct contact with the victim(s) in this matter;

☐ Other

This Hearing is to be considered an Annual Hearing: ☐ Yes ☐ No

The Administrator of the Hospital may exercise his discretion upon such terms and conditions, as he deems appropriate.

Raffi Balmanoukian, Chairperson
Nova Scotia Criminal Code Review Board

Attached to and forming part of the Interim Disposition Order in the matter of Randall Blanchard, dated June 9, 2025.

In the course of the hearing, the Board heard evidence that portions of the hospital report had been redacted prior to distribution, and that not all of the opinions of all members of the clinical team were reflected in the report. The Board heard viva voce evidence of those redacted views.

The Defence was unable to contact the patient (who was, by choice, not in attendance) to share this new, but previously available, evidence and to obtain instructions. Counsel sought an adjournment for this purpose and to make post-hearing submissions following that discussion. Crown counsel did not object.

The Board heard all of the evidence and initial submissions from counsel, and is accordingly seized. The Board grants Defence counsel two weeks from June 9, 2025 to make post-hearing submissions as to disposition, and the Crown shall have one week thereafter for rebuttal.

The Board notes with unanimous concern that the hospital report should contain all available and relevant clinical analysis and opinions, whether or not held by all members of the forensic team, or clinical staff. The Board agrees that this is necessary for proper preparation and consideration of the evidence, by the Board and by Counsel, and for counsel to obtain informed instruction. The Board invites Crown and Defence to make such comments in its submissions on this topic as they consider appropriate, for the Board's further consideration.

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