



STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

STATE OF MISSOURI
COUNTY OF Jasper

Date: 05/19/2023 (today's date)

I, Detective Jason Francis, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state that the facts contained herein are true.

- 1. I have probable cause to believe that on 05/18/2023(offense date) at 211 South Main Street Joplin, Jasper County Missouri (offense location), Johnny Lee Arehart, (suspect name) a white male, (suspect description) committed one or more criminal offense(s) of : Child Kidnapping (565.115). (State name of offense and statute number)

Name: Johnny Lee Arehart
 D.O.B. 11-01-1994
 S.S.N. [REDACTED]
 Address: 531 South Kentucky Avenue
 Joplin Missouri 64801
 Arrested:05/18/2023; 9:23 P.M.(Arrest date and time or NOT IN CUSTODY)



- 2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

Johnny Lee Arehart committed the crime of Child Kidnapping on 05/18/2023 at 211 South Main Street Joplin, Jasper County Missouri.

On the above date, Kaylee McGehee was attending Third Thursday with her five-year-old daughter, E.M. Kaylee McGehee was assisting people taking down a bounce house on the east side of the street. E.M. was playing with other children in Kaylee's immediate vicinity. Arehart approached E.M. and quickly picked her up. Without attempting to contact anyone in the immediate vicinity, Arehart began carrying E.M. east across the parking lot of Tamko. E.M. began screaming for her mother. This raised the attention of Kaylee and bystanders. Arehart was stopped by concerned citizens and E.M.'s parents approximately a half block east from the location where she was picked up. Once stopped, E.M. was returned to Kaylee.

Kaylee informed officers that she did not know or have any relation with Arehart. He also had no permission to pick up her child and remove her from her location.

During an interview with Arehart, he admitted to picking up E.M. and walking away from the area he picked her up at. Arehart further stated he had no previous knowledge of E.M. or who her family was.