

State of Minnesota  
County of Hennepin

District Court  
4th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No.  
Court File No.

17A00824  
27-CR-17-1879

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**State of Minnesota,**

Plaintiff,

vs.

**JOSHUA CHIAZOR EZEKA DOB: 02/12/1996**

2107 Oliver Ave N  
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Defendant.

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**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 - With Intent-Not Premeditated**

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

Maximum Sentence: 40 YEARS

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 05/26/2016

Control #(ICR#): 16188486

Charge Description: That on or about May 26, 2016, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, JOSHUA CHIAZOR EZEKA, caused the death of Victim 1, 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

**COUNT II**

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

Minnesota Statute: 609.19.1(1), with reference to: 609.11.5(a), 609.17.4(2), 609.19.1

Maximum Sentence: 20 YEARS

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 05/26/2016

Control #(ICR#): 16188486

Charge Description: That on or about May 26, 2016, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, JOSHUA CHIAZOR EZEKA, attempted to cause the death of Victim 3, 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

COMPLAINT AMENDED: PROBABLE CAUSE AMENDED TO ADD INFO ON SECOND INTERVIEW; OFFENSE REMAINS THE SAME.

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

On May 26, 2016 at approximately 6:03 p.m., Victim 1, a 58 year old woman whose initials are B.B.B., and her teenaged granddaughter, Victim 2, were seated in a vehicle at the intersection of 21st Avenue North and Penn Avenue North, Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota. A male suspect discharged a firearm multiple times from a known location toward the vicinity of the vehicle. Victim 1 was struck by gunfire, received medical attention, and subsequently died from those injuries.

Officers responded immediately. On the scene and during subsequent interviews, witnesses provided general physical and clothing descriptions of the gunman. Forensic scientists processed the scene and continue to process evidence from the scene. Investigators have interviewed multiple witnesses, executed numerous search warrants, reviewed pertinent video surveillance, utilized sequential and confirmatory photographs, analyzed multiple cell phones and accessed social media accounts. Many witnesses have expressed fear of retaliation. The ongoing investigation has confirmed the following:

On May 26, 2016, at approximately 6:00 p.m., an individual known to law enforcement approached the area in a known vehicle. This individual is known to associate with "the highs", an alliance of several known criminal street gangs. JOSHUA CHIAZOR EZEKA, the DEFENDANT herein, is known to associate with "the lows", another alliance of several known criminal street gangs. "The highs" and "the lows" are rivals. As the individual associated with "the highs" neared the area of 21st and Penn, a known individual communicated with DEFENDANT who was at his family's home in the area. The known individual alerted DEFENDANT of the presence of the rival in the area. Shortly after receiving this information, DEFENDANT, armed with a firearm of a known caliber, ran toward the rival's vehicle, and shot multiple times toward the rival's vehicle. DEFENDANT was approximately 30 yards from the rival's vehicle when he fired the gun. Some bullets struck the rival's vehicle, and others struck the vehicle in which Victim 1 and 2 were seated. After firing multiple times, witnesses confirmed that DEFENDANT fled from the area in a known vehicle, and with known individuals. A witness confirmed that DEFENDANT admitted shooting at the rival's vehicle. The rival is identified as Victim 3.

Cell phone records, cell phone tower analysis, video surveillance, Shotspotter, and forensic comparison of firearms evidence from the scene and from the involved vehicles corroborates the events described above.

In a prior interview, DEFENDANT denied shooting. DEFENDANT described his clothing and hairstyle at the date and time of the shooting. Investigators observed that these descriptions were consistent with some witnesses' description of the shooter. During the interview, crime lab personnel arrived to photograph DEFENDANT, his clothing and his hairstyle. DEFENDANT was uncooperative with the process.

THE FOLLOWING HAS BEEN ADDED:

The DEFENDANT was interviewed a second time. In a post Miranda statement the DEFENDANT admitted to receiving a phone call from a known individual, the Co-Defendant herein, alerting him to the presence of rivals driving a vehicle in the area. The DEFENDANT then grabbed his firearm, ran out of his house with his firearm and fired several shots at the rival's vehicle. The DEFENDANT intended to shoot his rivals but missed and shot Victim 1. The DEFENDANT then got in the passenger seat of the Co-

Defendant's vehicle and fled the scene with the Co-Defendant in his vehicle.

An active warrant is also pending for the Co-Defendant.

## 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**

Chris Thomsen  
Sergeant  
350 S 5th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1389  
Badge: 7201

Electronically Signed:  
01/24/2017 11:02 AM  
hennepin County, Minnesota

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

**Prosecuting Attorney**

Dominick Mathews  
300 S 6th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55487  
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:  
01/24/2017 10:53 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 300 S Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487 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: \$1,500,000.00  
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: January 24, 2017.

**Judicial Officer**                      Ronald L. Abrams                      Electronically Signed: 01/24/2017 11:08 AM  
District Court Judge

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

**COUNTY OF HENNEPIN  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**State of Minnesota**

Plaintiff  
vs.

**Joshua Chiazor Ezeka**

Defendant

*LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER 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: