

Redacted Copy

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BENTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS

STATE OF ARKANSAS

PLAINTIFF

VS:

ZACHARY DWAYNE HOLLY

W/M; DOB: 10-08-1984

AR ID # 909438441

DEFENDANT

BRIDA DESHIELDS
CLERK AND RECORDER
BENTON COUNTY, AR

2012 NOV 28 PM 2:49

FILED

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Comes now Detective Sergeant Kris Moffit of the Bentonville Police Department,

Criminal Investigations Division and under oath doth state:

The records of the Bentonville Police Department reflect that on Tuesday, November 20, 2012, at approximately 0643 hours, officers responded to 608 SE 'A' Street in Bentonville in reference to a missing six year old child. Upon arrival, officers made contact with the child's mother, DesaRae Bridgeman. DesaRae stated her daughter, Jersey Bridgeman, had been at her next-door neighbor, Amanda Holly's house, 702 SE 'A' Street, last night (Monday, November 19, 2012) while she was at work. Amanda Holly and Amanda's husband Zachary Holly would often babysit Jersey and Jersey's younger sister when DesaRae and her boyfriend were at work. When DesaRae returned from work at approximately 2300 hours on November 19, 2012, she went to Amanda and Zachary's house and visited with them for a short time. Afterwards, Zachary Holly carried Jersey home to DesaRae's house, while DesaRae carried Jersey's younger sister, and they placed the two children into the same bed. When DesaRae woke on Tuesday morning, shortly after 0630 hours, she discovered Jersey was missing from the bed. Jersey's two year old sister was still sleeping in the bed they shared.

Officers searched DesaRae's house and Amanda and Zach's house without locating Jersey. While searching the immediate area, Officer Travis Nichols noticed the back door to 704 SE 'A' Street was open. Officer Nichols and Officer Mike Henson walked to this open door and looked inside. The residence appeared to be a vacant house with a few items of trash on the floor, but no furniture or signs of anyone living there. The officers entered this residence and began looking for Jersey.

While looking for Jersey, they looked in the bedroom closet in the southwest corner of the house and saw a small white female lying dead on the floor. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Shortly thereafter, all personnel exited the residence and secured it for a search warrant. It was determined that 704 SE 'A' Street was in fact a vacant house.

While waiting for the search warrant, Detective Corporal JC Wiseman interviewed DesaRae and learned that when she woke this morning at approximately 0638 hours, she went into Jersey's bedroom, but Jersey was not in bed. She checked the kitchen and Jersey was not there either. DesaRae then contacted her neighbors, Amanda and Zachary Holly, at 702 SE 'A' Street and asked for help locating Jersey. DesaRae then called 9-1-1 to report Jersey as missing.

Also while waiting for the search warrant on Tuesday morning, Detective Corporal Mike Stegall interviewed Zachary Holly. During that interview, Zachary said he woke early Tuesday morning at 0335 hours with an upset stomach. He decided to walk the short distance from his house to the EZ Mart located at SW 8th & SW 'A' Street, to get some medicine for his stomach. He told Detective Stegall he returned at 0338 hours and went back to sleep. Detectives obtained video from the EZ-Mart and sales tape. The

video showed Zachary Holly inside the store making a purchase of medicine at approximately the time he provided. It was also confirmed that DesaRae Bridgeman's live-in boyfriend, Brandon Crouch, worked the overnight shift from Monday evening to Tuesday morning at the same EZ-Mart.

Later that morning on Tuesday, November 20, 2012, detectives from the Bentonville Police Department executed a search warrant at 704 SE 'A' Street in Bentonville. During that search, detectives recovered several items along with Jersey's body. Her body was sent to the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory later that day where forensic examiners immediately began their investigation. An autopsy was performed on Wednesday morning, November 21, 2012.

Detectives executed two more search warrants on Tuesday, November 20, 2012. One search warrant was executed on DesaRae's residence at 608 SE 'A' Street in Bentonville and another on Zachary and Amanda Holly's residence at 702 SE 'A' Street in Bentonville.

Later in the day on Tuesday, November 20, 2012, Detective Wiseman and I interviewed Zachary "Zach" Holly again. Zach stated he and his wife, Amanda, babysit Jersey and her two year old sister when DesaRae has to work since they were her next door neighbors. On the night of Monday, November 19, 2012, they babysat Jersey and her sister until DesaRae returned home from work at approximately 2300 hours. At approximately midnight, Zach carried Jersey home and DesaRae carried Jersey's sister, both girls were asleep. After putting the girls in bed, Zach went back to his residence while DesaRae stayed at her house.

Zach further stated that after he went to bed with Amanda he awoke at approximately 0330 hours with an upset stomach. He told Amanda he was going to walk to the EZ Mart to get some Pepto Bismol. Zach stated he remembered the exact time he left as being 0335 hours because he looked at a clock.

After walking the short distance to the convenience store (approximately 150 yards), Zach remembered the time as being 0338 hours when he returned and went back to bed. When he woke the next morning at approximately 0630 hours, he started getting his six year old stepson ready for school. Zach stated that at approximately 0640 hours, DesaRae called Amanda and told her she could not find Jersey. When they could not find Jersey outside, DesaRae called 9-1-1 extremely upset and apparently handed the phone to Amanda as she was too upset to talk. DesaRae went over to the EZ Mart Store to tell her boyfriend Brandon Crouch that Jersey was missing. Shortly after the officers arrived, Jersey's body was found in the vacant house beside Zach's house.

During this interview, Zach denied having anything to do with Jersey's disappearance or death. During the investigation on Tuesday, Zach was cooperative and consented to provide detectives with cheek swabs for DNA comparison purposes. Zach also consented to giving detectives the clothing that he said he had been wearing since he went to bed on Monday evening.

On the morning of November 21, 2012, Dr. Frank Peretti of state medical examiner's office in Little Rock conducted an autopsy on Jersey's body. The medical examiner determined the cause of death as asphyxia. Detectives learned from the crime lab that a vaginal swab was obtained from Jersey's body and that a preliminary test revealed the presence of a small number of sperm cells. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

It was learned that the crime lab would be working through the Thanksgiving holiday and weekend in an attempt to develop a DNA profile from the sperm cells and to begin making comparisons from known samples. It was learned that preliminary results could be available as early as Monday, November 26.

[REDACTED] Meanwhile, detectives continued to interview numerous other people, collect DNA samples from persons of interest, and pursue leads in the case.

On Friday, November 23, 2012, at 1609 hours Zach reinitiated contact with me by placing a phone call to my cell phone. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Amanda said she and Zach were traveling to Springdale and she would call me when they returned. Shortly afterwards, Amanda contacted me via text messages and advised they were on their way.

When Zach and Amanda arrived at the police department, Zach was escorted to a recorded interview room at approximately 1646 hours. I read Zach his Miranda rights, and he waived his rights and agreed to speak to me and Detective Wiseman. I [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Following his statement to me and Detective Wiseman, Zachary Holly was arrested at approximately 1815 hours for the offenses of Capital Murder, Kidnapping, Rape, and Residential Burglary.

Based upon the nature of the crimes, the likelihood of conviction, and the possible severity of penalty that could be imposed, the State joins me in requesting that Zachary Holly be held without bond on the charges of Capital Murder, A.C.A. 5-10-101; Kidnapping, A.C.A. 5-11-102; Rape, A.C.A. 5-14-103, and Residential Burglary, A.C.A. 5-39-201.

Sgt Kris Moffit
Detective Sergeant Kris Moffit
Bentonville Police Department
908 S.E. 14th Street
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STATE OF ARKANSAS
COUNTY OF BENTON

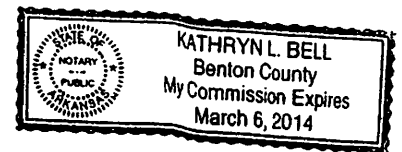
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 28 day of November, 2012.

Kathryn L Bell
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission expires: March 6, 2014

APPROVED:

[Signature]
BENTON COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



Incident #2012-31859