

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

POLICE NO. :	KC23077650
PROSECUTOR NO. :	095481854
OCN:	

STATE OF MISSOURI,	)	
	)	
PLAINTIFF,	)	
vs.	)	
	)	
MONTELL ESSEX-BENJAMIN	)	
AKA MONTELL ESSEX-BENJAMN		
1448 E 66TH TER	)	CASE NO. 2516-CR
Kansas City, MO 64131	)	DIVISION
DOB: [REDACTED]	)	
Race/Sex: B/M	)	
S.S.N.: [REDACTED]	)	
DEFENDANT.	)	

COMPLAINT
WARRANT REQUESTED

Count I. Murder 2nd Degree (565.021-001Y20200903.0)

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 November 13, 2023, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant, acting alone or purposefully in concert with another, and with the purpose of causing death or serious physical injury to [REDACTED] caused the death of [REDACTED] by shooting 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 (571.015-001Y20205299.)

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 November 13, 2023, in the County of Jackson, State of Missouri, the defendant, acting alone or purposefully in concert with another, committed the felony of Murder in the Second Degree, as charged in Count 1, all allegations of which are incorporated here 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.

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.

MELESA N. JOHNSON
Prosecuting Attorney
Jackson County, Missouri
by,

/s/ P. Benjamin Cox
P. Benjamin Cox (#60757)
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
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WITNESSES:

The State's witnesses as of 6/25/2025 are included on the "State's Witness List" filed contemporaneously with this Complaint.

