

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

Date: 08/18/2025

FILED

CRN: KC25043899
DIVISION 9

20-Aug-2025 12:06

CIRCUIT COURT OF JACKSON COUNTY, MO

BY: [Signature] DCAI, Detective Bradley Bailey #5543; Gang Squad; 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 08/12/2025, at [Redacted] in
(Date) (Address)Kansas City, Jackson Missouri Eduardo Hernandez
(County) (Name of Offender(s))H/M, [Redacted] committed one or more criminal offense(s).
(Description of Identity)

The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

From the evening hours of 07/12/2025 to the early morning hours of 07/13/2025, three (3) separate shooting incidents occurred within the [Redacted] Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri (KC25043899, KC25043968, and KC25043993). These incidents appeared to target two separate residences, but resulted in a total of five (5) residences being struck by gunfire, four of which were occupied. Four unoccupied vehicles were also damaged by gunfire.

During the subsequent investigation, detectives identified the suspect vehicle, along with its occupants, identified as [Redacted], all of whom are members or associates of the 18th Street gang in Kansas City Missouri. Detectives determined these shootings to be gang-related, and their possible motive to be the targeting of the initial victim's son, who was friends with a deceased individual regularly disrespected on social media by [Redacted].

On 08/12/2025, [Redacted] were arrested by KCPD officers and detectives regarding these cases. Both had also been developed as suspects in a separate shooting incident that occurred on 07/16/2025 at [Redacted] (KC25044954). In that investigation, detectives identified the suspect vehicle and its driver, 18th Street gang member [Redacted], who was also arrested on 08/12/2025. At the time of [Redacted] arrest, Eduardo Hernandez, who is also a member of the gang, had accompanied him in a vehicle, along with two other persons. A Glock model 20, 10mm handgun displaying serial number [Redacted] was located in the back seat of the vehicle where Hernandez and another male had been seated. Possession of the firearm could not be determined and it was recovered as evidence. Hernandez and the other two detained occupants of the vehicle were released at the scene.

Later that evening, I discovered publicly visible postings which had been made to Hernandez's known Instagram account [Redacted] following the arrests of [Redacted]; as well as the detention of Hernandez. The postings featured a video segment

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN KC25043899

which depicted a bottled drink lying on the ground which is next to a rifle magazine consistent with an AK-style weapon. A firearm could not be seen in the video due to the angle of the camera. User-applied text over this video segment read *"FreeDaReal"*, a commonly used reference to freeing individuals from custody, along with several associated emoji icons. A second video segment depicted the arrest events of [REDACTED] by KCPD officers in which Hernandez can be seen detained at the scene. User-applied text over this video segment read *"FreeDaGuyz Well be right back stepping on u (rat emoji icon) ass ops"*. The context of the term *"stepping"* relates to the act of challenging someone or instigating conflict. The term *"rat"*, and in this case, the use of a rat emoji icon, are commonly used to reference an individual who is believed to be a police informant; or one who provides information and/or support to law enforcement. The term *"ops"* is abbreviated slang for the word *"opposition"*, and is commonly used by gang-affiliated persons when referring to individuals or groups with whom they are rivals with. A third video segment in this series of postings depicted Hernandez smoking what appeared to be a marijuana blunt. User-applied text over the video read *"Blessed but it's still free tha Guyz we be right back ain't shit but some (hourglass emoji icon)"*. Lastly, a posting depicting the booking photographs of [REDACTED] was shared along with user-applied text that read *"Death to all rats! (emoji icons of a rat and a red prohibition sign) Free my killas fk da sev7 n da East they know who terrorized em"*. I preserved the content by making a screen recording of the postings due to their anticipated timed removal within the Instagram application.

On 08/13/2025, I was contacted by the initial victim in the cases from 07/12/2025 and 07/13/2025, who reported his son had been sent the same Instagram posting by a friend of his. That posting had also been shared on the night of 07/12/2025 by a separate account, which I knew to belong to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is also a member of the 18th Street gang. The victim expressed concern about the post due to the possibility of the suspects' associates retaliating against his family.

During the evening hours of 08/14/2025, I discovered another publicly visible posting to Hernandez's Instagram account, which referenced these cases. The posting featured a screenshot of the publicly available and redacted probable cause statement for [REDACTED]. A section of the document detailing information provided from the victims and witnesses was circled in red to highlight its information. User-applied text over the screenshot read *"7Sev boys & da east Telling these the niggas yall be around?? Death to all rats (two mouse emoji icons)"*. Additional user-applied text on the screenshot read *"I dare someone tweak out about ts ima keep on posting paperwork & I won't forget the East either (rat emoji icon) can't take the heat get up out the Streets (face across face emoji icon)"*. At the top of the screenshot, Hernandez tagged four apparent Instagram accounts; [REDACTED]. I preserved the posting by making a screenshot due to its anticipated timed removal within the Instagram application.

On 08/15/2025, I contacted the initial victim in regard to the discovery of these postings. He inquired whether his son has an Instagram account, and if so, what his vanity name is. He advised the [REDACTED] account is that of his son, who was not familiar with the other account names.

Through my experience investigating gang-related activity, I deemed these social media postings to be an act of intimidation, directed toward the victims and witnesses in this case. Gang members and other persons involved in criminal activity often share information obtained from court documents to their social media accounts to disrespect rivals and show support to their charged or incarcerated members. The *"tagging"* or linking of

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

CRN KC25043899

accounts to postings of this nature is solely intended to disrespect or intimidate victims, witnesses, and/or co-defendants due to their participation in an investigation and/or cooperation with law enforcement. In this instance, the "tagging" or linking of the referenced Instagram profiles, is intended to draw the attention of the user to the posting, which clearly threatens harm or death to the involved persons in this case, all of whom reside in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri.

Hernandez currently is on pre-trial release in Jackson County Missouri on case 2416-CR02820-01, where he has been charged with one count of Trafficking Drugs in the 2nd Degree. As part of his pre-trial release, he has been placed on supervision and electronic monitoring via an ankle monitor through Northland Dependency Services. I made contact with a supervising officer for the agency, who was able to report that in the evening hours of 08/12/2025, Hernandez was in Jackson County Missouri but later travelled to a location in Kansas City, Wyandotte County, Kansas. Additionally, he was able to report that on the evening and nighttime hours of 08/14/2025 into early 08/15/2025, Hernandez's location was stationary at a location within Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri. This information indicates that Hernandez was likely within Jackson County Missouri when he shared the aforementioned threatening or intimidating postings to his Instagram account. As noted, the victims and witnesses in this case all reside in Kansas City, Jackson County Missouri

I am requesting a warrant for Hernandez due to his attempted intimidation and threatening of the victims and/or witnesses in this case through his social media postings. As previously mentioned, Hernandez is a known and admitted member of the 18th Street gang in Kansas City Missouri, whose members regularly engage in violence, intimidation, and drug trafficking across the city. This case involves a series of gang-related, targeted shootings and whether acted upon by Hernandez, his threats and social media postings can lead others to commit retaliatory acts of violence which may affect the outcome of this case.

Due to the above factors and information, I am requesting an appropriate bond which will ensure the future safety of the victims and witnesses in this case, as well as the community at-large.

Printed Name Det. Bradley Bailey #5543 Signature /S/ Det. Bradley Bailey #5543

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

Judge

Circuit Court of _____ County, State of Missouri.