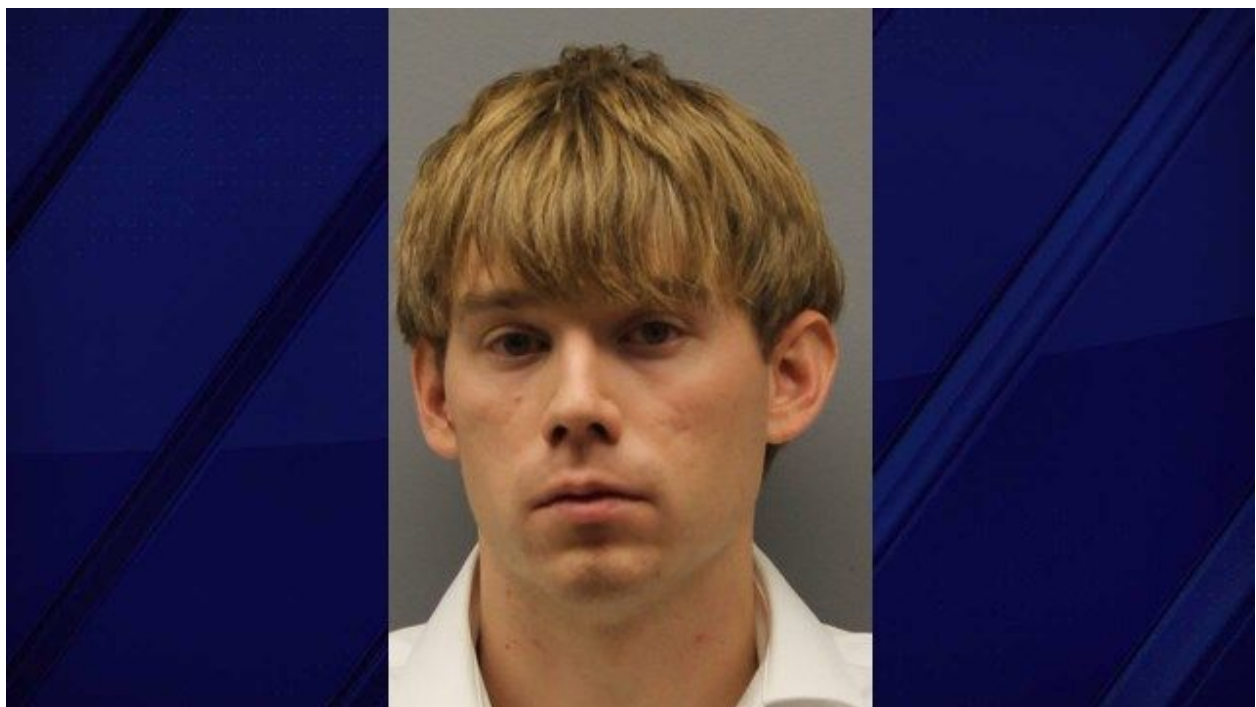


Legal expert says Reinking will likely enter insanity plea

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Posted by Carley Gordon



Travis Reinking (Source: Metro Nashville PD)

NASHVILLE, TN (WSMV) -

In May 2016, Travis Reinking told police Taylor Swift was stalking and harassing him.

The next month police said he exposed himself at a public pool.

Then last summer Reinking tried getting into the White House. He said he was a sovereign citizen and he wanted to speak to the president.

“All of that is delusional paranoid thinking which unfortunately sometimes manifests itself into violent acts which is what we see here,” said criminal defense attorney David Raybin.

Raybin said Reinking is a classic paranoid schizophrenic who will likely enter an insanity plea.

“One of the criteria for this type of diagnosis is you have to have repeated behaviors like this of paranoid delusions that extend over a period of time,” said Raybin.

Given his mental illness, Raybin doesn't think Reinking will face the death penalty.

He does think Reinking will spend the rest of his life under lock and key.

“The question is whether he's going to go to prison or whether he's going to a mental institution those are really the choices,” said Raybin.

Raybin said the number of people acquitted by reason of insanity is extremely small and if Reinking does end up in a mental hospital he can't leave without the court's permission.

“You have multiple safeguards there. You don't have the doctors deciding they should go and then they just walk out free,” said Raybin.

Reinking's review hearing is set for May 7.