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DISTRICT II

October 22, 2025

To:

Hon. Michael S. Gibbs
Circuit Court Judge
Electronic Notice

Sara Henke
Register in Probate
Winnebago County Courthouse
Electronic Notice

Adam Larry Lake Gazerowitz
Electronic Notice

Colleen Marion
Electronic Notice

Sara Elizabeth Stertz
Electronic Notice

J.M.
Wisconsin Resource Center
P.O. Box 220
Winnebago, WI 54985-0220

You are hereby notified that the Court has entered the following opinion and order:

2025AP682-NM

Winnebago County v. J.M. (L.C. #2024ME273)

Before Gundrum, J.¹

Summary disposition orders may not be cited in any court of this state as precedent or authority, except for the limited purposes specified in WIS. STAT. RULE 809.23(3).

In this WIS. STAT. ch. 51 case, J.M. appeals from orders committing him for mental health treatment and authorizing the involuntary administration of medication and treatment. J.M.'s appellate counsel filed a no-merit report pursuant to WIS. STAT. RULE 809.32 and *Anders v. California*, 386 U.S. 738 (1967). J.M. was provided with a copy of the report and informed of his right to file a response, which he has chosen not to do. After reviewing the record and

¹ This appeal is decided by one judge pursuant to WIS. STAT. § 752.31(2)(d) (2023-24). All references to the Wisconsin Statutes are to the 2023-24 version.

counsel's report, we conclude there are no issues with arguable merit for appeal. Therefore, we summarily affirm the orders. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

On November 13, 2024, the County filed a petition for examination for an involuntary mental commitment. The State Public Defender appointed counsel the next day. A probable cause hearing was promptly held on November 22, 2024. At the probable cause hearing, staff who treated J.M. in various capacities at the Wisconsin Resource Center (WRC) testified regarding several recent incidents involving J.M. that served as the impetus for the petition. Moreover, a psychiatrist who examined J.M. testified that he was mentally ill (suffering from schizoaffective disorder), a proper subject for treatment, a danger to himself and others, and not competent to refuse medication. Ultimately, the circuit court found probable cause to proceed and scheduled a final hearing.

At the final hearing, five witnesses testified—four of whom treated J.M. in various capacities at the WRC, including two examining doctors, a psychiatric care supervisor, and a psychiatric care technician. The WRC employees all testified regarding recent, specific incidents in which J.M. had presented a danger to himself and others. There was also testimony regarding his mental illness, medications, and behavior both when taking and not taking his medications. J.M. also testified on his own behalf. The circuit court found J.M. to be mentally ill, treatable, and dangerous. The court found J.M. dangerous under the “a” and “b” standards. *See* WIS. STAT. § 51.20(1)(a)2.a.-b. This no-merit appeal follows.

The no-merit report addresses whether the County complied with the statutory timelines; whether the circuit court made sufficient factual and legal findings; and whether there was sufficient evidence to support both the involuntary commitment order and the involuntary

medication and treatment order. This court is satisfied that the no-merit report correctly analyzes the issues it raises as without merit, and we will not discuss them further.

Our independent review of the record does not disclose any potentially meritorious issue for appeal. Because we conclude that there would be no arguable merit to any issue that could be raised on appeal, we accept the no-merit report and relieve Attorney Colleen Marion of further representation of J.M. in this appeal.

Upon the foregoing reasons,

IT IS ORDERED that the orders of the circuit court are summarily affirmed. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.21.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attorney Colleen Marion is relieved from further representing J.M. in this appeal. *See* WIS. STAT. RULE 809.32(3).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this summary disposition order will not be published.

Samuel A. Christensen
Clerk of Court of Appeals