

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

7  
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

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

6 BY MR. HILKE:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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