

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

vs.

CHRISTOPHER HOWARD GANTT DOB: 05/31/1985

713 RUSSELL AV N
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Warrant

Amended

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 - Without Intent - While Committing a Felony

Minnesota Statute: 609.19.2(1), with reference to: 609.19.2(1), 609.05.1, 609.05.2

Maximum Sentence: 40 YEARS

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 06/14/2014

Control #(ICR#): 14009365

Charge Description: That on or about June 14, 2014, in the City of New Hope, Hennepin County, Minnesota, CHRISTOPHER HOWARD GANTT caused the death of a human being, without intent to effect the death of any person, while committing or attempting to commit a felony offense, specifically, aiding and abetting a felony assault.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

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

This is an amended complaint to include the amended charge of Unintentional Murder in the Second Degree and add the probable cause language after the dotted line below.

On June 14, 2014, around 1:22 a.m., officers from the New Hope Police Department were dispatched to the Outtakes Bar and Grill, located in the City of New Hope, Hennepin County, Minnesota. Upon arrival, officers saw an adult male ("Victim") unconscious on the ground with a small pool of blood underneath his head. Victim was on his back, unresponsive, and had labored breathing. Paramedics arrived and Victim was intubated and taken to the hospital. According to medical records, Victim suffered a traumatic brain injury, intracranial hemorrhaging, edema of the left cerebral hemisphere, a temporal bone fracture, scalp laceration and contusion. At the time of the writing of this complaint, Victim is still in a medically induced coma.

A bartender was able to provide a physical description for the two males that struck Victim. He also reported the following information. The two suspects and Victim, along with the group Victim was with, had been arguing back and forth throughout the evening and it had been heated several times. The bartender had to grab one of the suspects from behind during one of the arguments. Victim had yelled at the group to "shut the fuck up" on more than one occasion. The final confrontation started when the bartender told Victim to go inside as the two suspects and their friends were leaving. The group then came back and the two suspects struck Victim, who fell backwards and onto the pavement. During the altercation, a female member of Victim's group had gone inside to call 911.

The bartender provided the details of the actual assault in a formal interview. The first suspect approached Victim. The bartender stood between the first suspect and Victim in an attempt to keep them separated. The first suspect was angry and wanted to fight. The first suspect squared up to Victim and punched Victim in the face. Victim fell to the ground in a daze. When Victim tried to stand back up, the second suspect ran over and punched Victim, knocking Victim to the ground, hard. Victim hit his head on the concrete. Victim was knocked unconscious. The suspects fled on foot as the bartender checked on Victim.

Through interviews of witnesses and review of surveillance video, the first suspect who initially struck Victim was identified as CHRISTOPHER HOWARD GANTT [(D.O.B. 5/31/1985); ("Gantt")]. One witness reported Gantt was only in town for a birthday celebration and father's day. Gantt was reportedly heading back to Iowa where he lives.

Gantt's whereabouts are currently unknown.

Victim has been treated since the incident at North Memorial Hospital for complications arising from his injuries. Unfortunately, Victim died on November 30, 2014. According to the preliminary summary from the medical examiner, the manner of death was homicide and the cause of death was complications of blunt force head injury.

Although Defendant is currently out on conditional release, he is an Iowa Resident and this new charge results in a significantly longer prison sentence. Therefore, the State is requesting a warrant.

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

Scott Slawson
Captain
4401 Xylon Ave N
New Hope, MN 55428
Badge: 51

Electronically Signed:
12/03/2014 06:12 PM

Subscribed and sworn to before the undersigned.

**Notary Public or
Judicial Official**

Barbara L Schendel
Police Clerk, County of Hennepin
4401 Xylon Ave N
New Hope, MN 55428
Notary ID: 31051511

Commission expires: 01/31/2017
Electronically Signed:
12/04/2014 06:41 AM

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Justin Wesley
300 S 6th St
Minneapolis, MN 55487
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:
12/03/2014 03:50 PM

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: \$500,000.00

Conditions of Release: No Contact with Address; No use of drugs/alcohol; Random UAs; Make All Appearances; Remain Law Abiding; Other: No contact with yet-to-be-identified co-defendant; No Contact with Witnesses

This complaint is issued by the undersigned Judge as of the following date: December 4, 2014.

Judicial Officer Charles Porter Electronically Signed: 12/04/2014 08:43 AM

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

**COUNTY OF HENNEPIN
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

CHRISTOPHER HOWARD GANTT

Defendant

Clerk's Signature or File Stamp:

RETURN OF SERVICE

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

Signature of Authorized Service Agent: