

DOCKET NO. 174

Number	Term	Year
881	May	1961

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Petition of Jack Messinger

an Inebriate, Commitment to  
Versus Warren

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In the  
**Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace**  
**Of the County of Clearfield**

Commonwealth

No. 881

May

Sessions 19 61

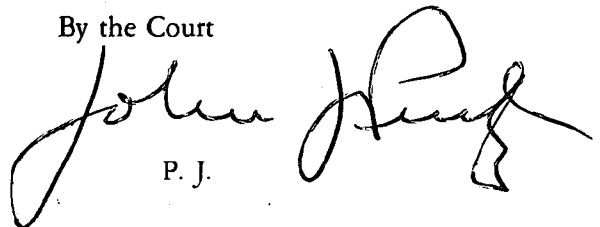
vs.

Jack Kessinger

Charge; Contempt of Court; Failure to  
comply with Order of Court.

Now, December 13, 1961 on Motion of Probation Office  
Bench warrant awarded for the arrest of the defendant, because of defendant's failure to abide by  
order made in this case.

By the Court

  
P. J.

In the Court of Quarter  
Sessions of Clearfield County

No. 881      May      SS. 19 61

COMMONWEALTH

VS.

Jack Kessinger

AWARD  
BENCH WARRANT

*Hand*

**FILED**

DEC 13 1961

WM. T. HAGERTY  
CLERK

**BENCH WARRANT**

CLEARFIELD COUNTY, SS:

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to the Sheriff of said County, Greeting:

YOU are hereby commanded by the Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the said county, to take Jack Kessinger

who stand charged in said Court for Contempt of Court: Failure to comply with Order of Court;

and him forthwith bring before the said Court, or one of the Judges or Justices thereof, to be dealt with according to law.

And have you then and there this precept.

Witness, the HON. JOHN J. PENTZ, President Judge of said Court, the 13th day of December Anno Domini one thousand nine hundred and sixty-one

Wm T. Hagerty, Clerk

To the Honorable the Judges within named, Now, December 12, 1961 as within

commanded I, caused the arrest of the within named Jack Kessinger  
and lodged him in the Clearfield County Jail.

Costs Sheriff Ammerman \$3.75

Constable Walker \$14.00

Charles G. Ammerman, Sheriff.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this

18 th day of Dec

19 61

*Wm. T. Haggerty*

So answers

Charles G. Ammerman  
Sheriff

*Charles G. Ammerman*

No. 881 May Sessions 19 61

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Versus

Jack Kessinger

BENCH WARRANT

FEES:

Clerk \$ 2.50

Miles, 12cts. direct - - -

Eugene G. Witko

District Attorney

## COMMITMENT OF AN INEBRIATE

In the COMMON PLEAS Court of CLEARFIELD County  
In the matter of May Term, 1961  
JACK KESSINGER No. 881  
An Alleged Inebriate

### ORDER FOR ISSUANCE OF WARRANT

And now, to wit, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_, upon the  
within petition and certificates let warrant issue to bring the alleged inebriate before us for a hearing on  
the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_

J.

### ORDER FOR COMMITMENT

And now, August 29, 1961, upon consideration of the within petition and the  
exhibits and certificates thereto attached, and after hearing duly held as required by law, the Court is  
satisfied that Jack Kessinger is an inebriate and a proper subject for  
detention, care and treatment in a hospital or institution for inebriates or for mental illness.

It is therefore, ordered, adjudged and Decreed that said Jack Kessinger  
is an inebriate and that he be and hereby is committed to the Warren State  
Hospital there to remain for one year unless sooner discharged as provided by law.

J.

**NOTE:** No order shall authorize the Commitment unless admission is secured within thirty days from its date.

In the Common Pleas Court of Clearfield County

In the matter of

May Term, 19 61

**Jack Kessinger**  
An Alleged Inebriate

No. 8810

### PETITION FOR COMMITMENT

**NOTE:** The Court will not entertain Petition or Certificate executed more than two weeks prior to its presentation.

To the Honorable the Judges of the said Court:

The petition of Vada Kessinger and

Al Tubbs respectfully represents:

1. That they are (Here state either that the petitioners are the wife, husband, parent, child, committee of estate or next friends of the person alleged to be an inebriate, stating they are citizens and designating place of residence.) mother and uncle - Citizens and residents of Kermooer, Pa.

2. That Jack Kessinger the person above-named  
is { a resident of } the County of Clearfield  
in

3. That your Petitioners believe that said Jack Kessinger  
is an inebriate and a proper subject for detention, care and treatment in a hospital or institution for inebriates or for mental illness, forming our opinion from the following facts observed by us  
continuous use of alcohol

We have also received the following information from others relative to the patient None

4. That attached hereto and marked Exhibit "A" are a "History of the Patient" and "Financial Statement" showing the age, legal residence and financial status of and other material facts with regard to, the said Jack Kessinger

5. That attached hereto and marked Exhibit "B" and "C" are the certificates of two physicians to the effect that Jack Kessinger is, in the opinion of the said physicians, an inebriate and in need of treatment and care in a hospital or institution for inebriates or for mental illness:

6. That attached hereto and marked Exhibit "D" is the statement of the superintendent of the Hospital consenting to the admission of the patient:

7. That Section 328 of the Act approved the 12th day of June, A.D. 1951, P.L. 533, No. 141, as amended, "An Act Relating to mental health, including mental illness, mental defect, epilepsy and inebriety; and amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto" empowers your Honorable Court to commit said Jack Kessinger to a State or licensed hospital or institution for inebriates or for mental illness.

Wherefore, your Petitioners pray your Honorable Court to commit said Jack Kessinger to said hospital

And they will ever pray, etc.

Mrs Vada Kessinger  
(Petitioner)  
Al Tubbs  
(Petitioner)

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
COUNTY OF Clearfield

ss:

Vada Kessinger

(First Petitioner's Name)

and

Al Tubbs

(Second Petitioner's Name)

, the

Petitioners above-named, having been duly { sworn } according to law, depose and say that the facts set forth in the foregoing petition are true to the best of their knowledge, information and belief.

Mrs Vada Kessinger, the  
(Subscriber's Name)  
Al Tubbs

{ Affirmed }  
{ Sworn } to and subscribed before me  
this 28 day of August 19 61

Wm. F. Hagerty

PROTHONOTARY  
My Commission Expires  
1st Monday Jan, 1962



**EXHIBIT "A"**  
**HISTORY OF THE PATIENT**

1. Full name of patient Jack Kessinger religion Protestant
2. Sex male Color white Single, married, widowed, divorced, separated married
- Date of birth and age Feb. 26, 1927 - 34 yrs. Birthplace Detroit, Michigan
- If foreign, how long in U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_ Is he a citizen of U.S.? \_\_\_\_\_
- Is he a legal resident of Pennsylvania? yes If so, of what county, city or town? Kerrmoor, Pa.
- How long has he resided in Pennsylvania? 30 years
- \_\_\_\_\_ If not a resident of Pennsylvania, where is his legal residence? \_\_\_\_\_
- Name and birthplace of father Grover Kessinger, Ohio
- Maiden name and birthplace of mother Vada Tubbs, Kerrmoor, Pa.
- Legal residence of father if living Deceased
- Legal residence of mother if living Kerrmoor, Clearfield County, Pa.
3. Profession, trade or employment of patient Laborer
- If a female, that of husband or father \_\_\_\_\_
4. Has patient had mentally ill relatives? no
5. If so, state relationship, and whether paternal or maternal \_\_\_\_\_
6. If relatives ever in mental hospitals, state name, relationship and give name and location of institution None
7. Has patient been considered of normal mental standard? yes
8. Number of previous attacks of mental disorder or inebriety too numerous to mention
9. Institution or institutions where cared for in previous attacks Warren State Hospital - January, 1961
10. Was recovery complete? yes
11. How long has he shown symptoms of inebriety? since June, 1961
12. Was present attack gradual or sudden in onset? gradual
13. Give date of onset of this attack and statement of symptoms manifested at that time June, 1961 intoxicated all the time.
14. Why do you think he is an inebriate? In answering the question, state facts on which your opinion is based By continuous drinking
15. What was the patient's natural temper or disposition, and has the disease produced any change? When not drinking very fine disposition, and when intoxicated - attacks of convulsions

16. Has the patient a tendency to suicide? No

Has the patient ever made an attempt, if so in what manner? no

17. Has the patient manifested a tendency to injure others, or destroy clothing, furniture and so on?

no

18. What is supposed cause of the present attack? Appetite for alcohol

19. Has any restraint been resorted to? If so, of what kind and for how long?

no

20. Has the patient received any medical treatment during this attack? yes

If so, who were h... physicians? Dr. Morton Early, and Dr. Samuel Early, Cambria County  
at Spengler Hospital

21. Give name and address of relatives to be notified in case of emergency

Vada Kessinger, Kerrmoor, Pa.

22. Have any criminal charges been preferred against the patient? If so, specify no

23. In case of recovery, or sufficient improvement for consideration of discharge, should he be returned to court? yes

#### FINANCIAL STATEMENT

24. A. Who is legally liable and able to pay for commitment expenses?

Answer: Name and address ~~Clearfield County~~ Vada Kessinger, Kerrmoor, Pa.

B. Who is legally liable and able to pay for support and maintenance?

Answer: Name and address Clearfield County

(If the facts called for, or any of them, are unknown to the applicant, it should be so stated.)

Dated at Clearfield, Pa. this 28th day of August, 19 61

Signed Mrs. Vada Kessinger  
(Signature of Person Giving Above Information)

Residence Kerrmoor, Pa.

Occupation Housewife

Degree of relationship if any, or other circumstances of connection with patient mother

#### AFFIDAVIT

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

COUNTY OF Clearfield

ss:

Before me the subscriber a Prothonotary personally appeared Vada Kessinger  
(Show Office Held) (Name of Person Shown Above)

above-named who being duly { sworn } according to law doth depose and say that the facts set forth in the  
{ affirmed }  
above history of patient and financial statement are true to the best of h... knowledge and belief.

Mrs. Vada Kessinger  
(Signature of Person Shown Above)

Sworn }  
Affirmed } to before me this 28th

day of August A.D. 19 61

I certify that the signature to the foregoing petition is genuine.

M. M. T. Nagarty  
(Subscriber's Signature)

PROTHONOTARY

My Commission Expires  
1st Monday Jan. 1962

**EXHIBIT "B"**  
**CERTIFICATE OF PHYSICIAN**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I reside at No. 815 State - Clearfield Street, in Clearfield County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; that I have resided in this Commonwealth for more than one year: that I have been licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in this Commonwealth and ~~have had at least one year's experience as physician in a hospital for mental patients.~~  
or } have been in the actual practice of medicine or osteopathy for at least three years; that I am not related by blood or marriage to the patient hereinafter named, or to the applicants for the admission of said patient to a mental hospital, or any of them; that I am not connected in any way as medical attendant or otherwise with the said hospital; that I have examined the said patient with care and diligence within one week prior to the date of this certificate; and that in my opinion the said patient is an inebriate and is in need of treatment and care in a hospital or an institution for inebriates or for mental illness.

I further certify that I examined Jack Kessinger of Clearfield at his home in the County of Clearfield on the 8 day of Aug A.D. 1961, and that I have formed my opinion that he is an inebriate from the following facts indicating inebriety observed by me. (Describe physical and mental conditions, appearance and behavior of the patient and record what patient said).

Complains of nerves, restless  
argumentative signs of chronic drunkenness

I have also received the following information from others relative to the patient. (Here state especially any change in the patient's behavior and bodily health with date of same as furnished you by other persons).

demands alcohol or else goes into  
convulsions -  
chronic drunkard

(Signed) W. C. Browne M.D.  
Dated at Clearfield, Pa. this 28 day of Aug A.D. 1961

**AFFIDAVIT**

(This affidavit must be taken before a Judge, Magistrate  
or other person authorized to administer oaths in the Commonwealth.)

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
COUNTY OF Clearfield

ss:

Before me the subscriber a Notary Public personally appeared W. C. Browne  
(Show Office Held) (Examiner's Name)  
above-named who being duly { sworn } according to law doth depose and say that the facts set forth in the  
affirmed- } foregoing certificate are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

{ Sworn } to before me this 28<sup>th</sup>  
{ Affirmed } day of August A.D. 1961

I certify that the signature to the foregoing certificate is genuine and that the Affiant is a physician of good standing and repute.

Thomas R. Mahaffey  
(Subscriber's Signature)

Notary Public, Mahaffey, Clearfield County  
My Commission Expires March 7, 1963

**EXHIBIT "C"**  
**CERTIFICATE OF PHYSICIAN**

I the undersigned, hereby certify that I reside at No. 328 Hglt Street, in Clearfield County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; that I have resided in this Commonwealth for more than one year: that I have been licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in this Commonwealth and } have had at least one year's experience as physician in a hospital for mental patients; or } have been in the actual practice of medicine or osteopathy for at least three years; that I am not related by blood or marriage to the patient hereinafter named, or to the applicants for the admission of said patient to a mental hospital, or any of them; that I am not connected in any way as medical attendant or otherwise with the said hospital; that I have examined the said patient with care and diligence within one week prior to the date of this certificate; and that in my opinion the said patient is an inebriate and is in need of treatment and care in a hospital or an institution for inebriates or for mental illness.

I further certify that I examined Jack Korman of Fryman Township in the County of Clearfield on the 21 day of Aug A.D. 1961, and that I have formed my opinion that he is an inebriate from the following facts indicating inebriety observed by me. (Describe physical and mental conditions, appearance and behavior of the patient and record what patient said.)

admits inebriety - very nervous and getting  
restless - signs of passing DT's unmanageable  
would like to help self but cant,  
doesnt have the mental faculties to do so

I have also received the following information from others relative to the patient. (Here state especially any change in the patient's behavior and bodily health with date of same as furnished you by other persons.)

Chronic alcoholic - mentions he has been  
will end up in considerable state - has been  
often in attempts to get some physical  
monthly - just nervous and irritable  
one at that

Dated at Clearfield, Pa (Signed) John J. Arnold M.D. this 28 day of Aug A.D. 1961

**AFFIDAVIT**

(This affidavit must be taken before a Judge, Magistrate or other person authorized to administer oaths in the Commonwealth.)

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

COUNTY OF Clearfield } ss:

Before me the subscriber a Notary Public personally appeared John J. Arnold (Show Office Held) (Examiner's Name) above-named who being duly { sworn } according to law doth depose and say that the facts set forth in the { affirmed } foregoing certificate are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

{ Sworn } to before me this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 1961

I certify that the signature to the foregoing certificate is genuine and that Affiant is a physician of good standing and repute.

Norman R. McCarahan  
(Subscriber's Signature)

Notary Public, Mahaffey, Clearfield County  
My Commission Expires March 7, 1963

**EXHIBIT "D"**  
**CONSENT OF SUPERINTENDENT**

Consent is hereby given to the admission of Jack Kessinger  
 an alleged inebriate, to the Warren State Hospital

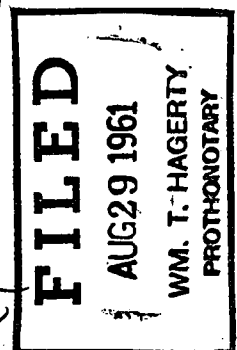
*Robert H. L. Sael*  
 Superintendent or Board of Trustees  
*by W. A. Johnson*  
Warren State Hospital  
 Name of Hospital

Warren, Pennsylvania  
 Location of Hospital

Dated at Warren, Pa. this 22nd day of August, A.D. 19 61

881 May 1961

R1 402



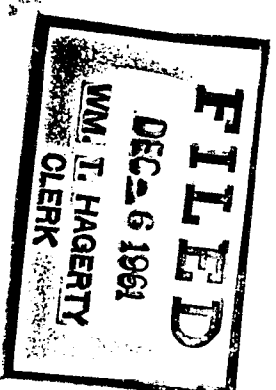
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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNA.  
No. 881 May Term, 1961

In re:

JACK KESSINGER

O R D E R



JOHN J. PENTZ  
PRESIDENT JUDGE  
CLEARFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

In re:

JACK KESSINGER

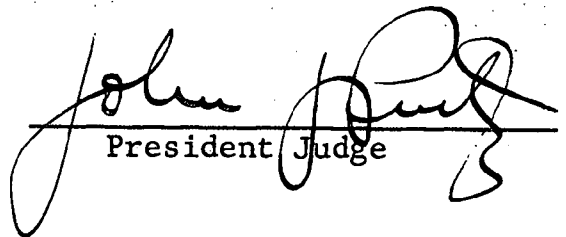
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No. 881 May Term, 1961.

O R D E R

NOW, December 6, 1961, on recommendation of the Superintendent of Warren State Hospital, Jack Kessinger, the above individual, is released from custody of the authorities of the Warren State Hospital, to remain on parole during the remainder of the term for which he was placed in the Hospital, to be returned without further order upon resumption of alcoholic habits.

BY THE COURT,

  
President Judge