

Supplemental Family Background for Treatment Consideration

Contents

Contents	1
Document Purpose	1
Background/Observations	2
1. Psychiatric / Mental Health History	2
2. Violent Escalation Timeline / Risk History	2
3. Behavioral Patterns / Masking / Manipulation	3
4. Food / Hunger / Nutrition as a Trigger	4
5. Cognitive / Developmental / Adaptive Functioning Concerns	4
6. Media / Violence / Obsession / Behavioral Modeling	5
7. Online Manipulation / Catfishing / Vulnerability	5
8. External Influences / Family Dynamics	5
9. Parent Goals / Hopes for Treatment	6
10. Questions	6
Appendix	7
Appendix A – Provider Treatments	7
Appendix B – School Evaluations & IEPs	7
Appendix C – Chronology / Timeline of Incidents	7
Appendix D – Supporting Media / Documentation	8
Appendix E – Administrative / Legal / Insurance	8

Document Purpose

This document contains supplemental background on our son Damien Churchville and is being shared with his care team for treatment consideration.

Thank you again for your time and consideration, and all that you do for people like Damien!

Ernie & Betsy Churchville, May 2026

Background/Observations

1. Psychiatric / Mental Health History

Patterns beyond the single criminal incident

- Long-standing concerns regarding paranoia, delusional thinking, and distorted beliefs.
- Belief at one point that the Pagans Motorcycle Club was targeting or monitoring him.
- Recent statements during Zoom calls suggesting possible ongoing delusions or distorted recollection.
- Reports from jail of hearing or believing things that may not have been real.
- Possible auditory hallucinations and/or misinterpretation of events.
- Family concerns regarding possible schizophrenia-spectrum symptoms.
- Potential bipolar-spectrum disorder, including mania/hypomania or elevated/disorganized thinking.
- Possible schizoaffective presentation.
- Episodes of poor insight and minimization of symptoms.
- Periods/History of refusing or resisting medication.
- Prior outside influences encouraging him to stop medications.
- Potential obsessive or compulsive behaviors.
- Self-harming / compulsive picking behaviors (e.g., pubic hair picking to bleeding).
- Emotional deregulation and fixation on specific thoughts/people.

2. Violent Escalation Timeline / Risk History

Progress over time. (Refer to Appendices C and D)

- Early verbal threats toward parents.
- Audio recordings of threats to kill father.
- Audio recordings of threats to “shove knives down” mother’s throat.
- 2019 incident involving destruction of house and car windows with a baseball bat.
- Video evidence of the baseball bat destruction incident.
- Significant property destruction over multiple incidents totaling tens of thousands of dollars.
- Increasing aggression and intimidation toward parents over time.
- 2024 stabbing / attempted homicide incident involving mother and father.
- Violence may have escalated from ideation → threats → property destruction → physical assault.
- Concern that calm/compliant periods may mask ongoing dangerousness.
- History of “snapping” or rapidly escalating under stress/paranoia.
- Seeing someone “turn into the devil” and then instant reaction based on what just saw (2019)
- After stabbing incident, in jail he put a “hit” out on his father, and again Dr Nell called us from Norristown State Hospital to let us know that she was legally obligated to tell us

that he had given out our home address again with the same intention. Specifically, his father Ernie was a focused target of potential harm or worse. He later softened his position (sneaky) and admitted to his brother Dante that he gave our address and was telling others in jail that we were good parents, and that they could come knock on our door for help once they are out of jail.

3. Behavioral Patterns / Masking / Manipulation

Short-term compliance may not equal stability

- Damien can present calm, polite, and compliant in structured environments.
- Family concern that short-term compliance may not always reflect long-term stabilization
- May minimize events or rewrite history.
- May provide different stories to different people.
- History of manipulative behavior in home setting.
- Example: refusing food, resulting in excessive DoorDash expenses.
- Behavioral cycles may temporarily disappear in highly structured environments.
- Can become fixated on wants/needs and persistently pressure others.
- May conceal symptoms when motivated.
- Religious / Spiritual Interpretation and Thought Content
 - Damien has shown a pattern of misinterpreting or rigidly/literally applying religious concepts, particularly from the Bible.
 - At times, he appears to struggle to understand context, symbolism, or intended meaning, and may interpret passages in a concrete or absolute way.
 - Examples have included statements from Damien such as:
 - referring to God as his “true father” in a way that appeared to diminish or replace real-world relationships;
 - expressing that harmful or violent actions could be justified if “God allowed it” or if it were “God’s will.”
 - Dangerous rationale: if I do XYZ (e.g. try to hurt someone), then “God would prevent it from happening if it wasn’t His will.”
 - These interpretations appear inconsistent with typical theological understanding and may reflect distorted or disorganized thinking rather than grounded belief.
 - He has also demonstrated literal adherence to specific passages (e.g., dietary restrictions such as avoiding pork) without broader contextual understanding.
 - There is concern that religious language or concepts may at times become intertwined with paranoia, justification of actions, or rigid thinking patterns.
 - We’re extremely happy he participates in Bible studies and wants a relationship with God and Jesus and the Holy Spirit – but we recommend that a counselor oversee those sessions and help him interpret God’s message in a real-world context where actual behaviors – including those asked by God – have consequences on the person on Earth.

4. Food / Hunger / Nutrition as a Trigger

Recurring and potentially preventable escalation patterns

- Damien historically would forget to eat or delay eating because he was distracted, busy, or fixated on other things.
- When hungry, he often became irritable, angry, and emotionally deregulated.
- Hunger sometimes appeared to trigger verbal aggression or violent escalation.
- At times, he expressed that his needs were not being met, which could intensify frustration and anger.
- There may be overlap between true hunger-related mood changes and behavioral/developmental rigidity.
- Historically very selective / picky eater.
- Frequently rejected foods prepared at home.
- Distrust or paranoia at times regarding food preparation:
 - concern about who made the food,
 - what may have been done to the food,
 - whether food was cooked “wrong,” “different,” or unsafe.
- Possible overlap with paranoid ideation or obsessive thinking.
- Repetitive ordering patterns:
 - would request or order food multiple times per day via DoorDash until satisfied.
- Sometimes required multiple attempts before accepting food.
- Once fed and satisfied, mood often improved significantly and quickly.
- Since incarceration / residential placement, food flexibility appears improved:
 - reportedly eating a wider variety of foods,
 - including foods previously refused such as salads.
- Structured meal schedules may be stabilizing.
- Monitoring for skipped meals, rigidity, or emerging paranoia around food may be clinically useful.

5. Cognitive / Developmental / Adaptive Functioning Concerns

Treatment planning and discharge

- Parents perceive Damien as cognitively “a little behind” in some areas.
- Difficulty understanding complex systems (insurance, legal, finances).
- May require support with executive functioning.
- Poor judgment and impulsivity.
- Difficulty with independent decision-making.
- May be easily influenced by stronger personalities.
- Limited ability to anticipate consequences.
- Adaptive functioning may not match chronological age.
 - Spraying cologne in mouth believing if it was made to help you smell good it would also be for breath
 - He inserted coins into a bank ATM, ultimately jamming it, thinking he could deposit his coins into his account that way

- Possible social processing deficits.
- Potential danger posed to parents as retaliation for perceived alienation

6. Media / Violence / Obsession / Behavioral Modeling

Triggers and behavior

- History of heavy involvement in violent video games.
- Parents believe he may emulate behaviors seen in games.
- “Lunge attack” during stabbing incident reportedly resembled a move from a game.
- Exposure to violent or paranoid-themed media may worsen symptoms.
- Obsessive focus on themes of violence, revenge, or conflict at times.
- Media restrictions/monitoring may be helpful early in treatment.
- Gradual reintroduction may be appropriate based on progress.
- He has a strong history of violent, aggressive, and even deadly behavior. See appendix D

7. Online Manipulation / Catfishing / Vulnerability

Susceptibility to exploitation and delusion

- Damien is highly suggestible and vulnerable to manipulation.
- History of being “catfished” online by people misrepresenting identity.
- Current concern regarding “Cori” and whether this relationship is real or distorted.
- Possible blending of actual online interactions with delusional beliefs.
- May form attachments quickly and intensely.
- Difficulty discerning truth from manipulation.
- Could be financially, emotionally, or sexually exploited.
- Internet access may require monitoring and gradual reintroduction.

8. External Influences / Family Dynamics

Factors which could negatively impact his treatment

- Concern about influence from Betsy’s estranged family members.
- These individuals reportedly do not believe in doctors, psychiatry, or medication.
- Family members have encouraged Damien to stop medications in the past.
- Concern that anti-treatment messaging may undermine progress.
- Parents request no-contact / monitored-contact considerations.
- History of these family members crossing parental boundaries.
- Example: taking Damien shooting without parental knowledge/consent as a teen.
- Concern that some rhetoric from these individuals may have reinforced anger/paranoia toward Betsy.
- Damien may idealize or seek approval from these individuals.

9. Parent Goals / Hopes for Treatment

What we want most as parents

- We want Damien to heal and safely regain stability.
- We want accurate diagnosis and proper medication/treatment.
- We want long-term safety for Damien, family, and community.
- We want to support treatment while maintaining healthy boundaries.
- We are grateful for the team's work and want to collaborate.

10. Questions

We have many questions. We understand it will require us to be patient.

- Where do we go now?
- What does his future look like?
- What does this look like moving forward?
- Who can take over for the guardian roles which mom and dad held?
- What if discharge happens before rehabilitation?
- What will his younger brother Dante's role be?
- What happens to Damien when we age out as parents?

Appendix

Appendix A – Provider Treatments

Timeline of major incidents:

- 2011-03 Mitchell Sadar - Psychological Evaluation
- 2011-03 Advanced Psychological Services - QEEG - previously sent via email 4/15/2026
- 2011-08 Aysha Evans - Psychometric Screening
- 2011-10 Karen Kelly - Neuropsychological Evaluation - previously sent via email 4/15/2026
- 2011-12 CMMH-MRC - Psychiatric Evaluation - previously sent via email 4/15/2026
- 2016-08 Melmed Center - Autism Evaluation - previously sent via email 4/15/2026
- 2018-01 Parent Rating Scales - BASC3
- 2020-08 Bryn Mawr Hospital - Psychiatry Discharge Summary - previously sent via email 4/15/2026

Appendix B – School Evaluations & IEPs

Timeline of school evaluations & IEPs:

- 2010 Upper Merion SD - Occupation Therapy Screening
- 2011 Upper Merion SD - IEP
- 2014-03 Upper Merion SD – Re-evaluation Report
- 2015-03 Dysart SD - MET Report
- 2016-10 Imagine Prep - MET Report
- 2016-10 Imagine Prep - Psycho-Educational Evaluation
- 2017-09 Imagine Prep - IEP
- 2017-11 Imagine Prep - MET Report

Appendix C – Chronology / Timeline of Incidents

Timeline of major incidents:

- 2013-08 punching towards mom’s face during homework difficulty
- 2018-12 intimidating mom, throwing/kicking things, getting in her face
- 2018-12 provoking Pop-Pop (maternal grandfather) incident
- 2019-09 smashing TV, chandelier, windows, car with bat, leading to Building 50
- 2020 “shoving knives down throat” threat to Mom resulting in Bryn Mawr 302
- 2021-2023 on and off again threats resulting in visits from PD and MCES
- 2024-11-19 stabbing attacks
- 2024-2026 incarceration / evaluation / treatment (Docket CP-46-CR-0003077-2025)
 - Processing into MCCF: 2024
 - Norristown State Hospital to Determine Competency to Stand Trial: 2/6/2025
 - Return to MCCF: 5/29/2025
 - Courthouse Guilty Hearing: 1/27/2026
 - Courthouse Sentencing: 4/14/2026
 - Parents read their own Victim Impact Statements
 - Parents provided Sentencing and Mental Health Placement Considerations
 - Transfer to RTFA: 4/2026
- 2026-05 supplemental background compiled by parents for care team consideration

Appendix D – Supporting Media / Documentation

In addition to this document, video files and audio transcripts are available online:

Home Page: <https://churchvilles.com/counselors/>

- Video: [Interaction with Dad before Bat Destruction](https://churchvilles.com/ultimatum/) **2019**
 - <https://churchvilles.com/ultimatum/>
- Audio: [Intimidates Betsy, Breaks Door](https://churchvilles.com/door/) **2020**
 - <https://churchvilles.com/door/>
- Audio: ["Tonight You'll Learn From Your Mistake" Threat](https://churchvilles.com/tonight/) **2020**
 - <https://churchvilles.com/tonight/>
- Audio: [What I Did Last Night Was Justified](https://churchvilles.com/justified/) **2020**
 - <https://churchvilles.com/justified/>
- Collection: [Various Prior Incidents and Context](https://churchvilles.com/prior-incidents/) **(2018 - 2024)**
 - <https://churchvilles.com/prior-incidents/>
- Video: [Major Incident \(Stabbing\)](https://churchvilles.com/nsfw/) **2024**
 - <https://churchvilles.com/nsfw/>

Appendix E – Administrative / Legal / Insurance

Parents could provide the following if it would be helpful:

- POA docs (already provided)
- SSI notes
- Medicaid / insurance notes
- Rep-payee change letter
- Victim Impact Statements (Mom / Dad)
 - Sentencing and Mental Health Placement Considerations