


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

POLICE NO. :	19-089586
PROSECUTOR NO. :	095456231
OCN:	

STATE OF MISSOURI,)	
	PLAINTIFF,)
vs.)	
)	
TERRANCE D. WRIGHT)	
6508 E. 128th Street)	CASE NO. 1916-CR
Grandview, MO 64030)	DIVISION
DOB: 08/28/1995)	
Race/Sex: B/M)	
)	
	DEFENDANT.)

**COMPLAINT
WARRANT REQUESTED**

Count I. Murder 2nd Degree (565.021-001Y19840999.0)

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 23, 2019, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant with the purpose of causing serious physical injury to Benson Lewis caused the death of Benson Lewis by shooting him, and defendant is further given notice that should the state submit murder in the second degree - felony under Section 565.021.1(2), it will be based on the death of Benson Lewis as a result of the perpetration of the class A felony of Unlawful Use of a Weapon under Section 571.030, committed by defendant.

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.

State vs. Terrance D. Wright

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 23, 2019, in the County of Jackson, State 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 range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015 RSMo. as a second offense is imprisonment in the custody of the Missouri Department of Corrections for a term of years not less than five (5) years without eligibility for parole, probation, conditional release or suspended imposition or execution of sentence for a period of five (5) calendar years. The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015 RSMo. as a third offense is imprisonment in the custody of the Missouri Department of Corrections for a term of years not less than ten (10) years without eligibility for parole, probation, conditional release or suspended imposition or execution of sentence for a period of ten (10) calendar years. Any punishment imposed pursuant to section 571.015 RSMo. shall be in addition to any punishment provided by law for the crime committed by, with, or through the use, assistance, or aid of a dangerous instrument or deadly weapon.

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.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

Date: 11-23-2019

CRN: KC19089586

I, Detective Christopher Smith #4672
(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 11-23-2019, at 7918 E 119th in
(Date) (Address)

Kansas City, Jackson Missouri Terrance D. Wright
(County) (Name of Offender(s))

B/M, 08-28-1995 committed one or more criminal offense(s).
(Description of Identity)

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 11-23-2019 at approximately 0837 Hours, Officers of the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department were dispatched to 7918 E 117th Kansas City, Jackson County, MO on a reported shooting. While en-route officers were provided a description of the suspect by dispatch of a black male, 24 years of age, wearing a red coat, and the name "Eric Wright" who was standing outside the residence. Upon arrival officers located a male west of the residence on foot matching the aforementioned description and he was taken into custody without incident. In a nearby yard a .40 caliber handgun was located alleged to be associated to the suspect. Officers were made aware the victim was transported to an area hospital by his wife via private conveyance where he was pronounced deceased by hospital staff from an apparent gunshot wound to the chest. Responding Officers at the hospital located and identified a Blue Ford Fusion near the Emergency Room entry that was used by the victim's wife and secured it as a possible secondary crime scene. The registration of the vehicle revealed it to be owned by **Wright**. Preliminary information indicates the victim was shot twice. This death is being investigated as a homicide.

A witness was contacted at the scene that provided a statement in regard to the facts leading up to the incident. The witness was determined to be the daughter of the victim and the girlfriend of the suspect (identified as **Terrance D. Wright B/M, 08-28-1995**). She stated shortly before the shooting she received text messages from **Wright** in regard to a custody issue between the two about the child they have in common. She advised he threatened to show up at her residence if she did not bring their child to him in a certain time frame. She advised a short time later **Wright** responded to the residence in his vehicle (blue Ford Fusion) and was outside the residence. She stated the victim exited the residence and went out to speak with **Wright**. She advised she went to get her mother and the two of them looked out the front window of the residence and observed **Wright** seated in his vehicle and the victim to be lying outside of the car. She stated she did not observe the shooting nor did she hear any of the conversation between Wright and the victim. The witness responded outside before **Wright** left the scene on foot. **Wright** stated to the witness "I'm sorry I didn't mean to do it." This witness signed a Consent to Search for her cellphone allowing detectives to recover the aforementioned text messages.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN KC19089586

Another witness, identified as the victim’s wife, provided a formal statement to detectives. The witness advised she was upstairs in her bedroom this morning at around 0830 hours when she heard honking coming from the front of her residence. She walked to the guest bedroom, looked out the window and observed **Wright** sitting in his vehicle in front of their residence. The witness stated the victim told her he was going outside to speak to **Wright**. The witness advised she walked back to her room to get dressed. She stated when she walked out of the residence, the victim was lying on the ground and observed **Wright** seated in the driver’s seat of his vehicle with a gun in his hand. She asked **Wright** why he had done this and he told her he was sorry. The witness denied hearing any gunshots and did not hear any arguments before she exited the residence. She advised **Wright** ultimately walked away from the scene with the gun in his hand and was subsequently taken into custody by the police. The witness stated she and a gentleman next door loaded the victim into **Wright’s** vehicle and drove the victim to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

An additional witness was contacted at the scene that provided a statement to investigators. The witness was determined to be a son of the victim and brother of the aforementioned girlfriend of the suspect. The witness stated he was inside the residence, in a bathroom, wearing headphones listening to music and did not hear any sounds of a disturbance or gunshots. While in the bathroom, his sister began knocking on the door. The sister advised him that their dad had been shot and was told to call his brother. The witness stated when he walked outside he observed the victim lying on the driveway near the street and observed **Wright** standing in the grass with a gun in his hand. He then stated he overheard **Wright** say, “I’m sorry I didn’t mean to do it.”

Detectives on scene located a firearm near the area **Wright** was taken into custody at located in the south yard associated to 7904 E. 117th. The weapon recovered was identified as a Glock Model 23 .40 caliber handgun. Lying on the ground next to the Glock, was a magazine containing ten (10) live rounds of ammunition. There was no live round in the chamber of the weapon. No items of evidentiary value were recovered from the residence or curtilage of 7918 E. 117th Street. No weapons were in plain view near the victim’s residence and none were located at the scene of the victim’s residential driveway, garage, yard, or curtilage.

Detectives processed the witness’s cellphone and discovered multiple text messages exchanged between the witness and **Wright**. The following text messages were extracted from that exchange. From **Wright** to the witness: “So what u wanna do then? Let me know u leavin me wi no options nobody worried about none of y’all I need my daughter”. From the witness to **Wright**: “You not coming here so dead all tht shit rn I agreed to Thursday I ain’t say shit bout no Saturday n u most definitely not boutta come here n disrespecting my parents”. From **Wright** to witness: I ain’t disrespecting nobody I’m comin n u gone bring her outside it’s that simple wtf do they got to do wit anything”. From witness to **Wright**: “You not pulling up to this house period”. From **Wright** to witness: “Outside”.

Wright was transported to 1125 Locust (Police Headquarters) 6th Floor to complete a formal audio and video recorded interview in regard. **Wright** was advised aloud of his Miranda Rights and advised he understood his rights, stated it was self defense, and invoked his rights to an attorney.

Printed Name /s/ Det. Christopher Smith #4672 Signature /s/ Det. Christopher Smith #4672

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN KC19089586

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

Judge

Circuit Court of _____ County, State of Missouri.