

**State of Minnesota,**  
Plaintiff,

**COMPLAINT**  
Order of Detention

vs.

**JEREMIAH ELIJAH BLACKWELL DOB: 04/18/1994**

2721 GOLDEN VALLEY RD  
APT 2  
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Defendant.

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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: Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated**

Minnesota Statute: 609.19.1(1), with reference to: 609.19.1(1), 609.11.5(a)

Maximum Sentence: 40 YEARS

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 09/21/2014

Control #(ICR#): 14335368

Charge Description: That on or about 9/21/2014, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, JEREMIAH ELIJAH BLACKWELL , caused the death of victim, a human being, with intent to effect the death of that person or another, but without premeditation, while using a firearm.

Minimum Sentence: 3 YEARS

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Complainant has investigated the facts and circumstances of this offense and believes the following establishes probable cause:

That on September 21, 2014, at approximately 6:33 a.m., officers were dispatched to the 2200 block of 7th Street NE in Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota, to investigate a report of shots fired. In route, officers were advised that witnesses were reporting a male lying on the ground in a parking lot at the above-listed address. Upon arrival, officers located a male lying in the parking lot as described. The male, later fully identified and hereafter referred to as victim, was deceased and appeared to have sustained multiple gunshot wounds. Officers located three discharged cartridge casings near the victim. The three discharged cartridge casings were identified as FC NR .40 caliber Smith & Wesson. These discharged cartridge casings were sent to the crime lab for analysis. Officers located a cell phone carrier on the victim's waist but no cell phone. The victim's wallet was also located near his body.

Officers spoke with several witnesses in the area who reported hearing multiple gun shots at 6:25 a.m. and then the sound of a vehicle leaving. Officers spoke with family members and acquaintances of the victim who had arrived on scene. These individuals reported victim left a residence in northeast Minneapolis at approximately 6:00 a.m., to catch a bus and that victim texted them at 6:24 a.m., to report he had almost arrived at his destination. These individuals reported they have been attempting to call victim's cell phone since then but received no response. Officers contacted victim's cell phone provider and learned victim's phone was "shut off." Officers obtained video surveillance from MTC and observed victim enter the bus at 6:12 a.m. by himself and depart by himself at 6:15 a.m.

An autopsy was performed on the victim at the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's Office. It was determined victim sustained multiple gunshot wounds. The Medical Examiner opined the cause of death was multiple gunshot wounds and the manner of death was ruled a homicide. Bullets recovered from the victim's body were sent to the crime lab for analysis.

That on October 1, 2014, in an unrelated case, a male was robbed of his cell phone at gunpoint in northeast Minneapolis. The suspect developed in this case was JEREMIAH ELIJAH BLACKWELL, hereafter defendant. On October 9, 2014, defendant was charged with Aggravated Robbery pertaining to this incident.

That on October 2, 2014, in an unrelated case, officers conducted a traffic stop of a vehicle that contained defendant, and D.J. During the traffic stop, a Ruger .40 caliber semi-automatic handgun was seized. This handgun was sent to the crime lab for analysis.

The crime lab compared the Ruger .40 caliber semi-automatic handgun to the discharged cartridge casings found at the scene and to the fired bullets recovered from the victim's body. Comparisons indicated the discharged cartridge casings and fired bullets were consistent with having been fired by the Ruger .40 caliber handgun.

Officers executed a search warrant at defendant's address located at 2721 Golden Valley Road in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Additional .40 Caliber ammunition was located that matched the discharged cartridge casings found at the murder scene.

Officers spoke with several witnesses who reported defendant, defendant's father, defendant's brother, and other individuals purchased the Smith & Wesson .40 caliber ammunition from a Walmart. Officers went to the Walmart, obtained surveillance video, and observed defendant present when his father made the

purchase. Officers then spoke with defendant's father who admitted he purchased the ammunition and provided it to defendant. The father also reported that prior to the purchase, defendant called the store to inquire about the ammunition. This call from defendant's phone was later verified through defendant's cell phone records.

Officers took a statement from defendant who claimed he was in church on the day of the murder (September 21, 2014). Officers spoke with the pastor of defendant's church who denied defendant's presence in church on that date.

Officers obtained defendant's cell phone records that included call records and location data for defendant's cell phone on the day of the murder. Call records indicate defendant's phone made calls to family members around the time of the murder. Location data initially showed defendant's cell phone in north Minneapolis. At 6:09 a.m., defendant's cell phone has moved into northeast Minneapolis and within 200 meters of the murder scene. Defendant's cell phone is then tracked back to north Minneapolis after 7:10 a.m. Officers also obtained defendant's Facebook account information and observed posts were made to defendant's Facebook account at 5:52 a.m. on September 21, 2014. One of these posts was a statement that defendant was out selling marijuana that morning.

Officers obtained a statement from defendant after reading him the Miranda warning. When asked where he was the morning of September 21, 2014, defendant reiterated his claim that he was in church and instructed officers to ask his pastor. Officers advised they already did and the pastor denied defendant's presence in church that day. When asked whether he was present when the .40 caliber ammunition was purchased from Walmart, defendant denied it despite being informed he was on video at the store when the purchase was made. Defendant also stated his father was lying about handing over the ammunition to him. When asked where his cell phone was the morning of September 21, 2014, defendant claimed it was at J.W.'s house in north Minneapolis being "charged." Officers later spoke with J.W. who denied defendant or defendant's phone was at his house that morning. When asked who was making the calls to family members on the morning of September 21, 2014, defendant insisted somebody else could have used his phone. When asked who made the Facebook postings that morning, defendant claimed it was others.

At present, defendant is in custody.

## 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**

Darcy Klund  
SERGEANT  
350 S 5th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1389  
Badge: 3728

Electronically Signed:  
12/01/2014 11:56 AM

Subscribed and sworn to before the undersigned.

**Notary Public or  
Judicial Official**

James R Jensen, Peace Officer  
License Number: 10156,  
Hennepin County, Minnesota.  
My license expires: 06/30/2017  
Sergeant  
350 S 5th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1389

Electronically Signed:  
12/01/2014 11:57 AM

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

**Prosecuting Attorney**

Darren Borg  
300 S 6th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55487  
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:  
12/01/2014 11:48 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 401 Fourth Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55415 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: \$1,000,000.00

Conditions of Release:

This complaint is issued by the undersigned Judge as of the following date: December 1, 2014.

**Judicial Officer**

Juan Hoyos  
Judge

Electronically Signed: 12/01/2014 12:18 PM

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

**COUNTY OF HENNEPIN  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**State of Minnesota**

Plaintiff

vs.

**JEREMIAH ELIJAH BLACKWELL**

Defendant

*Clerk's Signature or File Stamp:*

**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: