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PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

Date: 030723-11-1F

I, G. Snyder am an officer employed by the **Waynesville Police Department**, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state the facts contained herein are true,

1. I have probable cause to believe that on 03-06-2023, at 710 Washington #2 Waynesville Mo. 65583,
(date) (place)
Buford, Shamira Danielle DOB 12 - 1986 HT 505 WT 275 Eyes Brown
Race Black Sex F [REDACTED] OCN: _____
Who lives at 710 Washington #2 Waynesville Mo. 65583

committed one or more criminal offense (s) of.
RSMO 568.045 - Endangering the Welfare of a Child 1st Degree

2. The facts support this belief are as follows:

On Tuesday March 7, 2023 at 0759 hours, Waynesville Schools SRO, Joshua Alexander, contacted the Waynesville Police Department and reported that a student, later identified as _____, born in _____ found his sister, later identified as _____, born in _____, on the floor with a sock in her mouth. SRO Alexander further indicated _____ had stated he tried to do C.P.R. on _____

Lt. Piles proceeded to 710 Washington #2 and made contact with _____, born in _____ and informed her that a child was reported dead in the home. _____, while standing in the doorway indicated, "she choked". Lt. Piles entered the residence, made contact with Mrs. Shamira Buford and Mrs. Angela West, who were asleep in their bedroom. Lt. Piles advised Mrs. Buford and Mrs. West that he had been informed of a dead child in the residence and asked how many children were in the home at that time. Mrs. Buford exited her room and located _____ under a blanket in the north west end of the living room. _____ appeared to be lifeless. Lt. Piles requested Mr. Roger Graves, Pulaski County Coroner be dispatched to the home. Mr. Graves called time of death at 0850 hours.

I, G. Snyder, Waynesville Police Officer, DSN 713, arrived on scene and assisted Lt. Piles in this investigation. While in the living room, I noticed _____ lying on the living room floor. I noticed extensive ligature marks on _____ wrists, ankles, and neck. I further noticed, next to her body a gray sock. The sock had what appeared to be blood on the edge and was later found to be saturated with an unknown moisture. I inquired to Mr. Graves if he had noticed any fibers in _____ mouth, he then examined her mouth and indicated that there were fibers of some kind in her mouth. I further noticed a balled up length of white cord. The cord appeared to be nylon. On further inspection the ball of cord was found to be three pieces of rope, the one was approximately 11'5" and the second was approximately 9', and the third was found to have a knot tied with a loop in the rope, it's length was in excess of 26'.

Mrs. Lynsey Micek, Children's Division, Mr. John Martin, Juvenile Office, and I, proceeded to the Waynesville 6th Grade Center and spoke with _____. He informed me that his step mother had woken him up that morning, he brushed his teeth then began speaking with his sister, "and then I saw my little sister over there tied up". He continued that _____ gets up in the middle of the night and steals, "we have to tie her up to the futon". I instructed _____ to stop talking when he stated, "we", then requested Mr. Martin inform _____ of his Miranda Warning, which he did. _____ invoked his rights after being informed of them.

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2. The facts support this belief are as follows (continued):

Mrs. Micek, Mr. Martin, and I proceeded to the St. Robert Fire Department and spoke with [redacted] who was there with Chief of Police Dan Cordova and other of her siblings. [redacted] admitted that she, Mrs. West, Mrs. Buford and [redacted] had, for approximately the past three months, tied [redacted] to the bed. When she disclosed that she had assisted in this, I requested Mr. Martin advise her of her rights, which he did, she then made a statement. [redacted] advised me that she had woke up this morning and, [redacted] lips were purple, she wasn't moving, and she had no pulse. I was then advised that [redacted] started performing C.P.R. then [redacted] took over. She said, "and after that I told him to leave her alone". I asked why she didn't call 911 wake her mother up and was told that she didn't know how to tell her mother that her sister was dead.

I asked if [redacted] was on the bed when [redacted] first woke up and saw her and was told that "the only part of her body that was on the bed was her head". She then stated, "she has a sticky fingers problem so the solution my parents came up with was to tie her arms behind her back and tie her to the bed". I asked which mom came up with this solution and was told "Angie" (Mrs. Angela West). [redacted] informed me that she had tied [redacted] up on the evening prior. She further informed me that "I had to tie her up because Angie has back problems". I asked if she had been told the night before to tie [redacted] up and was informed, "No, I just know that every night I'm supposed to tie her up". She further stated that Mrs. West had instructed her that [redacted] needed to be tied up nightly. [redacted] informed me that [redacted] had been "hog tied" and that a short rope had been tied to the bar of the futon and around [redacted] neck. She stated "Angie" taught her how to tie the rope to the bar of the futon. [redacted] advised me that she placed the sock in [redacted] mouth on the evening prior. She further stated that Mrs. West tells them to put the sock into [redacted] mouth, or, Mrs. West does it herself.

I spoke with Mrs. Buford at the Waynesville Police Department. I informed her of her Miranda Warning, which she stated she understood. She then made a statement. Mrs. Buford advised me that [redacted] continued to steal food and that they tried numerous things to get her to stop. I was informed, "we put ducktape on her at first" "on her wrists and wrap it around her ankles". She then stated approximately three weeks ago, "we started tying her up with the nylon rope". She stated that [redacted] would keep the other children up at night whining and crying, "for a couple of days we did put a sock in her mouth and a bandana over it, or some tape over it". She advised me that either she, Mrs. West or [redacted] would do this. She then stated, "last night I don't know what happen. I got home 10:30 they was already in bed, she was tied up".

I asked how they came up with the idea to duck tape [redacted] and then tie her up. She answered, "we talked about it, we talked about it" "I would help them do it sometimes". Mrs. Buford advised me that they had agreed that [redacted] could have authority over "them" to help her and Mrs. West. I asked if they told [redacted] how to "do it" and she said, "yes we've shown her how to do it". I asked if she believed [redacted] knew that she could say no to tying [redacted] up and was told, "yes".

I asked her to describe how [redacted] was normally tied up and asked if she noticed the ligature marks on her wrists and ankles. She stated that she did notice them and that, "if I did it I would put her arms on the leg of the futon they would be behind her. I would wrap the rope around her wrist first and pull it so it would go around her waist and continually wrap it around her waist and the futon pole" "essentially she'd be hog tied" "after the first two weeks of her crying and screaming saying it hurt, trying to get out they did put a rope around her neck". I asked who they was and was told [redacted] and Mrs. West "would put the rope around her neck but it wasn't choking her". She denied ever putting the rope around [redacted] neck.

2. The facts support this belief are as follows (continued):

I informed Mrs. Buford that [redacted] had informed me that she, Mrs. Buford, and Mrs. West had all tied up [redacted], she nodded her head in the affirmative and said, "mmm hmm". I told her that [redacted] said that they all tied the feet, Mrs. Buford nodded her head in the affirmative, tied the waist and the wrist and that she described it as a hog tie, Mrs. Buford nodded her head in the affirmative, and tied the neck, Mrs. Buford nodded her head in the affirmative.

Mrs. Buford told me that if she had tied [redacted] neck she didn't remember. I asked if it was a possibility that she could have and was told, "yes". I asked if it was a possibility that [redacted] could have seen her do it and was told, "yes".

I asked her to explain the sock to me and was told, "that came about because after we would tie her up she would sit there and scream or cry and whine and make noise" "we got tired of telling her to be quiet". Mrs. Buford advised me that she had told "them" to stop tying the rope around her neck the day after she saw the ligature marks on neck. I asked if she knew that [redacted] was still being tied up in the hog tie position after she had said not to tie the rope around her neck and she said, "I knew". I asked if she ever went to check to make sure that they were not tying the rope around her throat and she said, "honestly no".

I inquired to her education level and was told she had a year and a half of college and that she was a Certified Nurse Assistant, CNA. I asked her what asphyxiation was and she stated, "strangulation". I asked how that could happen in this situation and she said, "with the rope around her neck or being too tight across her abdomen". I asked, "if she was a CNA when she first tied it around her neck" she answered, "yes". I asked when that was and she stated, "I'd say it was the beginning of last month".

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3. (For the issuance of a warrant, also complete the following, if appropriate. Omit brackets and letter.)

(a) I believe that the defendant will not appear in court in response to a criminal summons because Due to the severity of the crime I do not believe a criminal summons would be appropriate.

(b) I believe the defendant poses

(1) a danger to a crime victim because

Due to the prolonged and heinous mistreatment of Buford is in danger. I believe that any child that comes into contact with Mrs. Buford is in danger.

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

Due to the prolonged and heinous mistreatment of Buford is in danger. I believe that any child that comes into contact with Mrs. Buford is in danger.

The before named suspect was arrested on 03-07-2023 at 1316 hours

(Print or type name) G. Snyder

(Signature)

