

# APPENDIX 11

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TENNESSEE  
AT NASHVILLE**

<b>BYRON BLACK,</b>	)	
	)	
<b>Appellee,</b>	)	<b>DAVIDSON COUNTY</b>
	)	<b>No. 2025-01095-SC-RDO-CV</b>
<b>v.</b>	)	
	)	<b>CAPITAL CASE</b>
	)	
<b>FRANK STRADA, et. al,</b>	)	<b>Execution: August 5, 2025</b>
	)	
<b>Appellants.</b>	)	

**DECLARATION OF JILLIAN BRESNAHAN**

1. I, Jillian Bresnahan, under Tennessee Rule of Civil Procedure 72 and Tennessee Rule of Appellate Procedure 10(c), make the following Declaration under penalty of perjury, and declare and state as follows:

2. I am over the age of eighteen and have personal knowledge of the information contained in this Declaration.

3. I am a licensed physician assistant. I obtained my Doctor of Business Administration in December of 2019 from North Central University. I currently serve as Assistant Commissioner of Clinical Services for the Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC).

4. In my current position, among other duties and responsibilities, I oversee the delivery of medical services for a population of over 20,000 offenders in TDOC's custody.

5. TDOC provides medical care through contracted medical providers. Each TDOC facility includes an institutional infirmary for clinically appropriate treatment. When care must be delivered outside the institution, offenders are transported to hospitals or other third-party providers. These third-party providers do not practice within TDOC facilities and are not contractually obligated to do so.

6. I am aware that offender Byron Black underwent the implantation of a Cardiac Implantable Electronic Device (CIED) in May 2024 at Nashville General Hospital. Ongoing care for Mr. Black's CIED is managed by providers at that facility.

7. I am aware of the legal proceedings in which Mr. Black's legal team has requested the CIED be turned off or deactivated via the interrogation method by a qualified clinician. I was originally informed that the third-party providers at Nashville General Hospital were willing to deactivate the CIED at the hospital on August 4, 2025. They refused

at that time to come to the prison and turn off the device in the execution chamber.

8. After the chancery court ordered that Mr. Black's CIED be deactivated during the execution, Nashville General again refused to attend the execution and deactivate the CIED in the execution chamber. But a physician with our medical vendor, Centurion, had confirmed an appointment on August 4, 2025, at 9:15 a.m. with the Nashville General Hospital Meharry Cardiology Clinic. I signed a declaration submitted to the chancery court articulating these facts.

9. After signing that declaration, I was informed that the chancery court ordered, on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, that the CIED be deactivated in the early morning hours of August 5, 2025.

10. A physician with our medical vendor, Centurion, then informed me that an appointment to deactivate Mr. Black's CIED was available on August 5, 2025, at 4:00 a.m.

11. While I had offered multiple times to be the point of contact for scheduling these appointments, Centurion assured me they could coordinate with Nashville General Hospital and would let me know if they needed me to step in.

12. On Thursday, July 24, 2025, the Vice President of Operations for Centurion, called me and instructed me that Centurion's legal team did not recommend that they further engage in any activity associated with Mr. Black's execution.

13. I then attempted to call the Cardiology Clinic directly and, after speaking with multiple Nashville General Hospital representatives, was instructed to leave a message for a nurse practitioner at the clinic. I left a voicemail as well as a separate message with a Nashville General Hospital representative requesting an urgent call back. No one returned my messages.

14. The Department received information yesterday that Nashville General Hospital also was unwilling to be associated in any way with Mr. Black's execution. That information is consistent with a statement given to media outlet WPLN by Nashville General Hospital, of which I am aware, that the Hospital's leadership has decided not to permit the Hospital to participate in the deactivation procedure and is unable to secure the cooperation and participation of the entities necessary to perform the procedure.

15. After receiving that information, I and the Department's Commissioner, Frank Strada, each tried to contact the Clinic again directly. I have been transferred to multiple representatives before leaving a voicemail for the same nurse practitioner asking her to call me back urgently. I have also left voicemails with other Nashville General Hospital staff, including one who often assists TDOC inmate-related needs. No one has returned any calls.

16. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 30 July 2025.

/s/   
JILLIAN BRESNAHAN, DBA  
Assistant Commissioner, Clinical  
Services