

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

Date: 04/01/2025

CRN: KC25019319

I, Detective Patrick Riley, #5769 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 03/31/2025, at 3025 Mersington Avenue in
(Date) (Address)

Kansas City, Jackson Missouri Leon J. Reese
(County) (Name of Offender(s))

black male, [REDACTED] committed one or more criminal offense(s).
(Description of Identity)

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 03/31/2025, at 2305 hours, Officers of the Kansas City (Missouri) Police Department were dispatched to [REDACTED] (located in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri) on a reported KCFD Incident. Upon arrival, Officers located Kansas City Fire Department's personnel (from Pumper 18) rendering aid to an unresponsive black male lying in the middle of Mersington Avenue. Officers approached and noticed the male victim to have apparent stab wounds to his stomach and abdomen. The victim was declared deceased at 2313 hours.

Officers conducted an area canvass and located the calling party who agreed to provide his statement. The calling party stated while occupying his vehicle with a friend, he turned north onto Mersington Avenue and quickly observed someone lying in the middle of the road. To avoid running over the individual, the calling party stopped and approached the individual blocking the roadway. As the calling party got closer to the individual in the roadway, he recognized the male as "Eric" and attempted to help him up but the victim was unresponsive. Believing the victim overdosed on an unknown substance, the calling party administered Narcan which yielded negative results, at which time he phoned police. While waiting for Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the calling party stated he began applying chest compressions on the victim until EMS arrived on scene. Officers contacted the friend (of the calling party) whose statement was consistent with the calling party's.

Moments later, Officers on scene were contacted by a female witness advising she observed the incident as it occurred. Detectives responded to the scene and located the female witness. She agreed to provide a formal statement. [REDACTED] stated she saw the suspect, victim, and a third party hanging out in the area of 31st and Mersington the night of the incident. The victim and suspect became involved in a verbal altercation which escalated as the suspect continued approaching the victim with a knife. The victim threw a rock at the suspect to defend himself; at which point, the suspect swung the knife. She heard the victim say, "Damn, you got me!" before running away into a nearby field. The suspect chased the victim back onto the street a couple of times before becoming obscured from view.

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██████ knew the suspect to be called “Bogie” and provided a physical and clothing description, stating she could identify him if shown a picture.

On 04/01/2025 at 1305 hours, detectives were on scene at 31st and Mersington attempting to collect surveillance video of the incident, when they observed a person matching the description of the suspect which was observed on surveillance as a bald headed, black male, with a navy-blue jacket with a white insignia on the right rear shoulder, blue jeans and gray shoes. Detectives approached the suspect, later determined to be Leon J. Reese BM ██████, who was standing over the witness ██████ armed with a knife. Detectives gave verbal commands to drop the weapon and Reese threw the knife in the direction of detectives. Detectives were then able to take Reese into custody without further incident. The knife that Reese was in possession with was recovered by the arresting detectives to the 7th floor property bin. Reese was placed on an investigative hold and transported to Police Headquarters for questioning. The knife was recovered at the scene.

On 04/01/2025, ██████ was contacted a second time and provided another interview in which she stated she was sitting near the intersection of 31st & Mersington. She saw “Bogie”, the suspect, standing across the street from her. The suspect approached her and reminded her that only a couple of people knew what happened the previous night. He told ██████ that if she repeated anything she heard the night before, he would kill her. ██████ stated that officers saved her life because she didn’t know he had knife. She stated that the person who had been arrested talking to her just prior to her second interview was “Bogie”, the person who had stabbed and killed the victim the night before. She was then shown a picture of the suspect, whom she identified as “Bogie”.

On 04/01/2025, detectives obtained a statement from the suspect, Leon Reese. Reese stated he was on “the block” last night (03/31/2025), when the victim was stabbed. Reese stated he witnessed the incident, did not stab the victim, and would not “snitch” on the person that stabbed the victim. Reese was asked about the events of the night without giving information of individuals there, he refused to say what had happened and would not “snitch”. Reese had nothing of relevance to add to this investigation at the time of his interview. The interview was terminated and he was transported to the Kansas City Police Department Metro Patrol Station Detention.

A preliminary examination of ██████ was conducted by the Jackson County Medical Examiner’s office. The official report has not been submitted to this detective at the time of this report. However, this detective observed the following defects on the body of the deceased. One defect to the center of the chest plate area, one defect to the left side of the deceased’s torso and a defect to the forehead of the deceased.

Printed Name Detective Patrick Riley, #5769 Signature /s/Detective Patrick Riley, #5769

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

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Judge

Circuit Court of _____ County, State of Missouri.