

1 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
2 COUNTY DEPARTMENT, LAW DIVISION
3 No. 19 L 10035

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5 ALVIN WADDY,
6 Plaintiff

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8 V.

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10 CITY OF CHICAGO, ET AL.,
11 Defendants

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23 DEPONENT: ALEX OBOLSKY

24 DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2023

25 REPORTER: ZOE NYHUS

THE REPORTER: We are back on the record for the deposition of Dr. Alexander Obolsky, being conducted by videoconference. My name is Zoe Nyhus. Today is November 20th, 2023. The time is 3:03 p.m. You may continue.

BY MR. HILKE:

Q. Doctor, you've given the opinion that you need to review or perform a mental examination to decide if a person is mentally competent to plead guilty, right?

A. In cases where it -- the issue of competency is raised, the only way to answer that is through an evaluation.

Q. Sure, and the same applies to determine if someone is mentally capable of pleading guilty, right?

A. How -- I'm -- I'm not -- I don't understand the difference between mentally able and competent?

Q. Mentally capable and mentally competent mean the same thing; is that right?

A. Yeah. I -- I don't know. I -- I don't use that. The term I use, just competency to plea.

Q. Competency to plea, okay. And so, to see if someone's competent to plea, you need to review it. The only way to determine if someone's competent to plea is by doing or performing a mental examination of that person, right?