



STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

RECEIVED  
MELISSA HOLCOMB - C

JUL 06 2021

STATE OF MISSOURI  
COUNTY OF JASPER

JASPER COUNTY CIRCUIT  
JOPLIN, MO 64801

Date: 07/03/2021 (today's date)

I, Officer Roach, 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 07/03/2021 (offense date) at E 7<sup>th</sup> St and S Duquesne Rd, Duquesne, Jasper County, MO (offense location), Kenton Cowgill (suspect name) a white male, (suspect description) committed one or more criminal offense(s) of: (State name of offense and statute number)

- Murder In the Second Degree (565.021)
- Driving While Intoxicated (577.010)
- Driving While Revoked (302.321)
- Resisting Arrest by Fleeing (575.150)
- Delivery of a Controlled Substance (579.020)

Name: Cowgill, Kenton Cordell II  
D.O.B. 04/01/1985  
S.S.N. [REDACTED]

Address: 1723 Sophia St  
Carthage, MO 64836

Arrested: July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021; 8:49 AM (Arrest date and time or NOT IN CUSTODY)

1072

2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 07/03/2021 Kenton Cowgill committed the crimes of Murder In the Second Degree, Driving While Intoxicated, Driving While Revoked, and Resisting Arrest by Fleeing at E 7<sup>th</sup> St and S Duquesne Rd, Duquesne, Jasper County, MO.

Mr. Cowgill was contacted at 811 S Rex Ave in reference to a check on well-being. It was reported that Mr. Cowgill was passed out behind the wheel of a gray 2008 Lexus passenger car (NG4J0T MO). I observed the vehicle parked in front of 811 S Rex Ave partially blocking the driveway with the headlights on facing northbound. I observed Mr. Cowgill passed out behind the driver seat. I knocked on the window to wake Mr. Cowgill. Upon contact I immediately smelled a strong odor of intoxicants coming from his breath. I noticed his eyes were bloodshot with constricted pupils. His speech was raspy. Due to Mr. Cowgill being passed out behind the wheel, odor of intoxicants, bloodshot eyes, constricted pupils, and raspy speech I believed he was under the influence of alcohol and an unknown narcotic. Mr. Cowgill has a current Missouri driver license status as Revoked. I went to approach the vehicle again to ask Mr. Cowgill to exit the vehicle. As I got to the rear of the vehicle it fled at a high rate of speed northbound on S Rex

Ave. Officer Wenberg with Duquesne Police Department was at E 7<sup>th</sup> St and S Rex Ave and began to pursue Mr. Cowgill eastbound on E 7<sup>th</sup> St. Once the vehicle got to E 7<sup>th</sup> St and S Duquesne Rd it crashed into a white 2010 Toyota Prius (NE9K0F MO). The driver of the 2010 Toyota, Robert McDermid, was unconscious and not breathing. There was approximately 94 grams of a white crystal substance believed to be methamphetamine located underneath the 2008 Lexus behind the rear tires. It was packaged into two separate clear bags and then placed in a one yellow bag. There was fresh blood on the packaging consistent with Mr. Cowgill's injuries.

As I was on scene at the wreck, I was advised by another Officer that Mercy Hospital pronounced Robert McDermid as deceased.

I read Mr. Cowgill implied consent and requested for a blood sample. He consented to the blood draw. I collected the blood draw and placed it into the refrigerator in evidence and requested it be sent off to MSHP Crime Lab for further testing. I read Mr. Cowgill his Miranda Rights and he refused to answer any questions.

Mr. Cowgill was convicted of Driving While Intoxicated on 09/17/2019 in Jasper County and on 09/11/2018 in State Courts. Mr. Cowgill was convicted of Driving While Suspended/Revoked on 01/11/2019 in Oklahoma, 10/02/2018 in Jasper County, 08/30/2007 in Lawrence County, and on 10/07/2002 in Carthage.

Mr. Cowgill is currently admitted in Freeman Hospital in reference to his injuries from the accident.

Mr. Cowgill committed the crime of Murder in the Second Degree as he caused the death of one individual while in the commission of a Felony. (Delivery of a Controlled Substance, Resisting Arrest by Fleeing, Driving While Revoked, and Driving While Intoxicated.)

3. **MISDEMEANORS AND FELONIES:** (If seeking a warrant) I am requesting issuance of an arrest warrant based on the following:

I believe that the defendant will not appear in court in response to a criminal summons because: Mr. Cowgill fled from Officers in a vehicle at a high rate of speed to avoid arrest. (State specific facts supporting your belief)

I believe that the defendant poses a danger to  a crime victim /  the community or to any other person because: Mr. Cowgill crashed his vehicle killing one person while in commission of multiple felonies (State specific facts supporting your belief)

Print Name: Cpl. M Roach Signature: 

Agency Name: Joplin Police Department  
Agency Case Number: 21-005477

2042