

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

POLICE NO. :	KC24008638
PROSECUTOR NO. :	095477824
OCN:	HU019170

STATE OF MISSOURI,)
)
 PLAINTIFF,)
)
 vs.)
)
)
 MARIAH THOMAS)
)
 4105 FOREST AVE) CASE NO. 2416-CR
)
 KANSAS CITY, MO 64110) DIVISION
)
 DOB: [REDACTED])
)
 Race/Sex: B/F)
)
 S.S.N.: [REDACTED])
)
 DEFENDANT.)

COMPLAINT
WARRANT REQUESTED

Count I. Endangering The Welfare Of A Child - 1st Degree - Death Of Child - No Sexual Conduct (568.045-017Y20203802.0)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, upon information and belief, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 568.045, RSMo, committed the class A felony of endangering the welfare of a child in the first degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections (558.011) (558.002 and 558.011), RSMo, in that on or about February 9, 2024, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly acted in a manner that created a substantial risk to the life, body and health of [REDACTED], a child less than seventeen years of age, by placing her in an oven and this offense resulted in death to the child.

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.

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

State vs. MARIAH THOMAS, Case No.

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
dportnoy@jacksongov.org

WITNESSES:

The State's witnesses as of 2/10/2024 are included on the "State's Witness List" filed contemporaneously with this Complaint.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

Date: 02/09/2024

CRN: KC24008638

I, Detective Kenneth Lightner #5758, Kansas City Missouri Police Department, Homicide Unit
(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 02/09/2024, at [REDACTED] in
(Date) (Address)

Kansas City, Jackson Missouri Mariah K. Thomas
(County) (Name of Offender(s))

B/F committed one or more criminal offense(s).
(Description of Identity)

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 02-09-2024, at 1324 hours, officers from the Kansas City Missouri Police Department were dispatched to [REDACTED], on a reported non-breathing infant. Officers contacted the calling party, [REDACTED], who was observed holding the victim (a one-month old child). Officers observed apparent burn wounds to the victim's body. The Kansas City Fire Department (KCFD) responded and declared the victim deceased on scene.

Briefing officers advised detectives that KCFD heard [REDACTED] state the mother of the child ([REDACTED]) went to put the child down for a nap and accidentally placed her in the oven instead of the crib.

Detectives contacted [REDACTED] who agreed to provide a statement and was transported to police headquarters. [REDACTED] was escorted to a 7th floor interview room where he gave the following account: On 02-09-2024, at 0600 hours, [REDACTED] and his wife [REDACTED] woke up to start their day. Their daughter [REDACTED] and granddaughter [REDACTED] were also awake and all reside at [REDACTED], Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri together.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] left the house just prior to 0800 hours. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] remained at the residence and both appeared to be in good spirits. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] caught the city bus at 41st Street and Troost Avenue and took it to a stop near 75th Street. [REDACTED] walked [REDACTED] to work (Day Care) and then took a bus into the downtown area to search for a job. At approximately 1300 hours, [REDACTED] called [REDACTED] on his cell phone which she does every day around lunch time.

However, [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] something was wrong with the baby and he needed to return home immediately. Upon arriving home, he ran inside the house. [REDACTED] could smell smoke inside the house and found [REDACTED] inside her crib deceased.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

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█████ picked up the baby and asked █████ what happened to which she replied, "I thought I put █████ in her crib and I accidentally put her in the oven". █████ called 911 and handed the baby over to responding KCFD personnel upon their arrival. █████ remained in the house and did not say anything else.

Detectives then contacted █████ who was also transported to police headquarters. █████ was escorted to a 7th floor interview room where she gave the following account: On 02-09-2024, █████ and █████ woke up around 0600 hours to get ready to take the bus to work. █████ daughter █████ and granddaughter █████ were also awake. █████ and █████ left their house █████ at 0750 hours. When they left the house both █████ and the baby had gone back to sleep.

At approximately 1300 hours, █████ received a phone call from █████ who sounded hysterical on the line. █████ told █████ she put █████ in the oven instead of the crib. █████ told █████ to call 911 but she continued to yell hysterically on the phone. █████ then called █████ and told him to return home immediately because something was wrong with the baby.

█████ left work after hanging up the phone with █████ and took the bus home where she was met by police.

█████ was taken into custody and transported to police headquarters for questioning. A blue Apple I-Phone belonging to █████ was seized by detectives at police headquarters and recovered.

Detectives contacted █████ in a 7th floor interview room where she was advised of her Miranda rights. █████ invoked her right not to speak and the interview was concluded. However, █████ agreed to sign consent to searches for detectives to obtain a blood draw and access her phone data.

Detectives obtained and executed a search warrant for █████ to process the crime scene. Crime scene personnel responded and processed the scene.

The following was observed inside of the residence: The victim was located in the living room lying in a car seat just inside of the front door. The victim had sustained apparent thermal injuries on various parts of her body. She was clothed in a bodysuit over a diaper. The clothing appeared to have melted onto the diaper, and it was very dirty, possibly burned on the backside. A baby blanket with significant burn marks was located in the living room and was collected. A pack and play containing baby blankets was found in the living room next to a couch as well.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

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Printed Name Detective Kenneth Lightner #5758 Signature /s/ Detective Kenneth Lightner #5758

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

Judge

Circuit Court of _____ County, State of Missouri.