

Clerk's Notice of Decision
Document Sent to Parties
on 12/22/2025

Granted



Honorable Andrew R. Schulman
December 19, 2025

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SUPERIOR COURT**

**HILLSBOROUGH, SS.
Southern District**

DECEMBER TERM, 2025

**State of New Hampshire
v.
Hunter Nadeau**

226-2025-CR-1120

STATE'S ASSENTED-TO MOTION TO RETURN PROPERTY

NOW COMES the State of New Hampshire, by and through its attorneys, the Office of the Attorney General, and respectfully moves for permission to return a motor vehicle collected and currently held by law enforcement in the above-captioned matter. In support of this motion, the State says as follows:

1. Beginning on September 20, 2025, the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office and the Nashua Police Department began an investigation into an incident that resulted in the defendant's arrest for second-degree murder. As part of that investigation, investigators, through "authorized method"—a motion to search authorized by the District Court—seized a 2011 Toyota Prius bearing New Hampshire registration 5076977 [the "subject vehicle"], belonging to Claudette West-Ball. RSA 595-A:6. The subject vehicle currently is in the possession of the Nashua Police Department.

2. The Attorney General's Office has received a request from Ms. West-Ball to release the subject vehicle to her.

3. RSA 595-A:6 provides that property seized by law enforcement by search warrant or "some other authorized method" shall be kept under the direction of the court for as long as necessary to produce the items as evidence at trial. The statute further provides:

Upon application by a prosecutor . . . the court, prior to trial . . . shall, upon notice to a defendant and hearing, and except for good cause shown, order returned to the rightful owners any . . . property of evidentiary value, not constituting contraband.

4. The State seeks to release the subject vehicle to Ms. West-Ball or authorized representative of her. The State contacted counsel for the defendant, Wade Harwood, Esq., and notified counsel of its desire to release the subject vehicle to Ms. West-Ball, and counsel assents to release.

5. For these reasons, the State asks that the Court grant the State's motion to release, and given counsel's assent to release the State further asks the Court to grant the request without a hearing.

WHEREFORE, the State of New Hampshire respectfully requests that this Honorable Court:

- A. Grant the State's motion and, without a hearing, allow the release of a 2011 Toyota Prius bearing New Hampshire registration 5076977, currently in the possession of the Nashua Police Department, to Claudette West-Ball or authorized representative; and
- B. Order such further relief as this Court deems just and equitable.

Respectfully submitted,
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
By its attorneys,

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Attorney General



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December 19, 2025

CERTIFICATION

I certify that a copy of this motion has been provided to Wade Hardwood, Esq., and Eva Fourakis, Esq., counsel for Hunter Nadeau, via the electronic case filing system.

December 19, 2025



Peter Hinckley