



STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

STATE OF MISSOURI
COUNTY OF JASPER

Date: 8/9/26

I, Officer M MOORE, 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 8/9/26 at 610 E POOL, Joplin, Jasper County, Missouri, CRYSTAL DAWN ROSS, a white female, committed one or more criminal offense(s) of :
568.06 - ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF A CHILD UNDER SECTION 568.060.5(1) - NO SEXUAL ...
578.009 - ANIMAL NEGLECT OR ABANDONMENT - 1ST OFFENSE

Name: CRYSTAL DAWN ROSS
610 E POOL ST, JOPLIN, MO 64801

Arrested: 08/09/26 11:10 (☐ NOT IN CUSTODY)

2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On August 8, 2025, I, Officer Moore, was dispatched to a missing autistic juvenile at 610 E Pool, Joplin, Jasper County, Missouri.

Throughout the course of the investigation Crystal Ross was determined to have committed the crimes of abuse or neglect of a child and animal neglect. V1 was stated the be special needs with many mental diagnoses and severe behavioral outbursts. V1 was found to have been sleeping in a dog cage outside of Crystal's bedroom, to prevent her from hurting her family during the overnight hours. She was made to sleep only in a diaper with a pillow and a blanket. Multiple pad locks were located on the cage to prevent her from escaping. Crystal admitted she knew that was wrong and advised it was likely causing emotional and mental damage to V1 but she continued to make V1 sleep in the cage for close to 1 year. According to other family members V1 had been sleeping in the cage for closer to 2 years. Crystal admitted there had been opportunities to place V1 in a care facility, where she would be properly cared for by medical professionals but she did not feel comfortable doing so and thought she could provide better care for her at home. When the juvenile was located, she was only 4 feet tall and weighed approximately 50 pounds at 12 years old.

The home was completely inadequate to support the proper care for 4 adults, 1 child and 83 animals. Immediately after entering the home, the smell of the animals and ammonia from cat urine overwhelmed officers. It was extremely difficult to get around the home due to the clutter. There were rooms and hallways filled with animal cages, blocking ways to get in and out of the home quickly and safely, with animals who smelled of feces and their cages were void of any food or water sources. The

kitchen counters were littered with trash and food waste, and the bathroom was full of trash as well. Officers located a chicken in the shower running around, while searching the home for the child. To get to where the cage was that V1 had been made to sleep in, officers had to squeeze past a large hutch, in about a 7 inch gap, the cage was located on the other side outside of the master bedroom, directly across from another bedroom which was full of animal cages that all contained live animals. There were soiled diapers in the dog cage V1 had been sleeping in. The staircase to the basement was mostly blocked by additional animal cages and at the bottom of the stairs, trash bags and miscellaneous clutter was stacked up. The back door, where V1 escaped the home, was blocked on the outside by yard trash, fencing and a small toddler pool, which officers had to climb over to get to the back door. V1 would have had to climb over all items as well, creating a substantial risk of bodily injury, just to be able to escape the home.

Animal control removed 83 live animals and 5 dead animals from the property. One animal was so badly decomposed the exact species could not be determined. All animals had improper shelter and several likely never got to leave their cages. The animals in the home were all found to have little or no access to water, many were sitting in build-up of their own feces and urine. The animals living outside had improper shelter and no access to fresh, clean water. In total, the animals removed from the home 1300 square foot home and around property were as follows; 5 dogs, 19 cats, 44 chickens, 1 pig, 1 quail, 1 duck, 3 rabbits, 3 tortoise, and 2 turtles.

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

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

(X) I believe that the defendant poses a danger to (X) a crime victim / () the community or to any other person because: CRYSTAL HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO MAINTAIN CARE OF V1 FOR MANY YEARS. MANY NEIGHBORS IN THE AREA DID NOT EVEN KNOW THERE WAS A YOUNG CHILD LIVING IN THE HOME. SHE HAS ISOLATED THE CHILD TO THE POINT WHERE SHE HAS NOT ATTENDED SCHOOL IN AT LEAST 6 YEARS AND SHE DOES NOT TAKE HER ANYWHERE BECAUSE OF HER "BEHAVIORAL OUTBURSTS." CRYSTAL HAS Crystal has been allowed to maintain care of V1 for many years and has failed to do so. Several neighbors in the area did not even know there was a young child living in the home. Crystal has isolated the child to the point she has not attended school in at least 5 years, and she does not take her anywhere because of her "behavioral outbursts." Crystal has many church family members and other family who came to the scene and supported her behavior, indicating they would likely help her leave the area to avoid prosecution if she were to be released. She should not be allowed to be around children, she should most certainly not be allowed to have access to V1, and she should not be given the freedom to obtain more animals so she can fail to care for them as well.

Print Name: Officer M MOORE

Signature:



Agency Name: JPD - Joplin Police Department

Agency Case Number: JPD-26-05376

OCN: VU008118