

**SIN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI
AT KANSAS CITY**

POLICE NO. :	18-88971
PROSECUTOR NO. :	095449246
OCN:	HS006005

STATE OF MISSOURI,)
)
 PLAINTIFF,)
)
 vs.)
)
)
 SARITZA SERRANO)
)
 2327 Norton Avenue) CASE NO. 1816-CR
)
 Kansas City, MO 64127) DIVISION
)
 DOB: 10/25/1993)
)
 Race/Sex: H/F)
)
)
)
)
 DEFENDANT.)

COMPLAINT

Count I. Abuse Or Neglect Of A Child - Resulting In Death Under Sec. 568.060.5(2) - No Sexual Contact (568.060-001Y20133806.0)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, upon information and belief, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 568.060, RSMo, committed the class A felony of abuse or neglect of a child, punishable upon conviction under Section 558.011 in that on or about November 16, 2018, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant, either acting alone or in concert with another, was responsible for the care, custody and control of E.S. (DOB 06/08/2016), a child less than eighteen years of age, and neglected E.S. by failing to seek medical attention and as a result defendant knowingly caused the child to suffer physical injury and, E.S. died as a result of injuries sustained from this conduct.

An individual convicted and sentenced for this offense shall not be eligible for parole until eighty-five percent of the sentence is served.

The range of punishment for a class A felony is imprisonment in the custody of the Missouri Department of Corrections for a term of years not less than ten (10) years and not to exceed thirty (30) years, or life imprisonment.

The facts that form the basis for this information and belief are contained in the attached statement(s) of facts, made a part hereof and submitted as a basis upon which this court may find the existence of probable cause.

State vs. Saritza Serrano

Wherefore, the Prosecuting Attorney prays that an arrest warrant be issued as provided by law.

JEAN PETERS BAKER

Prosecuting Attorney
Jackson County, Missouri
by,

/s/ Erin R. Mulvihill

Erin R. Mulvihill (#67363)
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
415 East 12th Street
7M Floor
Kansas City, MO 64106
(816) 881-3110
emulvihill@jacksongov.org

WITNESSES:

1. CPT Everett C. Babcock, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
2. PO Joshua E Clevenger, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
3. DET Jonathan E. Cook, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
4. SGT William F. Dillingham, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
5. PO Mark A. Diviak, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
6. [REDACTED]
7. DET Mary J Kincheloe, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
8. PO Gregory Kinney, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
9. DET Alex E. Lepper, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
10. [REDACTED]
11. DET Scott P. Mullen, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
12. CST Lori Nelson, 6633 Troost, Kansas City, MO 64131
13. B. Robert Pietak M.D., Jackson Co. Medical Examiner, 660 E. 24th Street, Kansas City, MO 64108
14. E.S., Prosecuting Atty. Office, 415 E. 12th Street, Kansas City, MO 64106
15. PO Lisa M. Sidenstick, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
16. CST Marisa Smith, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
17. [REDACTED]
18. DET Ephraim Vega, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
19. [REDACTED]

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

Date: 11-23-2018

CRN: 18-088971

I, Detective Scott Mullen #5431

(Name and identify law enforcement officer, or person having information as probable cause.)

knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state that the facts contained herein are true.

I have probable cause to believe that on 11-16-2018, at 2327 Norton Ave in
(Date) (Address)

Kansas City, Jackson Missouri Saritza Serrano
(County) (Name of Offender(s))

W/F 10-25-1993 committed one or more criminal offense(s).
(Description of Identity)

Child Abuse/Neglect

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 11-16-2018 at 2029 hours, Officers from the Kansas City Missouri Police Department were dispatched to 2327 Norton Ave in regard to a three year old having a heart attack. Upon arrival KCFD was already on scene providing medical aid to the young child victim. The victim was pronounced deceased at the scene by KCFD personnel. KCFD personnel advised the Officers the victim was severely malnourished and appeared to have been deceased for more than one hour prior to their arrival. The victim was transported to the Jackson County Medical Examiner's Office. A provisional anatomic diagnosis from the Jackson County Medical Examiner's Office listed the victim's cause of death as 1. Severe Malnutrition 2. Probable Dehydration (pending toxicology).

Observations by the responding Officers and Detectives of the victim were the victim's cheeks were sunken in. The victim's stomach was also sunken in and his ribs were easily visible underneath the skin. When the victim was turned, the victim's spine was also easily visible through his skin. When the diaper the victim was wearing was removed the victim's penis and scrotum were observed to be purple in color and bruised. The victim's penis had apparent layers of skin missing.

Observations by the responding Officers and Detectives of the residence the victim was located in were the house was generally unclean and cluttered. Apparent rat feces were located throughout the residence to include the bedroom the victim was located in. The door to the bedroom the victim was found in had a lock on the outside of the door which would not allow the door to open from the inside. A hook latch was also on the outside of the door preventing the door to open from the inside. The closet in the room the victim was in had apparent human feces on the floor and ceiling. Apparent finger streaks made with feces were also observed in the closet. Apparent feces or blood was observed on the wall next to the toddler bed inside the bedroom where the victim was found.

Saritza Serrano w/f 10-25-1993 identified herself to Officers and Detectives at the scene as the victim's mother. **Serrano** told Detectives at the scene she has lived at 2327 Norton Ave since 2016 with her boyfriend (Ruben Yepez). **Serrano** stated the victim and her youngest daughter (child with Yepez) also live at the residence. **Serrano** stated her oldest daughter lives with her paternal grandmother during the week but stays with her on the weekends. **Serrano** stated the victim had been sick for 3 weeks. **Serrano** stated after the first week the victim was sick she stopped giving him medicine because his fever broke, but stated the victim did not

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN 18-088971

want to eat solid foods. **Serrano** stated she gave the victim milk and baby food in a bottle. **Serrano** stated she never took the victim to a doctor or hospital when he was sick as she thought she could treat him with medicine as she had in the past. **Serrano** stated on 11-16-2018 she gave the victim a bottle of milk with baby food at 0800 hours. She stated she did not see the victim after 0800 hours until she went upstairs between 1700-1800 hours to give him a bath. **Serrano** stated when she went to the victim's room he was unresponsive and shortly after realized he was deceased. **Serrano** called Yepez at 1924 hours and informed him of what happened. **Serrano** stated Yepez returned home at 2012 hours. **Serrano** stated Yepez called his mother who informed him to call 911.

Yepez was also present when Officers and Detectives were at the residence. Yepez spoke to a detective and stated he and **Serrano** have lived at 2327 Norton Ave together for approximately two years. Yepez confirmed the victim and the child he shares with **Serrano** also lived at the residence with **Serrano's** oldest child living with **Serrano's** grandmother. Yepez stated the victim's father lives in Puerto Rico and is not in the victim's life. Yepez stated on 11-16-2018 he went to work between 1200-1300 hours. Yepez stated when he left he heard the victim in his room upstairs playing. Yepez stated after work he went to his mother's house before receiving a call from **Serrano** stating the victim was not breathing. Yepez stated when he returned home he observed the victim and knew he was deceased. Yepez stated the victim looked skinny with blue lips and was wet. Yepez stated **Serrano** told him she bathed the victim. Yepez stated **Serrano** is the primary caretaker for the victim and their daughter. Yepez stated the victim had been sick for a few weeks but stated no one took the victim to a doctor or hospital. Yepez stated he does not normally feed the victim and stated the last time he fed the victim was approximately one year ago.

Serrano was arrested on 11-22-2018 at 1205 and transported to Police Headquarters. After being read her Miranda Rights, **Serrano** declined to provide a statement.

Printed Name Det. Scott Mullen #5431 Signature /s/Det. Scott Mullen #5431

The Court finds probable cause and directs the issuance of a warrant this _____ day of _____.

Judge

Circuit Court of _____ County, State of Missouri.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI
AT KANSAS CITY

POLICE NO. :	18-88971
PROSECUTOR NO. :	095449247
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STATE OF MISSOURI,)
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 PLAINTIFF,)
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 vs.)
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 RUBEN YEPEZ-RUIZ)
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 2327 Norton Avenue) CASE NO. 1816-CR
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 Kansas City, MO 64127) DIVISION
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 DOB: 09/30/1994)
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 Race/Sex: H/M)
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COMPLAINT

Count II. Abuse Or Neglect Of A Child - Resulting In Death Under Sec. 568.060.5(2) - No Sexual Contact (568.060-001Y20133806.0)

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The facts that form the basis for this information and belief are contained in the attached statement(s) of facts, made a part hereof and submitted as a basis upon which this court may find the existence of probable cause.

State vs. Ruben Yopez-Ruiz

Wherefore, the Prosecuting Attorney prays that an arrest warrant be issued as provided by law.

JEAN PETERS BAKER

Prosecuting Attorney
Jackson County, Missouri
by,

/s/ Erin R. Mulvihill

Erin R. Mulvihill (#67363)
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
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CRN: 18-088971

I, Detective Scott Mullen #5431

(Name and identify law enforcement officer, or person having information as probable cause.)

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I have probable cause to believe that on 11-16-2018, at 2327 Norton Ave in
(Date) (Address)

Kansas City, Jackson Missouri Ruben Yopez-Ruiz
(County) (Name of Offender(s))

W/M 09-30-1994 committed one or more criminal offense(s).
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Child Abuse/Neglect

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Observations by the responding Officers and Detectives of the residence the victim was located in were the house was generally unclean and cluttered. Apparent rat feces were located throughout the residence to include the bedroom the victim was located in. The door to the bedroom the victim was found in had a lock on the outside of the door which would not allow the door to open from the inside. A hook latch was also on the outside of the door preventing the door to open from the inside. The closet in the room the victim was in had apparent human feces on the floor and ceiling. Apparent finger streaks made with feces were also observed in the closet. Apparent feces or blood was observed on the wall next to the toddler bed inside the bedroom where the victim was found.

Saritza Serrano w/f 10-25-1993 identified herself to Officers and Detectives at the scene as the victim's mother. Serrano told Detectives at the scene she has lived at 2327 Norton Ave since 2016 with her boyfriend (**Ruben Yopez**). Serrano stated the victim and her youngest daughter (child with **Yopez**) also live at the residence. Serrano stated her oldest daughter lives with her paternal grandmother during the week but stays with her on the weekends. Serrano stated the victim had been sick for 3 weeks. Serrano stated after the first week the victim was sick she stopped giving him medicine because his fever broke, but stated the victim did not want to

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Yepez was arrested on 11-22-2018 at 1205 hours and transported to Police Headquarters. After waiving his Miranda Rights, **Yepez** admitted he was made aware the victim was ill by Serrano but never checked on the victim or took any steps to get the victim medical attention. **Yepez** admitted he never made sure the victim was fed. **Yepez** stated he last saw the victim three weeks prior to his death and did not check on the victim at all during the three week span.

Printed Name Det. Scott Mullen #5431 Signature /s/Det. Scott Mullen #5431

The Court finds probable cause and directs the issuance of a warrant this _____ day of _____.

Judge

Circuit Court of _____ County, State of Missouri.