

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

POLICE NO. :	17-107288
PROSECUTOR NO. :	095443138

STATE OF MISSOURI,	)	
	)	
PLAINTIFF,	)	
vs.	)	
JAMES E JOHNSON	)	
3316 E. 20th St.,	)	CASE NO. 1816-CR
Kansas City, MO - 64127	)	DIVISION
DOB: 09/19/1979	)	
Race/Sex: B/M;	)	
SSN: XXX-XX-0538	)	
DEFENDANT.	)	

COMPLAINT

Count I. Murder 2nd Degree (565.021-001Y19840904.0)

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 on or about December 24, 2017, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant, acting alone or purposefully in concert with others, with the purpose of causing serious physical injury to Darren Kirk, caused the death of Darren Kirk by striking 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.

Count II. Armed Criminal Action (571.015-001Y19755212.0)

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 December 24, 2017, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant, acting alone or purposefully in concert with others, committed the felony of murder in the second degree charged in Count 1, all allegations of which are incorporated herein by reference,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

State vs. James E Johnson

Darren Kirk , , Kansas City, MO -

DET Scott P. Mullen , 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO - 64106

PO Blayne Newton , , , -

DET Hobart D. Price , 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO - 64106

DET Brent R. Taney , 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO - 64106

DET Daniel G. Thomas , 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO - 64106

PO John F. Vidal , 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO - 64106

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

Date: 01/04/2017

CRN: 17-107288

I, Detective Hobart Price #5254

(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 12/24/2017, at 3316 E 20th St in
(Date) (Address)

Kansas City, Jackson Missouri James E. Johnson
(County) (Name of Offender(s))

B/M 09/19/1979, [REDACTED] committed one or more criminal offense(s).
(Description of Identity)

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 12-25-17 at 0043 hours Officers of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department were dispatched to 3316 E. 20th Street, Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri in regard to an ambulance call.

Upon arrival the Kansas City Fire Department was on scene and advised the victim was deceased. The victim was laying outside of 3316 E. 20th Street, Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri on the east side, at the base of the steps. The victim was on his back, with pale skin and apparent dried blood on his forehead and pants. Officers observed a small laceration to his forehead. The victim was later identified as Darren Kirk.

The reporting party who is witness #2 stated the victim was a friend of hers and her ex-husband (James Johnson B/M 09/19/1979). She stated the victim was homeless and she allowed him to stay at her residence occasionally. She stated on 12/25/2017 at 0015 hours she arrived home at 3316 E 20th St, Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri late and discovered the victim sitting at the base of her steps on the east side of her house. She stated he was sitting upright with his hood up and she thought he was asleep. She then nudged the victim and he fell over. She then called 911 for an ambulance.

Witness #1 was contacted who stated on 01/02/2017 at 2102 hours she spoke with witness #2 on the phone. Witness #2 stated they were under investigation for a homicide which occurred outside of their home. Witness #1 advised at this point she did not suspect James Johnson or witness #2 of having anything to do with the homicide. Approximately an hour later James Johnson and witness #2 came over to Witness #1's house and shared the following information. James Johnson told Witness #1 that he killed Darren. On 12/24/2017 James Johnson and witness #2 were at their residence hanging out with Darren. They were all drinking and Darren told witness #2 he was going to put a "Mickey" in her drink. Witness #2 went and told James Johnson that Darren threatened to put something in her drink. James told witness #2 to go in the other room. James Johnson got a bat and beat Darren with the baseball bat. After the beating Darren sat on the floor next to the living room couch for approximately two hours. James and witness #2 realized Darren died and carried him out to the steps outside of 3316 E 20 St, Kansas City, Jackson County Missouri. Witness #2 called the Police and made up a story that she just found Darren sitting on her steps as she arrived home. Witness #1 stated James Johnson took the bat and hid it somewhere it couldn't be found. Witness #1 stated witness #2 told her they did not want to go to jail and they would force the Police to shoot them and commit suicide by cop.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN 17-107288

Witness #2 responded to Police Headquarters on 01/04/2018 and stated she was at 3316 E 20th St, on 12/24/2017 with her husband James Johnson and friend Darren Kirk. Darren had been making comments that he was going to rape her. James Johnson began questioning Darren about the comments he was making and started beating him repeatedly with a bat. James Johnson told witness #2 to go into the living room during the beating. Witness #2 stated she could hear James Johnson beating Darren while she was in the living room. Witness #2 stated Darren was compliant with James Johnson's commands and did not attempt to fight back.

Witness #3 stated a few days prior to the Christmas break, James Johnson informed her a male acquaintance was harassing his wife and threatening to rape her. Witness #3 stated the Thursday or Friday after Christmas, James Johnson returned to work and informed her, he was involved in a physical altercation with the person who was harassing his wife.

On 01/04/2017 a search warrant was executed at 3316 E 20 St and James Johnson was arrested at the residence. James Johnson was brought to Police Headquarters and escorted to the 7th floor interview room. James Johnson was read the Miranda Warning and Waiver and advised he understood his rights and wanted to speak with detectives. James Johnson initially advised he was not home at the time of the homicide. James Johnson eventually admitted to beating Darren Kirk for over an hour with a baseball bat in his bedroom. James Johnson stated Darren then sat down in the living room and became unresponsive. James stated he and witness #2 then moved Darren outside onto the steps of 3316 E 20 St and James left the scene and hid the bat. Witness #2 then called 911 and provided the false statements to Police.

The Jackson County Medical Examiner determined the cause of death for Darren Kirk was blunt force trauma and the manner of death is homicide.

Printed Name Det. Hobart Price #5254 Signature /S/ Det. Hobart Price #5254

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

Judge

Circuit Court of _____ County, State of Missouri.