

POLICE CASE NUMBER: SO230003799

COURT NUMBER: 23CR31833

**ORIGINAL**

**PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT**

Verified Correct Copy of Original 7/15/2023

I, the undersigned police officer, do declare as follows: the following information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief:

CONFIDENTIAL: I hereby request exemption from public disclosure of this Probable Cause Affidavit. Said request satisfies the statutory criteria of ORS 192.345 and all other relevant statutes and case law.

**Name of Arrestee:** SEEMS, MICHAEL JOSEPH GREGORY **Arrestee Date of Birth:** 06/11/1986  
**Lodging Officer:** MCCREADIE, JUSTIN **Agency:** JACKSON COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE  
**Date/Time of Arrest:** 07/04/2023 00:32:00  
**Date of Crime(s):** 07/03/2023

**Crime(s) Alleged:** Elude - in Vehicle - Fel (ORS 0811.540.1.B.A) **Counts:** 1  
Reckless Driving (ORS 0811.140) **Counts:** 1  
Elude - on Foot - Misd (ORS 0811.540.1.B.B) **Counts:** 1  
Felon In Possession of Firearm (ORS 0166.270) **Counts:** 1

RECEIVED AND FILED

JUL 05 2023

TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR  
DOCKETED BY \_\_\_\_\_

**Domestic Violence Related [see ORS 135.230(1)(3)(4)]:** NO

**Victim Information:** NA

**Location of Crime(s) in Jackson Co.:** HIGHWAY 140/ HIGHWAY 62

**Brief Summary of Probable Cause:**

On Monday July 3, 2023 at 1954 hours I was on routine vehicle patrol in full uniform, displaying a badge, and operating a marked patrol vehicle. I observed a darker colored Jeep Grand Cherokee turn southbound onto Lakeview Drive from Avenue A, White City. The driver, later identified as Michael Seems, immediately turned his head down and away when he saw me.

I ran a wants check on the vehicle and learned the vehicle did not have insurance. I also observed the vehicle was involved with a burglary in late 2022, where the suspect was not identified. As the vehicle approached the intersection of Lakeview Drive and Highway 140, it failed to obey the stop sign by not completing a stop. The vehicle rolled through the stop sign and continued westbound on Highway 140.

I activated my emergency overhead lights signaling for the vehicle to stop. Seems threw his arm out the window and pointed ahead of him as if he was going to continue to a destination. I activated my emergency siren and pointed to the side of the road telling him to pull over. Seems eventually stopped the vehicle.

I approached the vehicles driver side window and spoke with Seems. Seems was leaning forward and showing signs of nervousness. Seems was speaking rapidly and not answering all questions that were asked. The ignition to the vehicle had been taken apart and looked as if it was possibly punched. I know from my training and experience vehicles with punched ignitions are often stolen. As Seems gave me the vehicle registration, I observed the vehicle was still in drive. I told Seems to put the vehicle in park. Seems then accelerated at a high rate of speed westbound on Highway 140.

I activated my emergency siren and pursued the vehicle due to not knowing who the driver was. The vehicle fled westbound before attempting to turn into the Dollar Tree parking lot. The vehicle was traveling at such high speed, it failed to make the turn and ran into the landscape beyond the concrete curb. The vehicle continued through the landscape rock heading towards Merry Lane. The vehicle made it to Merry Lane and failed to stop at the stop sign when entering Highway 62. The vehicle fled southbound on Highway 62.

The vehicles speed was over 100 MPH. Traffic was light and the "A" lane was unoccupied. I went into slack pursuit as the vehicle continued to travel over 100 MPH. The vehicle failed to stop at the intersection of Highway 62 and E Vilas Road. The vehicle continued at a high rate of speed. After the vehicle failed to stop

at the stop light at the intersection of Highway 62 and Own Drive, the pursuit was terminated.

I continued following the vehicle at great distance while not in pursuit. The vehicle crossed the concrete median near Burger King while crossing oncoming lanes of travel. The vehicle went off road to cross over to Crater Lake Avenue. I continued on Highway 62 and turned onto Delta Waters, hoping to locate the vehicle. I approached the intersection of Delta Waters and Crater Lake Avenue when I observed an unidentified witness point eastbound on Delta Waters as if the vehicle continued that direction.

I observed a dark colored SUV traveling in the turn lane a far distance ahead. I did not have my lights on when the vehicle was on Delta Waters Road. The vehicle was still driving recklessly without my police lights on. There were approximately 6 cars in between the suspect vehicle and mine. I observed the vehicle turn northbound on an unknown road a large distance ahead of me. I activated my lights to clear traffic on Delta Waters for a brief period. I turned onto Mcloughlin Drive in attempts to locate the vehicle. I observed the vehicle at Abraham Elementary School.

I blocked the vehicle my vehicle. I observed the vehicle was unoccupied. I started telling responding units where to set up a perimeter when I was approached by an unknown witness. The older male advised he saw the suspect run from the vehicle southbound through the parking lot.

While I was waiting for additional units to arrive on scene, a male arose from the culvert behind 3011 Gary Drive. I observed the male, later identified as Seems, had a handgun in his right hand. Seems then put the gun to his head. Seems said "I can't do this anymore" multiple times. Seems put the gun in his mouth as well. Seems started running eastbound with the gun in his mouth. Myself and other units chased Seems until he got through a gate into a residential area.

Multiple units set up a perimeter. A search was conducted for Seems, but he was not located. It was learned by units on scene from surveillance footage that Seems ran into 3901 Milhoan Drive. Seems was seen with the gun in hand near the residence.

After learning Seems had entered the residence, the perimeter was shrunk to the house. Announcements were made from outside using a loud hale. Eventually a female exited the residence. The female initially said no one was inside the house. The female later said Seems ran into the house with a gun in his hand. Seems was known to the female.

A three hour stand off ensued. Medford Police SWAT team had to make entry into the house. That is when Seems fell through the ceiling after he hid in the attic. The gun fell down with seems, but he did not grab it before he ran into a bedroom. Seems was eventually taken into custody after MPD SWAT deployed CS and CN gas.

Seems was a convicted felon for Manslaughter I. Seems had an active warrant for Parole Violation- Manslaughter I. The firearm was a .40 Tauris PT 24/7 PRO. The firearm was not loaded at the time of retrieval.

Seems was advised of Miranda warnings, he said he understood. Seems said he ran because someone told him he had a warrant for Manslaughter. Seems said he also ran because he had the gun on his person. Seems said he was leaning forward on the traffic stop to hide the firearm that was in the passenger seat.

**I hereby declare that the above statements are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I understand they are made for use as evidence in court and are subject to penalty for perjury.**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Officer's Signature

7/4/2023

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I find probable cause exists to believe the arrestee committed the crime(s).

