

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

POLICE NO. :	KC20051932
PROSECUTOR NO. :	095463782
OCN:	HS025592

STATE OF MISSOURI,

PLAINTIFF,)

VS.

MICHAEL L. FINNELL

5207 Mersington Ave.

Kansas City, MO 64130

DOB: 12/12/1992

Race/Sex: B/M

DEFENDANT.)

COMPLAINT
WARRANT REQUESTED

Count I. Murder 2nd Degree (565.021-001Y19840903.0)

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 August 3, 2020, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly or with the purpose of causing serious physical injury to Antony D. Taylor caused the death of Antony D. Taylor 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), RSMo, it will be based on the death of Anthony D. Taylor as a result of the perpetration of the class B felony of Unlawful Use of a Weapon under Section 571.030(9), RSMo, 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.

Count II. Armed Criminal Action (571.015-001Y19755213.0)

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 August 3, 2020, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant committed the felony of Murder Second Degree charged in Count I, all allegations of which are incorporated herein by reference, and the defendant committed the foregoing felony of Murder 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.

JEAN PETERS BAKER
Prosecuting Attorney
Jackson County, Missouri
by,

/s/ Daniel Portnoy
Daniel Portnoy (#62186)
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
415 E. 12th St., 11th Floor
Kansas City, MO 64106
(816) 881-3286

State vs. Michael L. Finnell

dportnoy@jacksongov.org

WITNESSES:

1. PO Justin P. Forrest,
2. DET Angelina M. Sanchez,

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

Date: 04-07-2021

CRN: KC20051932

I, Detective Angelina Sanchez #5708 of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department
(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 08-03-2020, at E. 46th Street and Indiana Avenue in
(Date) (Address)

Kansas City, Jackson Missouri Michael L. Finnell
(County) (Name of Offender(s))

R/S: B/M DOB: 12-12-1992 committed one or more criminal offense(s).
(Description of Identity)

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 08-03-2020 at 1618 hours, Officers of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department were dispatched to Benton Boulevard and Swope Parkway Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri on a reported injury accident. Upon arrival, they located a silver BMW sedan crashed into a building located at 4926 Swope Parkway. The victim, later identified as Antony Taylor B/M 07-12-1994, was the sole occupant of the vehicle and was seated in the driver's seat. Taylor was later found to have suffered a single gunshot wound. Furthermore, two apparent bullet holes were observed to the exterior of his vehicle, at the rear driver's side door.

Video surveillance footage from the building at 4926 Swope Parkway was obtained and reviewed. The footage shows the victim's vehicle, a silver BMW, traveling at a high rate of speed southbound on Benton Boulevard from the area of the 4600 block of Benton Boulevard. The driver of the vehicle appears to lose control of the vehicle as it crosses Swope Parkway and the vehicle travels across the median and crashes into the building.

On 08-03-2020 at 1622 hours (four minutes after the accident was dispatched), additional officers of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department were dispatched to 46th Street and Benton Boulevard on a reported sound of shots. An investigation at this location revealed multiple spent 10mm shell casings and a component of a handgun (laser sight) lying in the street of the intersection at 46th Street and Indiana Avenue.

Contact was made with the residents at 4604 Benton Boulevard who were inside their home at approximately 1615 hours when they heard gunshots and bullets hitting their residence. They were uninjured. A spent bullet was recovered from the property.

While investigating the crime scene at Swope Parkway, an individual identifying herself as Taylor's sister arrived. She subsequently agreed to respond to Police Headquarters and provide a statement. She stated she last spoke with Taylor on 08-03-2020 at 1606 hours through Facetime. While she was on the Facetime call with

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN KC20051932

Taylor, Taylor stated he was involved in a dispute with someone and that person threatened to kill him and had pulled a gun on him. During the Facetime call, she observed a black male with dreadlocks just past his shoulders wearing a red shirt in the background behind Taylor. It was implied in the call that the black male was the person Taylor was in a dispute with. She also observed a black vehicle which she believed to belong to the individual Taylor was arguing with. As Taylor was speaking, the Facetime call suddenly ended. She attempted to call Taylor back several times but was unable to reach him. Taylor's sister stated it appeared as though Taylor was outside in a residential neighborhood during the Facetime call. Furthermore, she advised Taylor has been in an ongoing dispute with his child's mother over her refusing to let Taylor see their child.

Taylor's child's mother, [REDACTED] B/F 04-05-1993, also arrived on scene and agreed to respond to Police Headquarters and provide a statement. [REDACTED] stated she had no knowledge of the shooting of Taylor. She last saw Taylor on 08-03-2020 at approximately 1100 hours when he came to her residence located at 4430 Indiana. At that time, they made plans to have dinner together later that night. Taylor stated he was going to go pick up their child and come back and pick her up to go to dinner. She last spoke with Taylor on 08-03-2020 at 1530 hours when Taylor called to confirm that they were still going to go to dinner. When asked about any ongoing disputes Taylor was having, she stated she could not think of anything specific. When confronted with statements that she had been involved in a dispute with Taylor over their child, she stated she was keeping their child from Taylor and it has been causing issues. However, they were trying to work those issues out. She stated she was the only one at her residence on the day of the homicide. It should be noted that [REDACTED]'s residence is located at 4430 Indiana which is less than two blocks from the scene of the shooting.

Taylor's cell phone was located inside the silver BMW and subsequently searched. The search revealed that on 08-03-2020, Taylor placed calls to [REDACTED] at 0807 hours, 0844 hours, 1241 hours, 1525 hours, 1531 hours and 1553 hours. There was only one incoming call from [REDACTED] present on Taylor's call log that day which took place at 1305 hours. The search also confirmed Taylor had a Facetime call with his sister at 1606 hours.

Detectives conducted a search of Facebook and located a page for J'Nelle Parker, which bears a name and photographs which are consistent with that of Parker. Parker's public profile was reviewed which revealed photographs of a black male with dreadlocks who is "tagged" as Mike Bechillin. Mike Bechillin's Facebook page was subsequently accessed and photographs confirm this to be the same male as the male in photographs on Parker's Facebook page. The username is displayed as "Mike Bechillin (Michael LilMike Finnell)". A computer search was conducted and detectives located Michael **Finnell** B/M 12-12-1992. The DOR photograph was compared to the Facebook photographs which confirm this to be the same individual (facial features and upper chest tattoo). Attempts to access this page later in the evening on 08-03-2020 or early morning hours of 08-04-2020 were unsuccessful as the page appeared to have been deactivated. Later in the day on 08-04-2020, the page was accessible again and a preservation request was submitted.

Surveillance video from a residence in the 4400 block of Indiana was obtained and revealed three Kansas City ATA buses traveling north and south on Indiana around the time of the shooting (1601 hours, 1611 hours, and 1628 hours). Video from the Kansas City ATA was requested for the aforementioned buses. Video was reviewed and revealed that the bus which travels south at 1611 hours shows a black 4 door sedan facing south with its brake lights on stopped on the west side of the street in front of 4430 Indiana (Parker's residence). An individual can be seen seated in the driver's seat wearing a red or orange shirt. The video also reveals Taylor on

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN KC20051932

foot walking north on Indiana towards the vehicle and the 4430 address on the west side of the street. As Taylor nears the parked vehicle, he appears to take a step backwards. Taylor's vehicle is also in the video and is parked in a driveway at a vacant residence two houses south of 4430 Indiana. The bus continues on and nothing further can be seen. The dark sedan is not at the location when the bus passes at 1601 hours; however, Taylor's vehicle is shown parked in the same place. With this information, the suspect vehicle likely arrived while Taylor is at the location, sometime between 1601 hours after the first bus passes and 1606 hours when the Facetime call between Taylor and his sister took place. From the bus video, the suspect vehicle appeared to be a 2018-2020 model Mazda 6 with tinted windows, darker chrome rims, chrome trim around the side windows, a chrome strip on the trunk area, and unknown license plate. The Mazda symbol is visible as the bus passes by and the model appears to be the larger sedan for that vehicle make. The front of the vehicle is unique in appearance with a notable chrome trim which extends underneath the grill and extends underneath the headlights.

Based on the above information, it is believed that an altercation between the victim and the suspect began in front of 4430 Indiana, the shooting occurred just south of the location at 46th Street and Indiana Avenue and the victim drove his vehicle away from the scene of the shooting and crashed into the building at 4926 Swope Parkway. On 08-11-2020, detectives were notified by the Kansas City Police Crime Laboratory that a bullet recovered from the residence at 4604 Benton near the location where the shooting occurred was fired from the same firearm as the bullet recovered during Taylor's autopsy, and the bullet fragments recovered from his vehicle. Thus, confirming the shooting occurred at the intersection of 46th and Indiana Avenue.

Additional video surveillance was obtained from a residence in the 4500 block of Benton Boulevard. This video is equipped with audio and at approximately 1613 hours, multiple sounds of gun shots can be heard. Several moments later, a dark sedan can be seen traveling north on Benton Boulevard. This vehicle's appearance is consistent with the vehicle which can be seen in the bus video parked in front of Parker's residence prior to the shooting (1611 hours).

Detectives also reviewed video available from cameras placed around the city. Upon viewing the footage from a camera located near 44th and S. Benton (approximately two blocks northwest of the shooting scene), a black Mazda consistent with the suspect vehicle passes by westbound on 44th Street at around 1614 hours towards Prospect Avenue. The intersection of 44th and Prospect is in view from the south facing city camera located at 43rd and Prospect; this camera reveals a black sedan turning from 44th Street southbound onto Prospect at about 1615 hours. The Mazda is subsequently tracked southbound on Prospect through cameras at 45th and Prospect, Emmanuel Cleaver II and Prospect, Swope Parkway and Prospect, 51st and Prospect until it reaches 55th and Prospect around 1618 hours. At 55th and Prospect, the Mazda enters the turn lane with its blinker on to make an eastbound turn onto 55th Street. The Mazda waits at a red light before taking the eastbound turn. A License Plate Reader located at 55th and Prospect revealed the Mazda has a Florida license plate of GHWU68. The vehicle continues eastbound on 55th, passing over 71 highway until it is out of sight.

The Mazda can be seen in the background of captures from other various plates read at 55th and Prospect while it was stopped at the light at the intersection. These captures reveal the driver of the Mazda to be wearing a red shirt.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN KC20051932

A computer check of the Florida license plate GHWU68 confirmed the vehicle to be a 2020 Mazda 6 which was registered to PV Holdings, the rental car corporation for Avis and Budget. Contact was made with security for the rental company which revealed the Mazda was rented on 07-29-2020 and returned to their downtown Kansas City location (3412 Main Street) on 08-04-2020 at 0851 hours, which is the morning after the homicide. The name provided for the rental was listed as Marrion Harding with an address of 3210 Brooklyn, Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri. A computer check of 3210 Brooklyn listed multiple individuals associated to the address. One of these individuals, Sheila Bell, is also associated to 5207 Mersington Avenue Kansas City, MO which, according to computer checks, **Finnell** is also associated to. An additional address associated to **Finnell** is 5443 Jackson Avenue in Kansas City, MO. Both the Jackson address and the Mersington address associated to **Finnell** are in the direction of, and nearby the route the black Mazda 6 was last seen traveling after the homicide (eastbound on 55th Street passing over 71 Highway).

Detectives learned that the rental company maintained GPS coordinates on the aforementioned 2020 Mazda 6. This data also included date, time and miles per hour. A Search Warrant for this information was requested and obtained. After receipt and review of the data, the coordinates provided were mapped and revealed the vehicle in front of 4430 Indiana (Parker's residence) starting at approximately 1602 hours; then again at 1604 hours, 1606 hours, 1608 hours, 1610 hours and 1611 hours. The miles per hour for these time periods are listed as zero. These times align with the Facetime call with the victim's sister as well as the bus video footage. At 1613 hours, the coordinates place the vehicle near 46th and Benton, which is where the shooting occurred and consistent with the time shots are heard. The miles per hour listed at this time is 15. At 1615 hours, the coordinates place the vehicle on Prospect, south of 45th Street continuing south on Prospect until approximately 1619 hours when it is just east of Prospect on 55th Street. These times and locations are consistent with those in which the black sedan is observed on the previously mentioned cameras. At 1625 hours, coordinates place the vehicle just north of the driveway at 5207 Mersington and at 1648 hours, the coordinates place the vehicle in the driveway of 5207 Mersington, which **Finnell** is associated to. The vehicle remains at this location all evening and overnight until GPS begins tracking movement at around 0811 hours. The final destination of the vehicle on that morning is at the car rental company located at 3412 Main Street, which is consistent with the records of the vehicle's return.

A court order for Parker's cellular phone records was obtained by detectives. These records were subsequently received and revealed Parker and **Finnell** communicated multiple times on 08-03-2020. Detectives determined that **Finnell** had two different phone numbers during this time and communicated with Parker utilizing both. Around the time of the homicide, records reveal communication between the two of them took place at 1455 hours and 1534 hours. It appears Parker attempted to call **Finnell** at 1607 hours; however, the call was not completed. Several other calls were observed during the evening as well as a text message sent from Finnell to Parker at 2042 hours. Parker's phone records reveal she did attempt to call the victim hours after the homicide at 1902 hours, though Taylor's call log did not reflect this.

A Search Warrant for Parker's cellular phone was granted and the phone was subsequently submitted to the Regional Computer Forensic Laboratory (RCFL) for extraction and analysis. On 3-12-2020, Parker received a text message from **Finnell** with the following: "U seen my long ass clip for my 10 mm". It should be noted that the firearm caliber used in the homicide was determined to be a 10mm. The data also revealed that the text

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN KC20051932

message from **Finnell** on the day of the homicide at 2042 hours read “I just heard the news man keep yo head up”.

A follow-up interview was conducted with Parker on 09-30-2020. Parker stated she was not home at the time of the homicide and did not know why Taylor or any other person would be at her residence without her being home. Parker was shown a single photograph of **Finnell** and referred to him as her best friend whom she has known for many years. Parker stated that she did not believe **Finnell** would have a reason to harm Taylor. Parker also stated that **Finnell** lives with his girlfriend, Sheila Bell (previously mentioned), off of Swope Parkway and it is not far from her house. Sheila Bell was discovered to be the granddaughter of Marriion Harding (renter of Mazda) through prior police reports. Bell is also in multiple police reports with the address of 5207 Mersington listed as her residence. Parker provided a phone number for **Finnell**, which was already identified as one of **Finnell's** active phone number by detectives. Preliminary mapping of Parker's cell phone records indicate she is likely in the area of her residence at the time Taylor and **Finnell** are outside.

A Search Warrant for **Finnell's** Facebook was subsequently requested and granted. Records reveal **Finnell** searched for “Tony Taylor” (or “tony”) a total of 14 times after the homicide on 08-03-2020 from 1635 hours to 1942 hours. During a review of the messenger data, **Finnell** provided the two phone numbers which are present on Parker's phone records to multiple people as his own. **Finnell** also provided his address several times as 5207 Mersington. On 01-07-2020, **Finnell** has a conversation via Facebook messenger in which a friend is asking him if he has more 10 mm bullets, to which **Finnell** responds “Yea”. In another conversation via messenger, **Finnell** sends a photograph to a friend of a black Glock handgun with an extended magazine. In the conversation, the friend asks if “that's the 29”. **Finnell** confirms that it is a 29 and that it holds 33 rounds. It should be noted that a Glock 29 is a 10 millimeter firearm. On the day of the homicide at 1638 hours, **Finnell** sends a Facebook message to a friend stating “Ya boy got a mouth on em” the two converse without mentioning names and plan to meet up with one another later. At 1721 hours, **Finnell** sends a message indicating that he has arrived to the friend's location and is outside. At 2000 hours, the same Facebook friend informs **Finnell** that “Dude jus died” and sends a link to a news story depicting Taylor's vehicle wrecked at the crime scene.

Facebook data also revealed that **Finnell** made a post on the day of the homicide at 1525 hours stating “Rotel fries for lunch”. Parker commented on this post with “Just put my order in lol.. You should pick em both up at the same time”. **Finnell** responds with “I got u”. Through context of other Facebook conversations, it is apparent that **Finnell's** mother has a business in which she prepares daily food specials for purchase. **Finnell's** mother was found to have a personal Facebook account of “Kaleiki Kahue” and a business account of “Kaleiki'z Kitchen”. A photograph of the aforementioned rotel fries (daily special) was sent to **Finnell** on 08-03-2020 from the Kaleiki Kahue account.

A Search Warrant for Parker's Facebook page had also been requested and granted. After observing the communication on **Finnell's** page, Parker's Facebook data was then referenced and the same image of the fries was also sent to Parker via messenger on 08-03-2020 at 1517 hours from Kaleiki Kahue. Parker proceeds to place her order for the fries via messenger and at 1534 hours, indicates she is on her way. A call is then placed to **Finnell** at 1534 hours from Parker for a duration of 56 seconds. This suggests to detectives that **Finnell** planned to pick up Parker's food and bring it to her; which provides a reason for **Finnell** being at her house at the time of the homicide.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN KC20051932

Court orders for both of **Finnell's** phone numbers were requested and granted. The records reveal the phone number Marrion Harding provided to Avis Rental was present on both sets of records. Multiple text messages between **Finnell** and a number identified as belonging to his mother are present on the day of the homicide between 1523 and 1553 hours. Both sets of phone records were submitted to the FBI Cellular Analysis Survey Team (CAST) for mapping. Results indicated that only one of the numbers associated to **Finnell** had activity around the time of the homicide which was able to be mapped. Analysis revealed that on 08-03-2020 at 16:15:42 hours, there was a cell site connection to the tower in the coverage area in which the Mazda 6 is traveling south on Prospect after the homicide. The time and location of the cell site connection is consistent with the GPS data and city camera times documented for the Mazda. Four more cell site connections between 16:21:17 and 16:31:05 were identified to the tower in the coverage area in which the Mazda 6 traveled east on 55th street and out of view of cameras. The time and location of these cell data connections are consistent with the GPS data documented for the Mazda and is in the coverage area of 5207 Mersington Avenue (Finnell's residence).

On 09-07-2020, a Kansas City Crime Laboratory Report was generated which indicated that genetic information was developed from a swab taken of the firearm component (laser sight) recovered from the crime scene. The swab was matched through CODIS to Michael **Finnell** (one of four contributors).

On 04-07-2021, Kansas City Missouri Police Officers made contact with **Finnell** during a traffic stop. **Finnell** was then taken into custody and placed on an investigative hold. **Finnell** was transported to Police Headquarters, advised of his Miranda rights and requested a lawyer.

Printed Name Detective Angelina Sanchez #5708 Signature /s/ Detective Angelina Sanchez #5708

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

Judge

Circuit Court of _____ County, State of Missouri.