

**Ste. Genevieve Police Department**

**Affidavit of Probable Cause**

Case #: 15-639

I, Eric Bennett

Knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state the facts contained herein are true, have probable cause to believe that

**WOFFORD, CYNTHIA LOU**

Address: **1993 HYW B, PERRYVILLE MO 63775**

DOB: **05/24/1962**

Height: **508**

Weight: **130**

Eye Color: **BRO**

Hair Color: **GRY**

SSN: [REDACTED]

DriversLicense: [REDACTED]

committed one or more criminal offense(s):

**Applied Charges**

Charge	State Statute	State Charge Code	Category	
Cause Number	Local Code	Type/Class	Bond Type	Bond Amount
CHILD ABDUCTION	565.156	1609005.1	3840	
		F		\$0.00
ASSAULT 3RD (STATE)	565.07	1304116.0	1350	
		M		\$0.00
ENDANGER WELFARE OF CHILD 2ND DEGREE	568.05	2605002.1	2170	
		M		\$0.00
HARASSMENT (STATE)	565.090	3405909.0	3100	
		M		\$0.00

The facts to support this case are as follows:

On October 11, 2015 at approximately 1311 hours, Officer McClure, 8105 was radio dispatched to 1127 Valley Springs Trail in reference to an attempted kidnapping.

Central Dispatch advised the caller reported a female driving a blue Dodge Ram pickup, bearing the Missouri State License number; 1AD277, tried to kidnap her children. Central Dispatch further advised the children were walking home and the female attempted to get the children into the vehicle with her. While officers were en route to the scene, Central Dispatch relayed updated information that the pickup was attempting to leave the subdivision.

Upon Officer McClure's arrival on scene, he met with the reporting party, Ashley Ochs and the victims, three white female juveniles, identified as sisters T.K and H.K, and their friend, M.V., who advised the three juveniles were walking back to her residence from McDonald's and were walking on the sidewalk, by Highway M, in Ste. Genevieve County, when they observed the above described blue pickup traveling southbound on State Route M, travel across the northbound lane, exit the roadway and carelessly drive onto the grass area in front of Eric Scott Leathers, located at 980 Rozier Street (State Route M), nearly striking them, and pulled up like she was trying to block them so they couldn't go anywhere. One of the victims, T.K. stated the woman said, "My name is Cindy. You guys need to trust me. I just got out of church in Tennessee. I'm a preacher." T.K. stated the woman was talking about something that happened in Fredericktown, and T.K. went on to say the woman told them there were three girls who looked exactly like them that "died on this same day, at this time, right where we were standing."

According to T.K., the woman went on to say, she didn't have a family, stating she had lost her mom 12 years ago, and the woman asked the girls how it would feel if they lost their mom. T.K. said none of the girls

responded, and the woman went on to say, she had three kids who looked just like them, but then changed her story saying "they're not really my kids, they're my niece's three daughters, but they're my kids."

According to T.K., the woman asked if they were walking home, but T.K. told the woman they were walking to the event with all the people at Eric Scott, and then the woman said, "Well I need you to help finding my kids.", but again, T.K. stated they didn't say anything. T.K. stated the woman asked if they were scared, at which time T.K. stated, "No.", going on to say, "Because I didn't know what she was going to do." T.K. stated the woman replied, "Good. That's what I wanted to hear."

H.K. stated they were walking home, near Eric Scott, when Wofford pulled up, almost hitting them with her vehicle. H.K. stated, "She was talking about how she's our mother, and we don't need to be scared, and nobody in her family's alive, she's the only one alive and she's really healthy, and she's a preacher, and a teacher, and a mother in Tennessee, and she just got back from Tennessee 5 minutes ago. And she said there's some girl from Fredericktown that went missing that she's looking for, and she said that she has three daughters, but then changed it, telling the girls, "Well, they're not actually my daughters, they're my niece's kids", H.K. stated Wofford said that there's three of them, stating,"And they look just like us, and they're roaming around Ste. Genevieve, and she's trying to find them. And she asked us what we'd do if our mom died, because her mom died 12 years ago. And then she asked what I'd do if my sister or I died.

H.K. went on to say the woman had shovels in her truck and that she came into their subdivision.

Another victim, M.V. stated they walked to McDonalds and ate, and when they were walking back home, they got near Eric Scott, when the woman later identified as Wofford came up on them really quickly, almost hitting them with her vehicle, and blocked them in. M.V. stated the woman said, "'You can trust me. I'm your mom.' and she's like, 'I love you guys, and I do this to everybody. I just try to keep all you kids safe.'" M.V. stated the woman then began talking about her mom, saying her mom died 20+ years ago, then asked them, "How would you guys feel if your mom died?" and then asked, "So you guys all have the same mom?", to which the girls said, "No." The woman then asked, "Three different moms?", and the girls said, "No, only two".

M.V. stated, "She was talking about these three girls, and they looked exactly like us, and they died. It was said that they were her children, but then she said they were her niece's children, and that she claimed them as hers. And then, she's like, 'They died exactly where you are, at this exact same time twelve years ago.'" M.V. stated the woman told them to always stick together, telling them to imagine they were on three bicycles, and one of them went one way, and two of the girls went another, and the one that went the other way got killed, then the woman asked the girls, "How would you feel?"

I asked M.V. if the woman ever asked them to get into the truck, and M.V. stated she never told them to get into the truck, but she stated, "She told us, she's like, 'can you please help me find those three little girls that look just like us?' And she said, "I really need help finding them."

M.V. stated, "It was so creepy. She had like a shovel and some tarp in her back."

Lawrence Pfaff, a bystander at an event at Eric Scott Leathers, who personally knew the juveniles saw the vehicle parked talking to the juveniles, and thought it suspicious began walking toward the truck to investigate and ensure the girls were safe. As Pfaff approached, Wofford pulled away from the scene where she had been talking to the girls. According to Pfaff, Wofford drove into Eric Scott's parking lot, and went to the Kona Ice, shaved ice vending truck, at which time, he advised the girls to go home. Pfaff also contacted the juveniles' father, David Ochs to make him aware of the situation.

On October 11, 2015 at approximately 1815 hours, I received a call from Christine Hoog, who stated she had an unusual contact with the woman in the blue Dodge Truck. Hoog described a woman wearing a "Jesus Heals" shirt, matching the description of Cynthia Wofford, who came to Eric Scott's open house event, and got a Kona Ice. Hoog stated when the woman approached; she made the comment to Hoog, "I'm your angel. I'm your voice, and you'll never see me again after this." Hoog stated Wofford then pointed to Hoog's daughter, and made a comment about how quickly time flies, and Hoog needed to cherish her time with her daughter.

Hoog stated Wofford then pointed to Hoog's daughter again and stated, "If it was legal, I would wrap her in cellophane and take her with me." Hoog stated this comment made her feel very uneasy, and when she later heard about the abduction attempt, she wanted to document the encounter.

After the juveniles ran from the scene, and ran down Valley Springs Trail trying to get home, Larry Pfaff learned Wofford left Eric Scott Leathers parking lot, and had turned down Valley Springs Trail also, so he stated he got into his vehicle and started toward Valley Spring Trail, in an attempt to locate Wofford.

On October 11, 2015 at approximately 1440 hours, I conducted an interview with David Ochs, T.K. and H.K.'s father, who stated he received a call from Larry Pfaff telling him about the incident. Ochs stated a short time later, his daughters and their friend ran into the house, visibly shaken. Ochs stated they were crying and trembling. He asked what had happened and the girls told him a woman in a blue truck was trying to take them. Ochs stated during their explanation of the incident, he looked out and saw the suspect vehicle, so he ran out to contact the driver, later identified as Cynthia Wofford. Ochs stated he yelled for the vehicle to stop, which it did. David stated the woman stopped and rolled down her window, so he went over to talk to her. David said he approached the woman and asked what was going on, and David stated the woman told him she was lost. David stated he asked the woman if she had talked to his kids, and she asked, "What are you talking about?" so David said, "Just hang on. We'll have the police come by and figure out what's going on." David stated at this time, the woman started getting "pissed off", and she wanted to leave, so he leaned up and put his arms on the vehicle, at which time the woman stated, "Get the fuck off or you're going to get hurt.", and as she started driving off, he jumped off the running boards of the moving vehicle.

Sergeant Poole caught up to the Blue Dodge Ram on Route M at Route J and Route N. Sergeant Poole activated his emergency lights and siren to conduct a traffic stop of the Dodge Ram. The Dodge Ram displayed Missouri license 1AD277, and he could see one female occupant in the driver's seat. The Dodge Ram did not immediately yield to his emergency equipment, and continued on Route N, across the overpass of Interstate 55 and onto New Bremen Road. The Dodge Ram eventually stopped in a parking space, along the south side of the building of the Ozora Truck and Travel Center, located at 17051 New Bremen Road.

Sergeant Poole later identified the female by Missouri Driver License as Cynthia Wofford. Sergeant Poole spoke with Wofford at the driver side of her vehicle. Wofford made unsolicited statements regarding her contact with a couple female children, in which she made the children's father mad. Sergeant Poole explained to Wofford, her contact with the juveniles was the reason he stopped her, and advised Wofford of her rights per the Miranda warning. Sergeant Poole asked Wofford if she would speak with him regarding the incident, to which she stated she would.

Sergeant Poole asked Wofford the reason she spoke with the juveniles and what she had said to them. Wofford said "Gina Dawn Brooks." Sergeant Poole asked Wofford to elaborate, to which she said, "I educate children about Gina Dawn Brooks, are you familiar with her?" Sergeant Poole told Wofford he was. (Gina Dawn Brooks is a female who went missing from the Fredericktown Missouri area in 1989, at the age of 14) Sergeant Poole asked Wofford to explain word for word what she said to the children. Wofford said I just talked to them about Gina Dawn Brooks. Sergeant Poole asked Wofford where she came into contact with the children's father

Wofford said after speaking with the children, she was looking for an old Baptist Church, and she got lost. Wofford said she found herself driving on a street, where she was confronted by a man who asked if she was speaking with his children. Wofford said she told the man she was speaking with the children, and then she drove off.

Sergeant Poole asked Wofford for consent to search her vehicle, which she granted. Sergeant Poole had Wofford exit the vehicle and asked if she had any weapons in the vehicle. Wofford said yes, a restaurant knife. Sergeant Poole asked where the knife was located, to which she said to the side of the steering wheel. Deputies of the Ste. Genevieve County Sheriff's Office had arrived on scene, and stood by with Wofford while Sergeant Poole conducted a search of the vehicle. Sergeant Poole located a razor blade style utility knife on the floor board near the four wheel drive shift lever. The knife was yellow, with a razor blade, approximately 4 inches, which was in the extended or exposed position. Sergeant Poole asked Wofford if that was the knife to which she was referring, and she responded yes. In the floor board area of the passenger side, Sergeant Poole found two blue 6ft x 8ft plastic tarps, which were in their original packaging, and inside a Tractor Supply Store bag. There were two shovels and various other tools in the exterior bed of the truck. While searching the truck, I noted unusual markings on the exterior. There were two pieces of colored duct tape applied to the tailgate of the truck with writing on the tape. A piece of purple tape was applied over a piece of pink tape. The purple tape had writing on it which spelled Royal, and a piece of pink tape below it had writing on it which spelled Girls. There was also writing on the driver side of the truck bed which spelled Happy Day Cindy Cindy. While uncertain to the significance of the markings on the vehicle, it could be suggested the markings make the vehicle more enticing to children.

Sergeant Poole photographed the aforementioned items, then had the Dodge Ram towed to the Ste. Genevieve County Sheriff's Office impound yard. The doors and windows of the Dodge Ram were marked with evidence tape for security purposes.

On October 11, 2015, at approximately 1538 hours, I conducted an interview with Cynthia Wofford at the Ste. Genevieve County Sheriff's Office, in reference to her involvement in a Child Abduction investigation we were conducting.

I advised Wofford of her Constitutional Rights per Miranda, which she stated she understood. I asked Wofford if she was willing to talk with me without an attorney present, and she stated, "Maybe." I informed her again that she could stop at any time, but for right then, I needed a yes or no answer, and she stated she would.

I asked Wofford if she knew the reason for the interview, and she stated, "Yep". I asked her what her understanding of the reason for the interview was, and she stated, "The children." I asked her to clarify, and she stated, "Safety." I informed Wofford we were investigating an attempted Abduction investigation, at which time, Wofford stated, "You should, and thank you." I asked Wofford if she attempted to abduct any children, and she stated, "No. I just got out of church, okay? I just came from one of your churches from friends of 25 years, and I was on the way to a chili party, and I was trying to find this house, that.. I was on the wrong side of town once I figured out where I was at." I asked Wofford who the friends were, and she stated, "Dena Bader"

Wofford went on to say she used to work behind "Grandpa's", which was business located at State Road M at Valle Springs Trail. Wofford stated she worked in a factory back there, but didn't remember what type of factory it was, or what kind of work she did for that company.

I redirected, telling Wofford that we were investigating this case, and she again stated, "And you need to. And I thank you." I asked if there was anybody else involved in this, and stated there wasn't. I asked Wofford if she

was the one who stopped and talked to the girls, and she stated, "I pulled over and talked to them, because there was a kid who had drowned, that sits over at a graveyard, he drowned at Goose Creek...I don't know...10 years ago." "And they couldn't find him, and couldn't find him, and couldn't find him, and I grew up at Goose Creek, okay? And I'm a mom, and I apologize...I don't apologize for being a mom, I apologize for loving too much, and caring for people too much."

I asked Wofford to tell me the circumstances that occurred that day, and she stated, "I seen 'em walking, and I said, 'You're beautiful, but stay together. Stay safe. And I said, 'Like if a car comes off the highway right now and hits my truck, I said, 'Don't split up. I said 'Stay together, hug each other and run. I said, 'That's how we keep safe. And then I went and got me a...what do you call it? An ice cream, or snow cone." Wofford went on to say, "Now I know that's offensive. I know it's weird, and I know they should've went home and tell their parents. That's what I wanted!" Officer McClure then asked, "So you wanted to kind of incite some fear to get your point across?", and Wofford stated, "So they went home and said, 'Dad, I had this real bad...you know...this weird thing happen.', because you know what? Every day, somebody's kid...something happens. And look at our names, and look what's going on.

And Daisy Duke...I'm not Daisy Duke, but I love her. And that's just like the flag situation, okay? That's what makes me do this, okay? Our country is so stupid, that every time something happens, they try to take our history away from us, okay? And if I made a mistake, I apologize."

I asked Wofford when the first time she saw them, and she stated, "Then." Officer McClure asked where that was, and she stated, "By the graveyard." I asked Wofford how she felt about being interviewed concerning this matter, and she stated, "Love it! Love every bit of it." I asked her why, and she stated, "Because if I can make a difference, or save a kid's life...I don't know, it's a happy moment. That's humanity.

I saved a girl yesterday morning, and I got really pissed, okay? Because I had to. I almost killed her, okay? And I went to the police office and I reported it." I asked Wofford where that was, and she stated, "It was on Highway 51, Perryville, Missouri. McDonald employee. Don't know who she was. Gave her a hat, and said, 'If you don't wear orange the next time you're on that bike, I'm gonna piss you off.'" Wofford stated the girl was 17 to 20. I asked what police department she reported it to, and she stated the Perryville Police Department, stating "That little girl almost ended up underneath my left right front tire."

Wofford went on to say, there was a man that got ran over in Perryville named Mr. Bob, and went on to say, "I'm just like Mr. Bob, okay? I'm out doing stuff all the time I ain't suppose to be doing. It's not illegal, just wrong timing."

I asked Wofford about her family. I asked if she had a husband, kids or parents. She stated her kids and she were not doing well, and hadn't been for a long time. I asked why they weren't doing well, and she stated, "Because, I don't have to live like a nigger." I asked Wofford to clarify, but she elaborated to the fact that they want her money, her time and her space. I asked where the kids were, and she stated they were both in her home. I asked what the kids' names were and she stated Ryan and Melissa, and that Ryan was 24 and Melissa was 20, and that they had the same last name, Wofford.

I asked Wofford exactly what she told the girls, and she stated, "That's what I'm talking about." I said again that I would like to know exactly what she said, at which point, Wofford stated, "That's what I'm saying. I did already told you once." I pointed out that she had alluded to statements about keeping them safe, but that I was asking about a verbatim statement, and she said she was misunderstanding me. Wofford went on to say she had an anger problem right then, and she didn't want to take it out on me, and stated she wanted an attorney, at which time I ended the interview.

[For issuance of a warrant in a misdemeanor case, also complete the following, if appropriate.]

(A) I believe that the defendant will not appear in court in response to a criminal summons because:

(B) I believe that the defendant poses

(1) a danger to a crime victim because:

(2) a danger to the community or to any other person because:

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**Printed Name**

**Signature**

**Date**