

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

Police# 16-007007
Prosecutor# 095434631
1616-CR
OCN# ca007258

COMPLAINT

STATE OF MISSOURI

vs.

**Leon W. Dawson
1005 SE Talonia Dr.
Lees Summit, MO 64081
DOB: 10/16/1969; Race/Sex: W/M;
SS# [REDACTED]
Defendant.**

Count I. Assault 1st Degree - Serious Physical Injury (565.050-001Y19841399.0)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, upon information and belief, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 565.050, RSMo, committed the class A felony of assault in the first degree, punishable upon conviction under Section 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about August 31, 2016, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly caused serious physical injury to [REDACTED] by stabbing 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.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

LSPD Complaint: 16-7007

Date: September 1, 2016

I, Detective Michael Reese, an investigator with the Lee's Summit, Missouri Department of Police, upon my oath, and under penalties of perjury, state as follows:

1. I have probable cause to believe that on 08/31/2016, at 1005 SE Talonia Dr, Lee's Summit, Jackson County Missouri, Leon W. Dawson, W/M, 10/16/1969, [REDACTED] committed one or more criminal offenses.
2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 08/31/2016 at 1822 hours, Leon Dawson arrived home at his residence located at 1005 SE Talonia Dr, Lee's Summit, MO. Just prior to arriving home, he had received a phone call from his wife, Ketti Dawson who was already at their residence. Leon was advised by his wife that a neighbor, [REDACTED] whom they've had an ongoing feud with, was harassing her with profanity and finger gestures from a vehicle he had just arrived in that continued as he stood outside his residence. Upon Leon's arrival and parking his truck in his driveway, he exited the vehicle, immediately walked behind his truck and along the edge of his property in the street while pointing his finger and yelling toward [REDACTED] who was sitting in a wheelchair just off his [REDACTED] driveway in the street. Leon and [REDACTED] proceeded to exchange words across the street at each other that included them both threatening each other and provoking one another to cross to their side of the street. While Leon remained standing in the street just off the curb, [REDACTED] approached him. As they briefly continued to argue face to face in close proximity, [REDACTED] applied both his hands to each of Leon's front chest/shoulder area and pushed Leon. They remained in close proximity while both of them continued to grab one another in the upper shoulder/head area. Leon removed a black Smith & Wesson folding knife from his right pocket, opened it, and stabbed [REDACTED] in the left mid groin area near the femoral artery. Upon being stabbed, [REDACTED] began to retreat backwards away from Leon while bleeding profusely. Leon continued to advance on [REDACTED] and stabbed him a second time just under the left armpit causing him to fall to the ground. This incident occurred in Lee's Summit, Jackson County, MO.

Detective Reese conducted an interview with Leon Dawson who stated he had received a phone call from his wife that she was being threatened by [REDACTED]. He said they have had an ongoing feud for 3 years with [REDACTED] who has threatened to kill him in the past. Leon was fearful for his wife's safety, so he immediately responded home. Leon stated upon arriving home, he was aware she was in the house, and observed [REDACTED] outside his [REDACTED] residence. Leon stated he was tired of [REDACTED] harassment and upset about the comments and gestures to his wife. Leon admitted to immediately walking along the street to be directly across from [REDACTED] to address what [REDACTED] had said to his wife. Leon stated he was just standing there when [REDACTED] approached him and pushed him. Leon admitted he "feared for his life" after being pushed, and [REDACTED] "came at" him a second time. Leon admitted he removed his Smith & Wesson folding knife from his right pocket, opened it, and stabbed [REDACTED] in "self defense" as he was trying to separate himself from [REDACTED]'s second attempt to assault him.

Detective Reese conducted an interview with neighbor and witness [REDACTED] who stated he had just arrived home at 1009 SE Talonia Dr and observed [REDACTED] just off his driveway directly across the street. He said while he and [REDACTED] were having a brief conversation about "welding" he observed Leon arrive home in his truck, park in his driveway, jump out and run around his truck. [REDACTED] stated Leon began "yelling" at [REDACTED] "don't ever cuss at my wife again." [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] who was sitting in a wheel chair got up and told Leon to come across the street and do something about it. [REDACTED] stated Leon yelled back at [REDACTED] to come over to his side. [REDACTED] said [REDACTED] then crossed the street to where Leon was and they were arguing face to face. [REDACTED] advised he told them both to "calm down." [REDACTED] stated he observed [REDACTED] either grab or strike Leon and then observed Leon "punch" [REDACTED] in the stomach. [REDACTED] said after Leon "punched" [REDACTED] in the stomach, he observed Leon "slip" something back into his pocket as [REDACTED] was backing away with blood running down his leg. [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] fell to the ground and said "you saw that Mike, he stabbed me." He said Leon then said "you saw Mike, it was self defense."

Detective Reese's investigation involved the review of security video footage obtained from the residence of Leon Dawson with consent from his wife, Ketti Dawson. A review of the video revealed prior to Leon's arrival at home, his Ketti was in the driveway displaying a finger gesture to the occupants of a black vehicle driving by their driveway. The vehicle stops at the driveway of [REDACTED] located a 1620 SE 12th St and [REDACTED] exits the vehicle. [REDACTED] remained in his driveway and appears to be in a verbal confrontation with Ketti who also remained in her driveway while providing another finger gesture towards [REDACTED]. Ketti goes out of view and believed to have entered her residence while [REDACTED] obtains a wheel chair and proceeds to sit in his driveway. I then observe neighbor, [REDACTED] arrive home, exit his vehicle across the street from [REDACTED] and engage in a conversation. During this time, Leon arrives home in his truck, parks in his driveway, exits, appears to slam his driver's door and immediately walk around the rear of his truck. Leon proceeds to walk in the street in front of his residence toward [REDACTED] while pointing at [REDACTED]. I observed Leon and [REDACTED] continue to have a verbal exchange as [REDACTED] is now standing in the street in front of his driveway and Leon is standing in the street toward the southern side of his residence. I observe [REDACTED] walk to Leon's location where they continue to exchange words face to face briefly. [REDACTED] then uses both hands and pushes Leon back slightly. I observe Leon remove something from his right pocket, engage [REDACTED] and in an upward motion, strike [REDACTED] using his right hand in the mid section of his body. After being struck, I observe [REDACTED] begin retreating backwards as Leon continue to engage him and striking him a second time in the upper right side of [REDACTED]'s body. After striking [REDACTED] a second time, Leon backs away from [REDACTED] as [REDACTED] is seen holding his mid section before going to the ground. During the entire incident, [REDACTED] is present within several feet. [REDACTED] appears to speak with Leon to prevent any further engagement while Leon and Ketti stand-by in close proximity as other neighbors render aid.

[REDACTED] injuries included a large, approximately 8-9 inch puncture wound to the left groin area along the femoral artery and a small approximately 2 inch puncture wound under the left arm pit resulting in a large loss of blood.

Det. Michael Reese #0727
Print Name (Detective)

Det. M. Reese 0727
Signature (Detective)

THE COURT FINDS PROBABLE CAUSE.

DATE

JUDGE