

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI
AT INDEPENDENCE**

POLICE NO. :	19-089019
PROSECUTOR NO. :	095456101
OCN:	QO001573

STATE OF MISSOURI,	)	
	)	
PLAINTIFF,	)	
vs.	)	
	)	
PORNTREP PHONJAROEN	)	
1304 NE Mangolia St	)	CASE NO. 1916-CR
Lees Summit, MO 64086	)	DIVISION
DOB: 08/22/1994	)	
Race/Sex: A/M	)	
S.S.N.: XXX-XX-2977	)	
DEFENDANT.	)	

**COMPLAINT
WARRANT REQUESTED**

Count I. Murder 2nd Degree (565.021-001Y19840901.0)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, upon information and belief, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 565.021, RSMo, committed the **class A felony of murder in the second degree**, punishable upon conviction under Section 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about November 16, 2019, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly or with the purpose of causing serious physical injury to Wasinee Sankra caused the death of Wasinee Sankra by shooting her.

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.

Count II. Armed Criminal Action (571.015-001Y19755299.0)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, upon information and belief, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 571.015, RSMo, committed the felony of armed criminal action, punishable upon conviction under Section 571.015.1, RSMo, in that on or about November 16, 2019, in the County of Jackson, State

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of Missouri, the defendant committed the felony of murder in the second degree charged in Count I, all allegations of which are incorporated herein by reference, and the defendant committed the foregoing felony of murder in the second degree by, with and through, the knowing use, assistance and aid of a deadly weapon.

The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015 RSMo. is imprisonment in the custody of the Missouri Department of Corrections for a term of years not less than three (3) years without eligibility for parole, probation, conditional release or suspended imposition or execution of sentence for a period of three (3) calendar years. .

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

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/ Michael J. Hunt

Michael J. Hunt (#34818)
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WITNESSES:

1. DET Christopher Burris, 223 N. Memorial Drive, Independence, MO 64050
2. PO Roger Lane, 223 N. Memorial Drive, Independence, MO 64050
3. CST Kevin Phillips, 223 N. Memorial Drive, Independence, MO 64050
4. Kent Pholcharoen, 1403 NE Mangnolia St, Lees Summit, MO 64086
5. Ellen Ratcliff, 8188 N Farm Rd, Strafford, MO 65757
6. Wasinee Sankra, 305 SW 15th St, Independence, MO 64050
7. DET Steven Schmidli, 223 N. Memorial Drive, Independence, MO 64050
8. PO Christopher Stewart, 223 N. Memorial Drive, Independence, MO 64050

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

Date: 11/17/2019

Report: #2019-89019

I, Steven D. Schmidli, a Detective with the Independence, Missouri Police Department, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state that the facts contained herein are true.

1. I have probable cause to believe that on 11-16-2019 at 1923 hours, Pornthep Phonjaroen (Race – A, Sex - M, DOB: 9-22-94, [REDACTED], Last Known Address: 1304 NE Magnolia St., Lee's Summit MO 64086) Committed one or more criminal offenses in Jackson County, Missouri.
2. The facts supporting this believe are as follows:

That on 11-16-2019 at 1923 hrs., the Defendant, Pornthep Phonjaroen knowingly shot and killed his cousin, W.S. (dob: 10-2-96) by shooting her in the head while working at the Thai Spice restaurant located at 18931 E. Valley View Parkway in Independence, Jackson County Missouri.

P.O. Chris Stewart is the reporting officer on this reported offense. On 11-16-2019 at 1923 hrs., Independence MO Police were dispatched to the Thai Spice restaurant located at 18931 E. Valley View Parkway in reference to a shooting. Upon arrival, officers located the victim, later identified as W.S. (dob: 10-2-96) lying on the kitchen floor of the restaurant with a large pool of blood around her head. A restaurant patron / witness later identified as [REDACTED] told police that an Asian male that was currently inside the business was responsible for the shooting. P.O. Stewart contacted the Asian male subject in question and took him into custody while the shooting investigation was being conducted. The Asian male was later identified as Pornthep Phonjaroen. The victim was pronounced dead at the crime scene by ambulance personnel. The crime scene was secured and multiple restaurant patrons / witnesses were detained for formal statements by detectives.

Det. Roger Lane responded to the crime scene and conducted a formal interview with [REDACTED] at IPD Headquarters. [REDACTED] advised that she was eating inside the restaurant with some other individuals and were seated near the kitchen doorway. She stated that she heard a single gunshot and observed a female fall to the ground just inside the kitchen. She stated that they observed the female bleeding from the head and immediately began life-savings measures on the victim. [REDACTED] stated that she noticed a shell casing on the kitchen floor and started repeatedly asking kitchen staff who was responsible for the shooting. [REDACTED] stated that an Asian male wearing a red and black striped soccer shirt spoke up and stated "I did it!". Shortly thereafter police arrived on scene and [REDACTED] directed officers to the Asian male suspect.

[REDACTED] is the owner of the Thai Spice restaurant and gave written consent for investigators to search his business for evidence related to the offense.

Crime Scene Technician Kevin Phillips responded to the crime scene and processed it for evidence purposes. The restaurant has a surveillance system inside the business which was

recovered by CST Phillips. A .380 caliber shell casing was recovered in the kitchen by the victim's head. The kitchen area and interior restaurant was searched for the handgun used in the offense but results were negative.

Canine P.O. Jason Schnetzer conducted an article search with his assigned canine for the missing handgun. A Glock .380 handgun was located in the woods behind the business. The handgun was recovered by CST Phillips and protected for evidence purposes.

Mr. Richard Casebolt is a certified interpreter for Bridging the Gap Interpreting LLC in North Kansas City MO and speaks fluent Thai.

Det. Steve Schmidli examined the recovered surveillance video from the Thai Spice restaurant. The Defendant was observed removing a handgun from a gray bag while in the kitchen. Immediately after removing the handgun from the bag, the Defendant shot the victim without warning. Det. Schmidli interviewed the Defendant with the assistance of Mr. Casebolt. After being advised of his rights, the Defendant admitted to shooting the victim whom he identified as his biological cousin. The Defendant stated that he was upset with his cousin over work habits and claimed he fired his handgun in an attempt to scare her. The Defendant admitted to throwing his Glock .380 handgun into the woods behind the business immediately after shooting his cousin.

Det. Steve Schmidli #842

/s/ Steve Schmidli

Print Name

Signature