

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

<b>POLICE NO. :</b>	KC21066630
<b>PROSECUTOR NO. :</b>	095466611
<b>OCN:</b>	

<b>STATE OF MISSOURI,</b>	)	
	)	<b>PLAINTIFF,</b>
<b>vs.</b>	)	
	)	
<b>JOSHUA A. BELL</b>	)	
<b>5531 Tracy Ave.</b>	)	<b>CASE NO. 2216-CR</b>
<b>Kansas City, MO 64110</b>	)	<b>DIVISION</b>
<b>DOB: 01/12/2001</b>	)	
<b>Race/Sex: B/M</b>	)	
	)	
	)	<b>DEFENDANT.</b>

**COMPLAINT**  
**WARRANT REQUESTED**

**Count I. Accessory Murder 2nd Degree (565.021-001Y20200903.2)**

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 October 2, 2021, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant, either acting alone or purposefully in concert with another, knowingly or with the purpose of causing serious physical injury to Devon Key caused the death of Devon Key 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 Devon Key as a result of the perpetration of the class B felony of unlawful use of a weapon under Section 571.030, 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.

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**Count II. Armed Criminal Action (571.015-001Y20205213.0)**

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 October 2, 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 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 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. The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015.2, RSMo. as a second offense is imprisonment by the department of corrections for a term of not less than five years and not to exceed thirty years, unless the person is unlawfully possessing a firearm, in which case the term of imprisonment shall be for a term not less than fifteen 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 five calendar years. The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015.3, 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.

**Count III. Accessory Murder 2nd Degree (565.021-001Y20200903.2)**

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 October 2, 2021, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant either acting alone or purposefully in concert with another, knowingly or with the purpose of causing serious physical injury to Johnnai Owens caused the death of Johnnai Owens by shooting her, 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 Johnnai Owens as a result of the perpetration of the class B felony of unlawful use of a weapon under Section 571.030, 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.

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**Count IV. Armed Criminal Action (571.015-001Y20205213.0)**

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 October 2, 2021, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant committed the felony of murder in the second degree charged in Count III, 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 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 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. The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015.2, RSMo. as a second offense is imprisonment by the department of corrections for a term of not less than five years and not to exceed thirty years, unless the person is unlawfully possessing a firearm, in which case the term of imprisonment shall be for a term not less than fifteen 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 five calendar years. The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015.3, 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.

**Count V. Accessory Murder 2nd Degree (565.021-001Y20200903.2)**

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 October 2, 2021, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant, either acting alone or purposefully in concert with another, knowingly or with the purpose of causing serious physical injury to Kanen X. Wheaton caused the death of Kanen X. Wheaton 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 Kanen X. Wheaton as a result of the perpetration of the class B felony of unlawful use of a weapon under Section 571-030, 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.

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**Count VI. Armed Criminal Action (571.015-001Y20205213.0)**

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 October 2, 2021, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant committed the felony of murder in the second degree charged in Count V, 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 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 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. The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015.2, RSMo. as a second offense is imprisonment by the department of corrections for a term of not less than five years and not to exceed thirty years, unless the person is unlawfully possessing a firearm, in which case the term of imprisonment shall be for a term not less than fifteen 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 five calendar years. The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015.3, 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.

**Count VII. Unlawful Use Of Weapon - Subsection 9 - Shoot At/From Motor Vehicle, At Person, Motor Vehicle Or Building (571.030-020Y20205213.0)**

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, upon information and belief, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 571.030, RSMo, committed the **class B felony of unlawful use of a weapon**, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.011 and 571.030.9, RSMo, in that on or about October 2, 2021, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant, knowingly shot a firearm from a black Chevrolet Traverse, a motor vehicle.

The range of punishment for a class B felony is imprisonment in the custody of the Missouri Department of Corrections for a term of years not less than five (5) years and not to exceed fifteen (15) years.

**Count VIII. Armed Criminal Action (571.015-001Y20205213.0)**

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 October 2, 2021, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant committed the felony of unlawful use of a weapon charged in Count VII, all allegations of which are incorporated herein by reference, and the defendant

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committed the foregoing felony of unlawful use of a weapon by, with and through, the knowing use, assistance and aid of a 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 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. The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015.2, RSMo. as a second offense is imprisonment by the department of corrections for a term of not less than five years and not to exceed thirty years, unless the person is unlawfully possessing a firearm, in which case the term of imprisonment shall be for a term not less than fifteen 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 five calendar years. The range of punishment for the offense of Armed Criminal Action in violation of section 571.015.3, 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.

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/ Paul M. Conklin III*  
Paul M. Conklin III (#66958)  
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney  
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11th Floor  
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**WITNESSES:**

1. DET Scott M. Emery, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
2. CST Kellie Green, 2645 Brooklyn Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64127
3. DET Hobart D. Price, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
4. ██████████ Atty. Office, 415 E 12th St, Floor 11, Kansas City, MO 64106
5. CST Benjamin Simmons, 2645 Brooklyn Ave., Kansas City, MO 64127
6. DET Bradley N. Thomas, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
7. DET Daniel G Thomas, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106
8. PO Adison D. Waterman, 1125 Locust, Kansas City, MO 64106

**PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM**

Date: 2/25/2022

CRN: 21066630

I, Detective Scott Emery #4161  
(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 10-02-2021, at 2739 Spruce in  
(Date) (Address)

Kansas City, Jackson Missouri Joshua Bell  
(County) (Name of Offender(s))

B/M, 01/12/2001 committed one or more criminal offense(s).  
(Description of Identity)

Murder, ACA, FIP

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 10-02-2021 at 1551 hours, Officers from the Kansas City Missouri Police Department were dispatched to 27th/Spruce in regard to a sound of shots call. Upon arrival three Deceased victims were located in front of 2739 Spruce Ave., Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri.

Witnesses stated just prior to the shooting they observed a black SUV pull up and the occupants of the SUV opened fire on the victims who were outside 2739 Spruce. One black male suspect exited the suspect vehicle to fire at the victims. Spent handgun shell casings and spent rifle shell casings were located in the street.

The Jackson County Medical Examiner’s Office conducted autopsies of the three Victims and advised they would be ruling all the deaths murders.

Surveillance video was obtained in the area and the black SUV believed to have been driven by the suspects was determined to be a black Chevrolet Traverse with a Missouri License plate of GG6K1D. A camera captured the black Chevrolet Traverse turning around near the Blue Valley Townhomes on 23rd Street. In the surveillance video the passenger is seen to be a black male with braids over his face. The driver is a black male with a hooded sweatshirt covering his hair. A search of the license plate revealed a license plate reader hit at 55/Prospect on 09/30/2021. A review of city cameras showed the black Chevrolet Traverse drove to the Family Dollar at 5440 Prospect Ave., Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri (39.02742, -94.55544) on 09/30/2021 at 11:53a.m. Surveillance video at the Family Dollar showed the driver of the black Chevrolet Traverse to be similar in appearance to the occupants who were driving the black Chevrolet Traverse on the day of the homicide.

The black Chevrolet Traverse was observed parked in the rear driveway of 5525 Lydia on 10-05-2021. Surveillance was conducted and at approximately 1250 hours, detectives observed Baker exit the rear door of the residence and approach the driver’s door of a *black 2014 Chevrolet Traverse bearing Missouri license GG6 K1D (VIN:*

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1GNKRGKD5EJ153117), which was parked in the rear driveway. At that time, Officers conducted a car check and took BAKER into custody without incident. It should be noted BAKER was carrying the keys to the vehicle at the time he was contacted.

Baker was interviewed after being advised of his Miranda rights. Baker initially denied any involvement in the murders. He viewed a still photograph of the Chevrolet Traverse from the surveillance footage from Blue Valley Park just minutes prior to the murders. He identified himself as the vehicles driver. Baker began by admitting to driving the vehicle but denied shooting. He stated the other suspects wanted him to drive because he had a "clean car" and the Police wouldn't stop him. Later he admitted to shooting but stated he fired at the legs of the victims. He told detectives he was under threat of being shot during the murders by one of the co-conspirators. It was later determined the co-conspirator Baker advised had a gun to his head was actually in custody in the Wyandotte County Jail. Baker was interviewed again and confronted with the fact that the person he provided to Police was in custody. Baker ultimately identified Joshua Bell, [REDACTED] as the co-conspirators involved in the murder.

A search warrant was obtained for Bakers phone and showed the following messages between Joshua Bell and Lucas Baker.

I observed the following message from 816-330-1533 (Joshua Bell) to 816-721-5933 (Lucas Baker) on 10/02/2021.

From Joshua Bell to Lucas Baker on 10/02/2021 at 04:58:56am: It's unconditional wit you on my kids i love you to death big brotha!!❤️

From Lucas Baker to Joshua Bell on 10/02/2021 at 06:28:53am: I dozed off but it's unconditional with you too lil brother

From Joshua Bell to Lucas Baker on 10/02/2021 at 01:23:49pm: U up?

From Lucas Baker to Joshua Bell on 10/02/2021 at 01:25:04pm: Yea

From Joshua Bell to Lucas Baker on 10/02/2021 at 01:25:25pm: Lets slide to sports so i can take sum bullets

From Lucas Baker to Joshua Bell on 10/02/2021 at 01:29:51pm: Here I come

From Joshua Bell to Lucas Baker on 10/02/2021 at 01:30:23pm: Hold on lemme get up n dressrd

From Lucas Baker to Joshua Bell on 10/02/2021 at 01:30:29pm: Ok

From Joshua Bell to Lucas Baker on 10/02/2021 at 01:30:30pm: Gimme like 20

From Lucas Baker to Joshua Bell on 10/02/2021 at 01:30:35: Bet

A search warrant was obtained for Joshua Bell's cell phone. In the phone a video was located with a date and time of October 2, 2021 at 02:30pm where the passenger in a Chevrolet Traverse is recording a video. The video shows the street sign at 34/ Bales. The phone then pans inside the vehicle and the interior is recognizable as a Chevrolet Traverse with wood grain trim. A Core water bottle is seen in the cup holder of the Chevrolet Traverse. The black Chevrolet Traverse that was towed from 5525 Lydia and belonging to Lucas Baker had a Core water bottle in the center console and has wood grain trim and is still in custody at the Kansas City Missouri Tow Lot. The video shows the front passenger in the Chevrolet Traverse also shows a green and black AR-15 style rifle with a scope on it. While Detective interviewed Joshua Bell they observe him to have tattoos of dice on his left forearm. The person holding the rifle can be seen with the same tattoos of the left forearm. An iPhone with a grey and white case is seen laying on the center console which appears to be the same as the iPhone that belongs to Lucas Baker. The driver can be seen with what appears to be a tan and black gun tucked under his right leg between the driver's leg and driver's seat. A picture in Lucas Baker's phone showed a gun with a tan grip and black slide.

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On 10/08/2021 Joshua Bell was interviewed at Metro Patrol Station. Bell was read Miranda and then denied any involvement in the murder advising he was at home all day on a COVID related quarantine. Later Bell admitted to leaving and going to Academy Sports where he participated in stealing .380 caliber bullets from the Academy Sports but denied involvement in the murder.

Detectives confronted Bell regarding the photographs and videos located on his phone. Bell began to sob, complaining their going to kill me. Bell advised the detectives he acquired the ammunition (.380) and then was picked up by Baker and a second male, whom he didn't know. They went to the area of 34<sup>th</sup> and Bales in the Chevrolet Traverse of Baker's and Baker told him to make a video of the block with the long gun in the video. They drove to "D's" house and picked him up and returned to 34<sup>th</sup> and Bales. Bell advised the other occupants began talking about shooting someone and Bell demanded to be returned home. He advised when back at his house Baker took off with his phone and backpack still in the car. Detectives asked him if he had actually witnessed the murders he adamantly denied it.

It should be noted .380 spent shell casings were recovered from the scene of the Homicide at 2739 Spruce Ave.

Printed Name Det. Scott Emery #4161 Signature /S/Det. Scott Emery #4161

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge

Circuit Court of \_\_\_\_\_ County, State of Missouri.