State of Minnesota
County of Wright

District Court
10th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 16-40434F
Court File No. 86-CR-16-2774

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JUSTIN MICHAEL JENSEN DOB: 08/19/1987

233 BIRCH AVENUE SOUTH
MAPLE LAKE, MN 55358

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Order of Detention

The Complainant submits this complaint to the Court and states that there is probable cause to believe Defendant committed the following offense(s):

COUNT I

Charge: Aid & Abet Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated
Minnesota Statute: 609.19.1(1), with reference to: 609.05.1
Maximum Sentence: 40 years
Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 06/01/2016

Control #(ICR#): 16014701

Charge Description: JUSTIN MICHAEL JENSEN did aid, advise, hire, counsel, conspire with or otherwise did procure the other to cause the death of a human being with intent to effect the death of that person or another, but without premeditation.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The Complainant states that the following facts establish probable cause:

The complainant is a licensed police officer with the State of Minnesota. The complainant is familiar with the law enforcement officers submitting reports in this matter, and believe those persons to be reliable and their reports to be true and accurate. The complainant attests that, based on those reports, the following facts establish probable cause:

On June 1, 2016, at approximately 8:09 a.m. officers with the Wright County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a body found at Crow Springs County Park located at 777 - 40th Street SE in Franklin Township, Wright County, Minnesota. Upon arrival, Deputy Kaczmarek and members of the Montrose Fire and Rescue Department discovered a female with visible head trauma lying face down on the paved driveway of the park near the entrance. The female victim was unresponsive and had sustained critical injuries requiring immediate medical care. The female victim was initially transported by ground ambulance to Buffalo Hospital. During her initial treatment, the victim was identified as Cheyenne Lee Clough, DOB: 4/4/1997. Due to the gravity of her injuries, Ms. Clough was taken by air helicopter ambulance to North Memorial Medical Center in Robbinsdale, Minnesota. Medical personnel discovered that Ms. Clough suffered multiple gunshot wounds. Ms. Clough died on June 4, 2016, as a result of the gunshot wounds inflicted on her.

An autopsy examination was performed on Ms. Clough on June 5, 2016, by the Hennepin County Medical Examiner. The results of the medical examination revealed that Ms. Clough sustained four gunshot wounds consistent with a .22 caliber weapon. The gunshot entry wounds were on Ms. Clough's left shoulder, neck, and the back of her head. Several bullets were recovered during Ms. Clough's medical examination suitable for comparison to any firearm and ammunition recovered. Ms. Clough died as a result of the gunshot wounds sustained by her. In addition to her gunshot wounds, the medical examination showed that Ms. Clough suffered abrasions to her forehead, right knee and the backs of her hands. Ms. Clough's medical examination further demonstrated a blunt force trauma injury to the back of her head.

During the initial investigation, officers learned that several residents living near Crow Springs County Park, where Ms. Clough's body was discovered, reported hearing possible gun shots as well as the sound of a female screaming during the early morning hours at approximately 3:00 a.m. on June 1, 2016.

Investigation revealed that Ms. Clough had recently been living at 233 Birch Avenue South in Maple Lake, Minnesota. Officers determined Ms. Clough had been at the residence as recently as June 1, 2016. Based upon their investigation and familiarity with the residence at 233 Birch Avenue South, officers became aware that Justin Michael Jensen, DOB: 8/19/1987, hereinafter 'defendant Jensen', Edward Victor Zelko, DOB: 4/11/1990, hereinafter 'defendant Zelko', Shawn Tyler Benson, DOB: 5/14/1995, hereinafter 'defendant Benson', Natasha Leanne Brandenburger, DOB: 7/26/1982, hereinafter Brandenburger and Callie Lynn Anderson, DOB: 7/17/1996 hereinafter Anderson, had been present with Ms. Clough at the residence after midnight on June 1, 2016.

On June 1, 2016, officers executed a search warrant at the residence located at 233 Birch Avenue South. The residence was vacant when officers arrived to execute the search warrant. Officers recovered a .22 caliber bullet that had been fired into a wall and .22 caliber bullet casings, during the execution of the search warrant. Forensic analysis will be performed comparing the bullet recovered from the wall with the bullet/bullet fragments recovered from Ms. Clough's body.

As part of their investigation, officers connected defendant Zelko to a 2001 Chrysler 300M sedan bearing Minnesota license plate 270KDZ. Officers connected defendant Jensen and Brandenburger to a 2008 Honda Accord stolen out of the State of Iowa. Officers began tracking the defendants. On June 4, 2016, defendant Zelko was arrested in Staples, Minnesota, and was in his 2001 Chrysler 300M vehicle. Defendant Jensen, defendant Benson, Brandenburger and Anderson were located and apprehended in Koochiching County near International Falls, Minnesota, on June 5, 2016.

Sgt. Joe Adams and Detective Michael Lindquist met with defendant Zelko on June 5, 2016. After being advised of his rights, defendant Zelko agreed to speak with the detectives. During his initial statement, defendant Zelko admitted he had driven Ms. Clough in his 2001 Chrysler 300M vehicle to the Montrose area on June 1, 2016, just before 3:00 a.m. during the timeframe in which residents living near Crow Springs County Park reported hearing gunshots and a female screaming.

Sgt. Adams and Detective Lindquist met with Brandenburger who agreed to provide a statement. Brandenburger initially indicated she, Anderson and the defendants had created an alibi in the event they were apprehended; however, stated she wanted to disclose to law enforcement what had happened. When detectives questioned Brandenburger, they learned Ms. Clough was present at the 233 Birch Avenue South residence on May 31, 2016, into June 1, 2016. Investigation revealed Clough argued with Brandenburger, Anderson, and the defendants about someone calling a bounty hunter and having Ms. Clough's boyfriend, Devon Boyles, arrested in connection with an outstanding warrant. The argument was also based on the perception that Ms. Clough was going to assist law enforcement by turning in Anderson on an outstanding warrant. It appears defendant Jensen may have been upset with Ms. Clough because of a physical altercation between Brandenburger and Ms. Clough during the course of this argument. Brandenburger told detectives that during the course of the altercation with Ms. Clough, defendant Jensen ordered that Cheyenne Clough be killed. Brandenburger observed a meeting between defendant Jensen, defendant Zelko and defendant Benson during which defendant Jensen conveyed the message to kill Cheyenne Clough.

Investigation demonstrated that defendant Jensen was in possession of a .22 caliber handgun taken in connection with a residential burglary in Delano, Wright County, Minnesota. Defendant Jensen supplied defendant Zelko and defendant Benson with the .22 caliber handgun when he announced the order to kill Cheyenne Clough. Defendant Zelko and defendant Benson entered the 2001 Chrysler 300M vehicle with Ms. Clough and drove away from 233 Birch Avenue South with her believing they were taking her home. Officers discovered Ms. Clough called her mother at 2:45 a.m. on June 1, 2016, and had a brief conversation in which Ms. Clough said, 'Are you up? I'm on my way home.' Law enforcement confirmed that the call was placed from a location proximate to where Ms. Clough's body was discovered. Ms. Clough never made it home but instead was shot multiple times in the park and left for dead. Brandenburger indicated that defendant Zelko and defendant Benson returned to 233 Birch Avenue South at which time defendant Benson indicated to defendant Jensen he had killed Cheyenne Clough.

Sgt. Adams and Detective Lindquist met with defendant Jensen who agreed to provide a statement. Defendant Jensen admitted providing the gun to defendant Zelko and defendant Benson by placing the gun in defendant Zelko's vehicle on June 1, 2016. Defendant Jensen told detectives when defendant Zelko and defendant Benson returned to 233 Birch Avenue South, defendant Benson indicated to him that they had killed Cheyenne Clough. Defendant Jensen admitted knowing defendant Zelko and defendant Benson were planning on killing Ms. Clough before they left 233 Birch Avenue South with her. Defendant Jensen, defendant Zelko and defendant Benson collectively discussed killing Cheyenne Clough prior to her being shot. Defendant Jensen knew that defendant Zelko and defendant Benson were going to kill Cheyenne Clough with the .22 caliber handgun stolen in connection with the Delano burglary.

Defendant Jensen admitted knowing defendant Zelko and defendant Benson had killed Cheyenne Clough

when they returned to 233 Birch Avenue South so he helped hide evidence and assisted defendant Zelko and defendant Benson from being arrested by leaving the area and going to International Falls, Minnesota. Defendant Jensen admitted to detectives that he aided and abetted the homicide of Cheyenne Clough.

Sgt. Adams and Detective Lindquist met a second time with defendant Zelko on June 6, 2016. Defendant Zelko again agreed to speak to law enforcement. Defendant Zelko admitted he and defendant Benson left the residence at 233 Birch Avenue South with Cheyenne Clough in his car during the early morning hours of June 1, 2016. Defendant Zelko stated he drove out into the middle of nowhere near Montrose, Wright County, Minnesota, and parked on a gravel road. Defendant Zelko said there was a black backpack in his car. Defendant Zelko indicated defendant Benson took the backpack and left the vehicle with Ms.Clough. Defendant Zelko described defendant Benson returned to the vehicle approximately 20 minutes later with the backpack but said Ms. Clough did not return with him. Defendant Zelko said he and defendant Benson then drove back to the residence at 233 Birch Avenue South.

Brandenburger implicated defendant Benson as the person who shot Cheyenne Clough. Brandenburger headed north with Anderson and all three defendants after the shooting. Brandenburger stated on the way to International Falls, they stayed at a hotel on June 1, 2016, near Highway 200 and Highway 84 in Cass County but was unable to remember the name of the hotel. Investigation by law enforcement revealed a registration for the Longville Inn on June 1, 2016, completed by defendant Zelko. Defendant Zelko paid with a check under an account in his name and signed by him for the amount of $75 dated June 2, 2016.

The five headed north in defendant Zelko's Chrysler 300M and defendant Jensen's white Honda Accord. The Honda Accord was listed as stolen out of Iowa and had registered plates of AXK248. Prior to leaving for International Falls, it appears defendant Jensen switched license plates on the white Honda Accord with defendant Zelko's black Honda. Defendant Zelko's black Honda was recovered and inside of that vehicle, officers found the plates for the stolen white Honda Accord. Law enforcement also recovered surveillance video from a gas station in New Munich, Minnesota, on June 1, 2016, at 8:45 a.m. showing the Chrysler 300M driven by defendant Zelko with two passengers and the white Honda Accord being driven by defendant Jensen with Brandenburger being the passenger. It appears all five headed north together after the murder of Cheyenne Clough. Law enforcement confirmed that all five made it to International Falls.

Brandenburger indicated defendant Jensen had possession of the handgun after the murder and said he dumped the gun in a river near International Falls. Law enforcement obtained a picture of defendant Jensen holding a .22 caliber revolver with a long barrel and a white handle taken while defendant Jensen was at the residence at 233 Birch Avenue South. It appears defendant Jensen is wearing the same shorts in the photograph that he was wearing in the surveillance video from the New Munich gas station. The weapon defendant Jensen is holding in the picture is consistent with the gun stolen in the Delano burglary and is believed to be the weapon used to kill Cheyenne Clough.

SIGNATURES AND APPROVALS

Complainant requests that Defendant, subject to bail or conditions of release, be:
(1) arrested or that other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court; or
(2) detained, if already in custody, pending further proceedings; and that said Defendant otherwise be dealt with according to law.

Complainant declares under penalty of perjury that everything stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat. § 358.116; Minn. R. Crim. P. 2.01, subds. 1, 2.

Complainant	Scott R Albrecht Deputy Sheriff 3800 Braddock Avenue NE Buffalo, MN 55313 Badge: 372	Electronically Signed: 06/08/2016 09:41 AM Wright County, Minnesota

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

Prosecuting Attorney	Brian Anthony Lutes Assistant County Attorney 10 Second Street NW Room 400 Buffalo, MN 55313 (763) 682-7340	Electronically Signed: 06/08/2016 09:34 AM

FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE

From the above sworn facts, and any supporting affidavits or supplemental sworn testimony, I, the Issuing Officer, have determined that probable cause exists to support, subject to bail or conditions of release where applicable, Defendant's arrest or other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court, or Defendant's detention, if already in custody, pending further proceedings. Defendant is therefore charged with the above-stated offense(s).

☐ **SUMMONS**

THEREFORE YOU, THE DEFENDANT, ARE SUMMONED to appear on **_____ ___, _____ at _____ AM/PM** before the above-named court at 10 Second Street NW Room C201, Buffalo, MN 55313 to answer this complaint.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR in response to this SUMMONS, a WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST shall be issued.

☐ **WARRANT**

To the Sheriff of the above-named county; or other person authorized to execute this warrant: I order, in the name of the State of Minnesota, that the Defendant be apprehended and arrested without delay and brought promptly before the court (if in session), and if not, before a Judge or Judicial Officer of such court without unnecessary delay, and in any event not later than 36 hours after the arrest or as soon as such Judge or Judicial Officer is available to be dealt with according to law.

☐ ***Execute in MN Only*** ☐ ***Execute Nationwide*** ☐ ***Execute in Border States***

☒ **ORDER OF DETENTION**

Since the Defendant is already in custody, I order, subject to bail or conditions of release, that the Defendant continue to be detained pending further proceedings.

Bail: $
Conditions of Release:

This complaint, duly subscribed and sworn to or signed under penalty of perjury, is issued by the undersigned Judicial Officer as of the following date: June 8, 2016.

Judicial Officer Catherine McPherson
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 06/08/2016 09:50 AM

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

COUNTY OF WRIGHT
STATE OF MINNESOTA

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

JUSTIN MICHAEL JENSEN

Defendant

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RETURN OF SERVICE

I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Order of Detention upon the Defendant herein named.

Signature of Authorized Service Agent: