

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
MERRIMACK COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

MERRIMACK, SS.

JULY TERM, 2025

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

V.

Eric Sweeney

217-2023-CR-721

NOTICE OF DEMAND FOR BIFURCATED TRIAL

Eric Sweeney previously filed a Notice of Insanity Defense on March 1, 2024, notifying the Court and the State that he may rely on the defense of insanity at trial in these matters.

Mr. Sweeney also demands a bifurcated trial in these matters, with separate phases on guilt and sanity, as is defendant's right under *Novosel v. Helgemoe*, 118 N.H. 115, 124-25 (N.H. 1978) ("We therefore hold that if a not guilty plea is coupled with an insanity defense, the defendant shall, upon request, receive a bifurcated hearing before the same judge and jury."). This is not a change of plea; *Novosel* 118 N.H. at 123.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Lauren Prusiner
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Morgan Taggart-Hampton N.H. Bar #26949
N.H. Public Defender
142 Portsmouth Ave, P.O. Box 679
Stratham, NH 03885
(603) 778-0526

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE:

I hereby certify that a copy of this has been forwarded to the Office of the Attorney General on this 22nd day of July 2025.

/s/Lauren Prusiner
Lauren E. Prusiner