

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND
FOR DIXIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

STATE OF FLORIDA,
Plaintiff,

CASE NO.: 2014-201-CF

VS.

TERRY G. TRUSSELL,
Defendant.

PROCEEDING: ARRAIGNMENT PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE: The Honorable
James Hankinson

DATE: October 30th, 2014

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Dixie County Courthouse
Cross City, Florida

REPORTED BY: Bonnie S. Page,
Digital Court Reporter
Third Judicial Circuit

APPEARANCES:

WILLIAM N. MEGGS, ESQUIRE
Assistant State Attorney
301 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
Appearing for the State

NO APPEARANCE ON BEHALF OF DEFENDANT

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Third Judicial Circuit
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PROCEEDINGS

October 30th, 2014

11:01 a.m.

(Whereupon the following proceedings were held in open court, with the defendant present, to-wit:)

THE COURT: We're here in State of Florida verses Trussell, 14-201-CF, here for arraignment.

Mr. Trussell, you had requested some hearing aid, we gave you that headset. If you need a hearing aid, put the headset on, please, sir.

THE DEFENDANT: I'm all right right now.

THE COURT: Oh, you can hear me all right?

THE DEFENDANT: I can hear you fine now.

THE COURT: All right. What is your intention in terms of an attorney?

THE DEFENDANT: I've got some people working on that.

THE COURT: Put your hand down, sir.

THE DEFENDANT: I have people working on one, sir.

THE COURT: All right.

THE DEFENDANT: Can you not hear me, sir?

THE COURT: I can hear you fine.

THE DEFENDANT: Okay. All right.

THE COURT: What do you mean working on? You're

1 trying to get an attorney?

2 **THE DEFENDANT:** We're trying to secure an
3 attorney. Yes, sir.

4 **THE COURT:** All right. And when do you think you
5 will have that resolved?

6 **THE DEFENDANT:** I expected him to be here this
7 morning.

8 **THE COURT:** Okay. Well, if you're going to
9 represent yourself, I need to go through some inquiry
10 with you. That was why I'd asked the bailiff to have
11 you fill out the form. I guess you said you didn't
12 understand. But you're not intending to represent
13 yourself; is that correct?

14 **THE DEFENDANT:** That's not my intention.

15 **THE COURT:** All right. Well, that's wise on your
16 part. It's not a good idea for you to represent
17 yourself, but you need to understand you do have a
18 limited constitutional right to represent yourself, but
19 before I can allow you to do so, I'm going to have to
20 go through an inquiry on your behalf.

21 When do you think you're going to have it worked
22 out as to whether you'll have an attorney or not?

23 **THE DEFENDANT:** I was under the impression I would
24 have an attorney here this morning.

25 **THE COURT:** Okay. And that has not occurred. All

1 right.

2 Madam Clerk, in terms of arraignment for today,
3 enter a plea of not guilty on behalf of Mr. Trussell.
4 We've discussed trial date with the --

5 **THE DEFENDANT:** Sir, may I ask a question?

6 **THE COURT:** You may.

7 **THE DEFENDANT:** You're entering a plea for me.

8 **THE COURT:** Yes, sir.

9 **THE DEFENDANT:** For what?

10 **THE COURT:** Because you indicated you're trying to
11 get an attorney and been unable to do so at this point
12 in time. So you're not qualified to represent
13 yourself, nor do you have an attorney here representing
14 you, so I have entered a plea of not guilty on your
15 behalf. So we will proceed.

16 We're cleared with the court calendar, a trial
17 date starting February 9th, jury selection starting
18 that day, trial -- Mr. Meggs, you have any idea how
19 long the State's presentation will take in this matter?

20 **MR. MEGGS:** Your Honor, I really do not at this
21 point. I would anticipate, though, in light of the 14
22 counts, that it would probably take at least two days
23 to call my witnesses.

24 **THE COURT:** Okay. All right. Well, at this point
25 in time, we'll set it February 9th, 10th and 11th. Do