

State of Minnesota  
County of Hennepin

District Court  
4th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 10A14344  
Court File No. 27-CR-18-30875

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**State of Minnesota,**  
Plaintiff,

**COMPLAINT**  
Order of Detention

vs.

**DONALD CLIFTON JENKINS JR DOB: 04/26/1962**

7310 BASS LAKE RD #1  
Crystal, MN 55428

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), 609.11.9, 609.11.4

Maximum Sentence: 40 YEARS

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 12/19/1991

Control #(ICR#): 91329569

Charge Description: That on or about December 19, 1991, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, Donald Clifton Jenkins Jr., 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 dangerous weapon.

Minimum Sentence: 1 YEAR AND 1 DAY

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

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

On December 19, 1991, Minneapolis Police officers were dispatched to an apartment located on the 2800 block of Grand Avenue South in Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota, on the report of a homicide. Officers responded, and found a 20-year-old deceased female, Victim herein. Victim was lying on the floor of her bedroom dressed in her work clothes. Officers noticed blood and injuries to Victim's face as well as apparent stab wounds to her back and abdomen. Victim was pronounced dead on scene. 911 was called by Victim's boyfriend when he returned home and found her.

A search of Victim's apartment was conducted. Officers noticed that a drawer in the kitchen was ajar and the knife tray was pulled out. One of the knives from the set was missing from the drawer. In the living room, officers recovered a bloody knife that had been tucked in between the couch cushions. This knife matched the set in the kitchen. In the bathroom, officers located a wet and bloodstained peach washrag. The washrag was left on the edge of the sink basin as if someone had washed up after the murder.

An autopsy was conducted. The medical examiner documented seven stab wounds to the front of Victim's body and four stab wounds to the back of Victim's body. These included multiple stab wounds to Victim's chest deep enough to puncture her lung three times, her left kidney, and the tip of her heart. Victim also had lacerations and bruising to her face and defensive cuts on her hands and fingers. The cause of death was exsanguination due to multiple stab wounds. The manner of death was homicide.

In 1991, officers learned of a possible suspect to the murder, DONALD CLIFTON JENKINS, JR, DEFENDANT herein. Defendant was interviewed in 1991. Defendant stated that he met Victim through her boyfriend and had been to her apartment previously. He stated that he had loaned his car to Victim's boyfriend the day before the murder and it was returned to him around 11:00 a.m. the day of the murder. Defendant stated that he and Victim's boyfriend then went to Burger King and returned to an address on Cedar Avenue. Later that afternoon, Defendant saw Victim's boyfriend, gave him a ride to a barber shop, and returned to the Burger King. He stated that after that he went home. While at home, he spoke with Victim's boyfriend who told him that he was out to dinner with friends. Defendant saw Victim's boyfriend later that evening at Defendant's apartment and learned of Victim's murder the following morning.

Officers continued to investigate this murder until the case went cold in 1992.

In 2008, homicide detectives submitted items of evidence to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for a form of DNA testing, which was not previously possible. This evidence included the wet and bloody washcloth from the bathroom. In 2009, officers learned that the Defendant's DNA may be present due to his convicted offender sample not being able to be excluded from the DNA present on the bloody washrag. A known sample was needed for comparison purposes.

In February 2010, Defendant was extradited from Louisiana to Minnesota. Upon arrival, officers obtained a DNA sample from Defendant by search warrant and interviewed him regarding this murder. Defendant stated that he vaguely remembered Victim and no longer recalled ever loaning his car to Victim's boyfriend. Defendant also denied ever being inside of Victim's apartment but recalled that was because Victim's boyfriend only let a select number of people inside, and he was not one of those people. Defendant was told that detectives were collecting his DNA sample to compare against items in Victim's apartment. When asked whether his DNA would be present, Defendant responded, "Let's find out!"

Shortly after the interview, Defendant called detectives and claimed that he had once cut his knuckle working on a vehicle at Victim's apartment. He was provided a rag to wipe his knuckle on and he had no idea where that rag went after that day.

In later February 2010, officers learned that the results of the DNA testing on portions of the bloody washcloth contained a mixture of DNA from two or more individuals. Victim's DNA matched the major profile on portions of the bloody washrag and she could not be excluded from other portions of DNA on the washrag. Defendant also could not be excluded from the mixture, but 99.1% of the population could be excluded.

In March 2010, investigators again spoke with Defendant regarding this murder. Defendant stated that whenever he saw Victim's boyfriend it was at the address on Cedar Avenue. Defendant stated that he had been inside Victim's apartment "a couple of times" but said that he couldn't remember anything else. Officers then told Defendant that his DNA was located in Victim's apartment near where some money was missing. Defendant stated that he didn't need to steal, and if his DNA was in that apartment it would be in the living room or the bathroom. Defendant was asked again about the car incident he described the month before. Defendant provided great detail and stated that Victim's boyfriend brought him a white rag to clean his knuckles. Defendant clarified that it was a rag and not a bathroom towel. Defendant was shown the bloodstained peach towel recovered from the bathroom and he said that he had no idea why his DNA would be on that towel.

In 2018, additional DNA testing was performed on the bloody washcloth. One of the portions of blood on the towel was a mixture of three or more individuals. Victim and Defendant cannot be excluded as contributors, but 99.0% of the population can be excluded. On another portion of blood on the towel, scientists found a mixture of four or more individuals. Victim and Defendant cannot be excluded as contributors, but 99.4% of the population can be excluded.

On December 18, 2018, the day before the 27th anniversary of this murder, detectives interviewed Defendant one last time. After initially denying involvement in the murder, Defendant admitted that he killed Victim on December 19, 1991. During the interview, Defendant blurted out, "My DNA is there, I did it." The detective asked why he was saying that. Defendant responded, "I guess I did it." The detective asked what happened when he was over there. Defendant stated that he wasn't supposed to go to Victim's apartment when Victim's boyfriend wasn't there, and he didn't want anyone to know that he had been there with Victim and without Victim's boyfriend. Defendant stated that he was "chasing dope" when he went to Victim's apartment and didn't think anyone would be home at that time. Defendant stated that while inside the apartment, he grabbed a knife off the table. He stated that he hit Victim and she fell to the ground. He claimed that he just blacked out. He recounted that he stabbed Victim in the living room of the apartment. He stated that Victim was helpless. Defendant stated that he killed Victim because he thought Victim's boyfriend would kill him for coming over to the apartment alone. Defendant stated that he has felt bad about this murder for years and wished that he could make it right.

Since this offense, Defendant has been convicted of Criminal Sexual Conduct in the First Degree in 1993 and Failure to Register as a Predatory Offender in 2010.

## 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 Karakostas  
Sgt  
350 S 5th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1389  
Badge: 3636

Electronically Signed:  
12/20/2018 11:40 AM  
Hennepin County, Minnesota

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

**Prosecuting Attorney**

Erin Lutz  
300 S 6th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55487  
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:  
12/20/2018 11:38 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: \$1,000,000.00

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: December 20, 2018.

**Judicial Officer**

William H Koch  
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 12/20/2018 11:47 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.

**DONALD CLIFTON JENKINS Jr**

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:

## DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

**Name:** DONALD CLIFTON JENKINS Jr  
**DOB:** 04/26/1962  
**Address:** 7310 BASS LAKE RD #1  
Crystal, MN 55428

**Alias Names/DOB:**

**SID:** MN93015090

**Height:**

**Weight:**

**Eye Color:**

**Hair Color:**

**Gender:** MALE

**Race:** Black

**Fingerprints Required per Statute:** Yes

**Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record:** Yes

**Driver's License #:**

**SILS Person ID #:** 202844

**SILS Tracking No.** 3073049

**Alcohol Concentration:**

## STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

<b>Cnt Nbr</b>	<b>Statute Type</b>	<b>Offense Date(s)</b>	<b>Statute Nbrs and Descriptions</b>	<b>Offense Level</b>	<b>MOC</b>	<b>GOC</b>	<b>Controlling Agencies</b>	<b>Case Numbers</b>
1	Charge	12/19/1991	609.19.1(1) Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated	Felony	H2032		MN0271100	91329569
	Penalty	12/19/1991	609.11.4 Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Use Dangerous Weapon	Felony	H2032		MN0271100	91329569
	Modifier	12/19/1991	609.11.9 Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Applicable Offenses	No-Level	H2032		MN0271100	91329569
	Penalty	12/19/1991	609.19.1(1) Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated	Felony	H2032		MN0271100	91329569