

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

POLICE NO. :	21-1193
PROSECUTOR NO. :	095464420
OCN:	

STATE OF MISSOURI,

PLAINTIFF,)

VS.

RODNEY D. BYRD

1815 E. 67th Terr.

Kansas City, MO 64132

DOB: 08/05/1988

Race/Sex: B/M

DEFENDANT.)

COMPLAINT
WARRANT REQUESTED

Count I. Murder 2nd Degree (565.021-001Y20200999.0)

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 May 16, 2021, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly or with the purpose of causing serious physical injury to Jerone Weathers caused the death of Jerone Weathers by shooting him.

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. Rodney D. Byrd

Count II. Armed Criminal Action (571.015-001Y20205299.0)

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 May 16, 2021, 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 571.015.1, RSMo. is imprisonment by the department of corrections for a term of not less than three years and not to exceed fifteen years, unless the person is unlawfully possessing a firearm, in which case the term of imprisonment shall be for a term of not less than five years. No person convicted under this subsection shall be eligible for parole, probation, conditional release, or suspended imposition or execution of sentence for a period of three 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 punishment imposed pursuant to Section 571.015, RSMo shall be in addition to and consecutive 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.

JEAN PETERS BAKER

Prosecuting Attorney
Jackson County, Missouri
by,

/s/ Brian Morris

Brian Morris (#66094)
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
321 W. Lexington
Independence, MO 64050
(816) 881-4559
brian.morris@jacksongov.org

WITNESSES:

1. PO Jeffrey Peterman, 10000 East 59th Street, Kansas City, MO 64133

State vs. Rodney D. Byrd

Probable Cause Statement Form

Date: 05-16-2021

Report: 21-1193

I, Detective Jeffrey Peterman, 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 05-16-2021 at 6813 Hawthorne Avenue, Raytown Missouri, 64133, Rodney D. Byrd, B/M, 08-05-1988, [REDACTED] committed one or more criminal offense(s).

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 05-16-2021, at approximately 0725 hours, Raytown Officer Brian Porch was flagged down at Kay-Bees, 6625 Raytown Road, Raytown Missouri, 64133, by [REDACTED], who advised that there was a shooting, however he was unable to provide further information regarding the parties involved or the location of the incident.

While Raytown Officers were performing an area canvass to locate the incident, Raytown Police Dispatch received an emergency call from a witness, [REDACTED], stating that there was a shooting at his residence, 6813 Hawthorne Avenue, Raytown Missouri, 64133, but did not provide further information.

Upon arrival, Raytown Officers observed a black male, later identified as Jerone D. Weathers, with an apparent gunshot wound to his head, in the driver seat of a blue 2012 Nissan Sentra, which was parked in the driveway near the north facing entry/exit door of the residence. Raytown Officers observed there to be a black coat with apparent blood, as well as a large amount of apparent blood on the driveway. Raytown Officers proceeded to conduct a protective sweep on the residence for additional possible victims, at which time they observed a black male wearing all black clothing, later identified as Rodney D. Byrd, to be laying prone on a bed located in the southwest room of the residence. Raytown Officer Dustin Christina proceeded to detain Rodney and transported him to his marked patrol vehicle. While Officer Christina was transporting Rodney to his marked patrol vehicle, the witness, [REDACTED], arrived back to the residence and observed Rodney being transported to the marked patrol vehicle. Officer Christina asked Lawrence if he could identify the person who had fired the handgun and Lawrence stated "it's the guy you put in your car."

Upon securing the scene, Jerone was evaluated by Raytown Fire and EMS and was pronounced deceased.

Officer Christina then spoke with [REDACTED], who advised that while he was outside walking towards his residence, he heard what he believed to be a gunshot behind him. [REDACTED] stated that he proceeded to turn around and observed Jerone to be laying on the driveway and Rodney to be standing next to him. [REDACTED] advised that Rodney then proceeded to drag Jerone to the blue Nissan and place him into the driver seat of the vehicle. [REDACTED] stated that Rodney attempted to push him into the residence, however he was able to get away from Rodney and left the scene on foot to his cousin's, [REDACTED] residence where he contacted the police.

Detective Jackson spoke with another witness, [REDACTED] who explained that while at the above address, he observed Jerone and Rodney to be verbally arguing for an unknown reason. [REDACTED] stated that he observed Jerone proceed to take a handgun from his waistline, take the magazine out of the handgun, and place the handgun and magazine on to the deck located on the outside of the residence. [REDACTED] advised that upon seeing the handgun, he proceeded to walk away from the residence, at which time he heard what appeared to be a gunshot. [REDACTED] stated that upon turning around, he observed Jerone to be laying on the ground and Rodney standing next to Jerone with both of his hands on his head. [REDACTED] advised that he then proceeded to leave the scene on foot, where he flagged down Officer Porch.

Detective Jackson also spoke with [REDACTED], who advised that he, [REDACTED] Rodney, Jerone and [REDACTED] were at his residence and that he had just sold a dog to [REDACTED].. [REDACTED] stated that they all then proceeded inside his residence and that [REDACTED] Rodney, Jerone, and [REDACTED] then exited his residence. [REDACTED] advised that he then heard a single gunshot. [REDACTED] stated upon exiting his residence, he confronted his guests about the

gunshot and told them to leave. [REDACTED] first advised that he did not see anyone holding a gun, and that he then realized that one of his guests had been shot. [REDACTED] then stated that the shooting was an accident and that Rodney was playing with a firearm. [REDACTED] then advised that he did not observe Rodney to be in possession of a firearm. [REDACTED] then stated that the suspect was wearing red clothing and confirmed that the suspect was Rodney.

Detective Jackson also contacted another individual who may have information regarding the incident. Detective Jackson contacted [REDACTED] and scheduled a meeting with her at the Raytown Police Department. During the interview, [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] had called her and stated that Jerone had been shot, and that he was at the police station. [REDACTED] stated that she then responded to the police station and offered [REDACTED] a ride home. While [REDACTED] was in her vehicle, she overheard him having a phone conversation with his mother, advising the mother "youre son is trippin, he done shot Jerone." It should be noted that [REDACTED] and Rodney are biological brothers and share the same mother.

On 05-16-2021, at approximately 1951 hours, a recorded interview room was conducted with Rodney D. Byrd. Rodney was read his Miranda Rights, which he advised that he understood and willingly signed a waiver to speak with Detectives. Rodney initially stated that he was "blackd out" from being intoxicated and could not recall what occurred. Rodney advised that he was at the residence with his older brother, Rashad and his cousin who is not his blood cousin, Lawrence. Rodney stated that he remembers playing pool at the residence and then that he was being arrested by Officers. Rodney advised that he was wearing a black hoodie with a red "Angry Byrd" on the hoodie and black Air Force One shoes. Rodney was then showed printed photos of the clothing he was wearing during the incident at which Rodney confirmed he was wearing. When asked about the apparent blood that is seen on his clothing, Rodney advised that the blood wasn't his but he did not know where the blood came from. Rodney stated that he does not remember Jerone being at the residence while he was there. Rodney then stated "like you said, you got evidence that leads up to me, everybody else checks out, they didn't do this shit, I got blood on me, it's Jerone's blood." When Detective Jackson stated that he never said it was Jerones blood on him, Rodney then stated "then who blood is it, its common sense, it aint my blood." Rodney then stated "this aint my first rodeo, this investigation shit." Rodney stated "Why would I want to turn myself on a side to where I am doing time for something I haven't done," and "I know a fucking accident when I seen one." Rodney then requested a lawyer.

A search warrant of the vehicle and crime scene were obtained. One (1) spent .40 caliber shell casing was recovered from the porch located on the north side of the residence near the blue Nissan Sentra.

Name: Detective J. Peterman #1765

Signature: /s/ Detective J. Peterman #1765