

State of Minnesota
County of Hennepin

District Court
4th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 22A03369
Court File No. 27-CR-22-5940

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JAMES NYONTEH DOB: 06/24/1976

11824 Emery Oaks Lane N
Champlin, MN 55316

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Warrant

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: 609.11.4, 609.19.1, 609.11.9

Maximum Sentence: 40 YEARS

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 03/28/2022

Control #(ICR#): 22003414

Charge Description: That on or about 3/28/2022, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, James Nyonteh, 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 or about March 28, 2022, at approximately 9:38 p.m., Champlin Police officers were dispatched to a residence located on Thousands Pine Entry North in Champlin, Hennepin County, State of Minnesota, on a report of a person down.

Upon arrival, officers found an adult female P.Y. (DOB: 12/20/1986), Victim herein, laying in the front yard of the home. Victim 1 was unresponsive, had no pulse and was bleeding from apparent lacerations. A minor female was next to Victim screaming that "he killed her!" Victim was transported to Mercy Hospital where she was pronounced deceased.

Officers spoke to witnesses on scene. One witness advised that she had been on the phone with Victim as Victim arrived at the residence. Victim had told her that her husband, JAMES NYONTEH (DOB: 6/24/1976), Defendant herein, was at the residence and had a knife. Witness heard Defendant in the background telling Victim that he just wanted to talk. The phone call was then disconnected. Witness called the other residents at the home and told them to go check on Victim. When they did, Victim was already laying bleeding and unresponsive in the yard. Another witness advised that he had heard a scream, looked outside and saw a SUV go to Douglas Drive from Thousand Pines Entry and go southbound, running a red light.

Officers gathered information that led them to believe Defendant had fled the home in Victim's GMC Acadia, and they put out a request to other law enforcement agencies to locate the SUV, as well as the other vehicles associated with Defendant and Victim. Officers learned that Brooklyn Park Police Department officers had located Victim's GMC Acadia unoccupied near 101st and Winnetka Avenue North and were told that there was blood, a bloody knife and a hatchet observed in plain view in that vehicle.

Officers were aware that Defendant was under investigation for a criminal sexual conduct case, and that Victim and her children had moved out of the family home and were staying with family at the Champlin residence.

On 3/29/22, at approximately 4:57 a.m., officers also learned that Defendant had fled to Fargo, North Dakota, where he was later taken into custody.

An autopsy was performed on Victim. Preliminary findings are that Victim died from multiple sharp force injuries to her head and chest.

Defendant is currently in custody in Cass County, North Dakota.

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

Louis Beauchane
Police Officer
11955 Champlin Drive
Champlin, MN 55316
Badge: 161

Electronically Signed:
03/30/2022 09:41 AM
Hennepin County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Tara C. Ferguson Lopez
300 S 6th St
Minneapolis, MN 55487
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:
03/30/2022 09:11 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 as directed in the Notice of Hearing before the above-named court 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: March 30, 2022.

Judicial Officer

Joseph R Klein
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 03/30/2022 09:51 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.

James Nyonteh

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:

DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

Name: James Nyonteh
DOB: 06/24/1976
Address: 11824 Emery Oaks Lane N
Champlin, MN 55316

Alias Names/DOB: JAMES H NYONTEH DOB: 6/24/1976
SID:
Height:
Weight:
Eye Color:
Hair Color:
Gender: MALE
Race: Black
Fingerprints Required per Statute: Yes
Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record: No
Driver's License #:
SILS Person ID #: 462764
SILS Tracking No. 3270619
Case Scheduling Information: Rush Warrant. Defendant is currently in custody in Fargo, North Dakota.
Please serve ASAP.
Alcohol Concentration:

STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

Cnt Nbr	Statute Type	Offense Date(s)	Statute Nbrs and Descriptions	Offense Level	MOC	GOC	Controlling Agencies	Case Numbers
1	Charge	3/28/2022	609.19.1(1) Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated	Felony	H2031		MN0272900	22003414
	Modifier	3/28/2022	609.11.9 Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment - Applicable Offenses	No-Level	H2031		MN0272900	22003414
	Penalty	3/28/2022	609.19.1 Murder - 2nd Degree	Felony	H2031		MN0272900	22003414
	Penalty	3/28/2022	609.11.4 Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Use Dangerous Weapon	Felony	H2031		MN0272900	22003414