

<p>District Court, El Paso County, State of Colorado Court Address: P.O. Box 2980 270 South Tejon Colorado Springs, CO 80903-2203 Phone Number: (719)452-5000</p> <hr/> <p>PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO, Plaintiff, vs. Letecia Stauch, Defendant.</p>	<p>DATE FILED: March 05, 2021</p> <hr/> <p>▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲</p> <hr/> <p>Case Number: 20CR1358 20CR3170</p> <p>Div.:15S Ctrm: S403</p>
<p align="center">[O-13] ORDER RE REQUEST FOR UNSEALING OF LETTERS FROM DEFENDANT</p>	

On March 8, 2021, letters addressed to Judge Werner and Judge Bain were filed by Ms. Stauch. Both letters in both of the above referenced cases were sealed by the Clerk’s Office when they were filed. The People have not been able to review the letters because they are sealed. The People request both letters be unsealed.

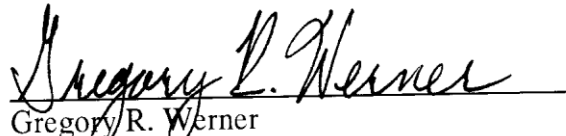
The Court has reviewed the letters from Stauch. They are criminal justice records as defined by C.R.S. §24-72-302(4) and are presumptively open for inspection by any person pursuant to C.R.S. §24-72-303(1). They are also a “court record” as that phrase is defined in Section 3.03(a)(1) of Chief Justice Directive 05-01 (Amended October 18, 2016). Pursuant to Section 4.10 of CJD 05-01, information in the court record is accessible to the public unless prohibited by Section 4.60. Nothing in Section 4.60 of CJD 05-01 prohibits public access to Stauch’s letter to Judge Werner. To the extent information contained in the letter could be construed as referring to prohibited items contained in Section 4.60(d), Section 4.60(d) provides the letter itself shall be accessible to the public unless the Court orders otherwise. The Court declines to order otherwise. As such, the Court ORDERS the letter from Stauch to JUDGE WERNER BE UNSEALED.

The letter from Stauch to Judge Bain is also covered by the same statutes and CJD 05-01 referenced above. However, it appears to address items related to Stauch’s request for a conflict hearing. Section 4.60(a) of CJD 05-01 provides that information contained in a court record is not accessible to the public if court rule or a court order prohibits disclosure of the information. The hearing before Judge Bain was closed to the public and prosecution pursuant to the procedure set forth in *People v. Bergerud*, 223 P.3d 686 (Colo. 2010). The communications in

Stauch's letters fall into the same category. As such, the Court ORDERS Stauch's letters to JUDGE BAIN REMAIN SEALED.

SO ORDERED this 15th day of March, 2021.

BY THE COURT:


Gregory R. Werner
District Court Judge