

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

Date: 08-22-2020

CRN: KC20056302

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 08-20-2020, at Linwood Blvd & Elmwood Av in
(Date) (Address)

Kansas City, Jackson Missouri Martel L. Harrison
(County) (Name of Offender(s))

W/M 05-05-1996, [REDACTED] committed one or more criminal offense(s).
(Description of Identity)

Murder, ACA, Hindering, Arson

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 08-20-2020 at 0246 hours, Officers from the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department were dispatched to Linwood & Elmwood in regard to an EMS call. Upon arrival a w/m victim was located in the street with blood coming from his head and apparent auto glass near him. The victim (identified as Sage Walston w/m 12-10-1997 from Shawnee, KS) was later determined to have a gunshot injury to his head and he died as a result of his injuries.

A white 2008 Toyota Corolla bearing KS license plates 435 MTN was identified as being registered to Walston. A computer search revealed Walston’s vehicle listed as a towed vehicle on 08-20-2020 by the Independence Police Department.

The Independence Police Department responded to a vehicle fire at 11404 E. 24th St South, Independence, Jackson County, Missouri at approximately 0400 hours on 08-20-2020. A neighbor near the church advised he observed two vehicles enter the church parking lot and then one of the cars left before he observed the other vehicle on fire.

A search of the ALPR system revealed on 08-20-2020 at 02:04:55 hours Walston’s vehicle hit the ALPR reader at 31st/Cleveland going eastbound. The affiant located a Ring doorbell camera which captured a white vehicle matching Walston’s vehicle description turning southbound from 31st St onto Elmwood at 02:06:17 hours. A short time after Walston’s vehicle is out of view on the Ring camera, a single gunshot is heard on the footage.

Detectives contacted the neighbor near the church whose security camera system captured the incident on video. Two white vehicles were observed entering the church parking lot at 0334 hours on 08-20-2020. One of the vehicles is then observed on fire in the parking lot and the other white vehicle leaves the lot at 0340 hours. The other white vehicle looked similar in appearance to a Chevy Impala.

Walston’s family provided his phone number as 913 [REDACTED]. Walston’s phone was not on his person when he was located and it is unknown if his phone was inside the vehicle when it was set on fire. Walston’s limited AT&T online records showed phone activity on his phone after the time of the shooting. Walston’s family also advised Walston had just started dating a new girl and they believed her name was Kayla.

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Three phone numbers in Walston's phone records showed activity with his phone after 0100 hours on 08-20-2020, (913-251-██████████-291-██████████ & 913-602-██████████). A computer search of 913-251-██████████ led to records associated with ██████████ w/f 06-26-1995. Family members of ██████████ were contacted who confirmed 913-251-██████████ as her phone number and stated she had been staying with her cousin ██████████ in Independence, Missouri.

A computer search of 816-291-5421 led to records associated with ██████████ ██████████ also was shown to have an address of 1505 W. 23rd Terrace South, Apartment #J in Independence, MO at the Timber Creek Apartments. The Timber Creek Apartments are less than a half mile away from the church where Walston's vehicle was found on fire after the homicide. Computer records showed a white 2008 Chevy Impala bearing MO license plates CU7G5L registered to J ██████████

Detectives responded to the Timber Creek Apartments and contacted an employee who stated he was aware of ██████████ and confirmed she lived at the apartments. The employee stated ██████████ stayed with ██████████ on and off at the apartments and stated there was a white male whom he referred to a "Pony Tail" who was also hanging out there with ██████████. The employee later identified Walston as the person he referred to as "Pony Tail". The employee also stated a male named **Martel Harrison (w/m 05-05-1996)** at the apartment complex was seeing Johnson. The employee confirmed 913-602-4216 as **Harrison's** phone number.

The employee stated on 08-20-2020 at around 0930 hours he talked to **Harrison** outside at the apartment complex. **Harrison** told the employee there was a disturbance involving himself and Walston. **Harrison** told the employee Walston shot a round at ██████████ and then he had to "thump" Walston. The employee described **Harrison** as having injuries on his face and neck which he described as "rug burns". The employee stated **Harrison** has told him he did not like Walston but tolerated him because of Johnson.

Detectives confirmed the Independence Police Department responded on a disturbance at the apartment complex at 0131 hours on 08-20-2020. The calling party reported hearing a gunshot near building 1505. No police report was taken and no names were documented in the call.

A further examination of the three previously mentioned phone numbers in Walston's phone records revealed Walston's phone made an outgoing call to **Harrison's** phone (913-602-4216) at 0123 hours. At 0222 hours (16 min after Walston's murder) Walston's phone called Johnson's phone (816-291-5421).

On 08-21-2020 undercover detectives responded to the Timber Ridge Apartments where they located the white Chevy Impala bearing MO license plates CU7G5L. While watching the vehicle, **Harrison** came outside and entered the vehicle. **Harrison** was observed to have what was believed to be "medicine" on his eye. **Harrison** was taken into custody while inside the white Chevrolet Impala. ██████████ was taken into custody as she was walking towards the Chevrolet Impala.

After being read her Miranda Rights, ██████████ was interviewed regarding the murder and she stated the phone call to her phone from Walston's phone after the time of the murder was from **Harrison**. **Harrison** told ██████████ he was on his way back to the apartment and instructed her to bring a blanket outside to him. When he arrived back at the apartments, **Harrison** gave ██████████ \$20 and directed her to go purchase gasoline. After ██████████ returned with the gasoline **Harrison** instructed her to follow him (in victim's vehicle) in her vehicle (white Impala) to the area where **Harrison** set Walston's vehicle on fire. ██████████ stated **Harrison** sustained burn injuries on his face and neck when he set Walston's vehicle on fire. ██████████ stated **Harrison** also shaved his hair off later on 08-20-2020. ██████████ told the detectives **Harrison** communicated with his mother on his cellphone after the murder about the murder weapon, indicating the model and possibly the caliber. She also stated she believed **Harrison** later sold the firearm to his mother for \$200 when they went to her house later on 08-20-2020. ██████████ stated she believed some of the money may have been counterfeit money.

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After being read his Miranda Rights, **Harrison** was interviewed and he confirmed the details of the disturbance at the apartment complex prior to the homicide. **Harrison** admitted to being in communication with Walston on his cellphone earlier in the evening. **Harrison** stated his phone later died and it was at his sister's apartment. **Harrison** denied involvement in Walston's murder and the subsequent burning of his vehicle. When asked about his injuries, **Harrison** stated they were from a grilling accident 4 days prior.

█████ responded to Police Headquarters and confirmed there was a disturbance at the apartments prior to the time Walston was killed. █████ stated after the disturbance, she was inside the apartment and **Harrison** was outside with Walston to calm him down. █████ stated later **Harrison** returned to the apartment and he and █████ left the apartment for a while before returning together. █████ stated **Harrison** had redness around his eyes and he kept rubbing his face █████ asked █████ and **Harrison** where Walston was and they told her not to worry about him.

A search warrant was served at █████'s apartment. The blanket █████ brought out to **Harrison** after he arrived at the apartment after the murder was found along with hair believed to be the hair **Harrison** shaved off after the car fire.

A search warrant was served on █████'s white Chevy Impala which revealed clothing/shoes with apparent blood on it inside a black trash bag inside the trunk. A cellphone which matched the description of Walston's cellphone given by █████ was located with the clothing. The cellphone had blood on it and was broken. A plastic tea jug was also located inside the trunk and when opened had a strong odor of gasoline coming from it.

Harrison's mother responded to Police Headquarters and admitted **Harrison** gave her a black handgun and she then gave the gun to a guy named █████ who lives in KS. **Harrison** later took detectives to █████'s residence in KS where she recovered the gun from █████ and gave it to detectives. The gun was identified as a Springfield Armory .40 S&W bearing serial number 452857.

█████ was contacted a second time at EPD and advised her Miranda Rights still applied. █████ was shown photos of the items recovered from her vehicle and she admitted the tea jug was the one she filled up with gas prior to the car fire. █████ stated all of the clothing in the pictures was **Harrison's**. █████ stated in her first statement she did not tell us **Harrison** admitted to her he shot Walston in the back of his head when he was not looking while they were in Walston's car. **Harrison** told █████ there were chunks of brain and hair inside the vehicle. █████ stated **Harrison** told her he purposely left his phone at his sister's apartment because he did not want it to be tracked and that was the reason he called her after the murder with Walston's phone. When selling the gun to his mother, **Harrison** described the gun as being "hot" and "having a body on it".

Walston's mother was contacted who had the box Walston's phone came in and the IMEI number on the phone recovered in the trunk of the Chevy Impala matched the IMEI number on the box Walston's phone came in.

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 _____.

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Judge

Circuit Court of _____ County, State of Missouri.