

Scott Twito
YELLOWSTONE COUNTY ATTORNEY
P.O. Box 35025
Room 701, Courthouse
Billings, Montana 59107-5025
Telephone: 406/256-2870
Attorney For Plaintiff

CLERK OF THE
DISTRICT COURT
TERRY HALPIN

2019 APR 15 AM 9 35

FILED

BY _____
DEPUTY

MONTANA THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

STATE OF MONTANA,
Plaintiff,

vs.

GREGORY SCOTT GREEN,
Defendant.

CAUSE NO. DC 19-429
JUDGE: Fehr,
MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE
INFORMATION WITH SUPPORTING
AFFIDAVIT

The undersigned County Attorney of Yellowstone County, Montana, being first duly sworn upon his oath, moves the Court for Leave to File an Information based upon an investigation conducted by law enforcement officers charging the above-named Defendant with the offense of:

DELIBERATE HOMICIDE (FELONY)

committed at Yellowstone County, State of Montana, on or about September 13, 2018.

That law enforcement officers have made a full and careful investigation of all the facts and circumstances surrounding the commission of said offense, so far as they are known or ascertainable; that he believes it a proper case for filing of an Information and that for this reason, and none other, the foregoing motion is made.

The Court is informed that the Billings Police Department (BPD) investigation revealed the following:

On September 24, 2018, family members of Laura Johnson (born November 1968), reported to the Billings Police Department that they had not heard from her in several weeks. Her mother, J.B., who lived out of state, informed BPD that she had not heard from Laura for three weeks and that was highly unusual. J.B. told BPD that Johnson had moved to Billings approximately two months prior to be with her boyfriend, the Defendant, GREGORY SCOTT GREEN (born in September 1965). J.B. also told investigators that Laura had obtained a job at Papa John's Pizza in Billings. The same day, BPD Officer Puckett checked with Papa John's Pizza and confirmed that Laura Johnson last worked on September 13, 2018. Employees informed

the officer that Laura did not show up or call for her next shift. No employee saw her after September 13, 2018. Officer Puckett also confirmed an address for Johnson, at 326 Windsor Circle, Billings, Montana. Officer Puckett checked the residence and was unable to make contact with anyone. The officer checked the mailbox and observed that Johnson and the Defendant's names were on the inside of the mailbox door. BPD Officers continued to check the residence hoping to locate Laura Johnson. Other officers spoke with Johnson's family members. BPD put out an attempt to locate (ATL) for Johnson.

On September 26, 2018, BPD Officer Lausch responded to the company Architectural Door and Hardware (ADH), the Defendant's employer to meet with the Defendant about Laura Johnson's whereabouts. The Defendant informed the officer that Johnson had left him and their residence sometime around September 13 or September 14 and he had not seen her since. He did not have any other information about her and claimed not to know how to locate her.

On September 27, 2018, BPD received an inquiry from the local media regarding social media activity related to Laura Johnson's disappearance. Johnson's family members were posting on social media in an effort to locate her. During the investigation, officers learned that Johnson was a recovering drug addict and was a regular attendee at a recovery clinic in Billings. On September 27, 2018 BPD Lieutenant Brandon Wooley contacted the clinic. A staff member at the clinic confirmed that Johnson had last been seen at the clinic on September 13, 2018. According to the staff, Johnson had been at the clinic every day for three weeks prior to the 13th.

On September 29, 2018, Sergeant Reid and Officer Diercks spoke with the Defendant and asked about Laura Johnson. The Defendant told the officers that around September 13, 2018, he came home from working and discovered Johnson was gone. He told Sergeant Reid that Johnson took her two suitcases and other belongings with her. The Defendant claimed that this type of behavior from Johnson was not unusual and that she had probably returned to her family in Oregon.

On October 1, 2018, J.B. contacted BPD Detective Morrison and informed him that her grandson and Laura Johnson's son, Steven Johnson, was in Billings searching for his missing mother. Additionally, Detective Morrison confirmed that the Defendant worked for Architectural Door and Hardware (ADH) in Billings and had only moved to Billings several months ago to work for the company.

On October 3, 2018, BPD Officers including Detective Morrison searched the residence at 326 Windsor Circle. The Defendant was present and consented to the search. According to Officer Wallis the Defendant was very cooperative and the officer noted that the residence was very clean. The Defendant also allowed Detective Morrison to look through his smartphone. The Defendant showed two text messages that were sent by him to Laura, who he calls "Janette", on September 15, 2018. The first message said, "You left again i see where to now." The second said, "I hope your happy with your new guy, maybe you both will do harion together DOPERS."

On October 4, 2018, BPD detectives learned that the neighbor of the Defendant at 313 Windsor Circle South has home surveillance and that one of the video cameras could have recorded events outside of the Defendant's residence. At midnight (October 5, 2018), BPD detectives met with the homeowner and Stephan Johnson, son of Laura Johnson. Detective Morrison noted that the homeowner's camera system was of good quality and one of the cameras was pointed in the direction of the Defendant and Johnson's residence, at 326 Windsor. The surveillance system recordings also noted the time and date. Detectives briefly reviewed the recordings which went all the way back into September. The detectives noted several interesting events from the recordings. According to their review of the surveillance they could observe the Defendant, on September 14, 2018 at 5:48 p.m. carrying a very heavy object, "cradle style" out of his garage. This object which was covered in a red colored blanket was consistent with the size and shape of a body. The Defendant carried the body a short distance from his opened garage to the driver's side passenger door to his ADH truck. The Defendant placed the blanket covered body into the rear cab of the truck. Also, on September 14, 2018 at 6:27 p.m., BPD investigators observed the Defendant start a small fire toward the rear of the pickup on the driveway. Investigators could not determine what the Defendant was burning at the rear of the truck. At 6:38 p.m. investigators observed the Defendant place a shovel into the bed of the pickup. At approximately 7:00 p.m. the Defendant then left the residence in the truck and did not return to the residence until 10:23 p.m. At no time on September 14, 2018 did the video recording show Laura Johnson exiting or walking from the residence. After this review, detectives seized the security system in order to conduct a more thorough review of the recordings.

Around 11:00 a.m. on October 5, 2018 detectives met with the Defendant at his workplace, ADH and asked him to provide a formal statement regarding Johnson's disappearance. The Defendant agreed to meet the detectives at City Hall during his lunch break later in the day.

Detectives then went to Papa John's Pizza and met with Chris Sheriff, a manager. Sheriff confirmed for the detectives that Johnson was last at work on September 13, 2018 and had worked from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. that day. Sheriff stated that Johnson was scheduled to show up for work at 10:00 a.m. on September 14, 2018 but never showed up again.

On October 5, 2018 at approximately 12:30 p.m., the Defendant arrived at City Hall and provided a formal recorded statement to detectives. The Defendant downplayed any relationship that he had with Johnson but did acknowledge that she had come to Billings in August and had been living with him at the time of her disappearance. The Defendant stated that he allowed Johnson to use his Buick Park Avenue after she got her job at Papa John's. The Defendant also acknowledged that Johnson had been going to the recovery clinic. The Defendant then detailed that one day when he returned from work, around September 12, 2018, or September 13, 2018, by his recollection, Johnson was gone. The Defendant described that Johnson must have packed her two "red suitcases" while he was at work and left. He stated that the last time he saw her was in the morning before he left for work. The Defendant stated to the detectives that he did not know where Johnson had gone to and had not seen her since that morning. When detectives asked the Defendant to detail what he remembered about the last day that he saw Johnson, the Defendant claimed that when he returned home his Buick was parked inside the garage and its keys were on

the counter. He noted that sometime after getting home he noticed that Johnson's "stuff" was gone. He claimed that she did not have much when she arrived in Billings in August, only her two red suitcases.

Detectives continued to speak with the Defendant and directly asked him if he had anything to do with Johnson's disappearance. He stated, "absolutely not." The detectives then explained that they had observed some video surveillance that recorded events around the front of his residence that was inconsistent with his recollection. The Defendant responded, "I ain't gonna say nothing else." The Defendant was allowed to leave City Hall after the detectives concluded their interview. The Defendant's ADH truck was seized pending a search warrant. Search warrants were also prepared for the Defendant and Johnson's phones. An additional warrant was prepared for 326 Windsor so that detectives could conduct a thorough search.

On October 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. detectives searched 326 Windsor. Detectives discovered that the carpet in the back bedroom of the residence was very new. Detective Tucker focused his investigation and search in this area. A section of the carpet was pulled up and it was noted that a carpet tack strip had not been utilized to secure the carpet and that the new carpet had been cut to fit to the room and set over a carpet pad. Several areas of this room were swabbed and the swabs were retained to possible future testing.

On October 6, 2018, detectives searched the Defendant's ADH truck. On the rear passenger side floorboard, detectives located a United States Postal Service missed delivery service notice addressed to "Laura Johnson at 326 Windsor Circle South." The notice was marked second notice and dated October 3, 2018. After contents were removed from the vehicle, Detective Tucker began processing the interior of the vehicle using Ultralite ALS forensic light source to search for possible stains or fibers. Detective Tucker marked several areas of interest during his search. Due to time constraints the search of the truck was halted for the day. On October 6, 2018 shortly before 10:00 p.m. detectives were alerted that the Defendant's Buick was moving westbound on Interstate 90. Based on a tracker that the detectives had placed on the Defendant's Buick after earlier obtaining a warrant, the Buick arrived in Henderson, Nevada the afternoon of October 7, 2018 after driving throughout the night.

On October 9, 2018, Detective Tucker continued searching the ADH truck. The detective searched the area of the left rear or driver's side of the pickup with the driver's side rear door open. On the edge of the door near the weather stripping seal Detective Tucker located three small visible reddish brown stains. The stains were photographed and swabs of these stains were collected. Detective Tucker noted that the stains were in such a place that the weather seal of the door would have protected the stains if the door was closed and the truck was washed. This was the same door that the video surveillance showed that the Defendant had opened when loading the blanket covered body on September 14, 2018. These swabs were later sent to the Montana State Crime Lab for serological testing and possible DNA testing.

On October 11, 2018 Detective Tucker interviewed Taylor Harlson. Harlson who lived next to 326 Windsor told the detective he had overheard his neighbors fighting one evening while he

was outside his residence. Harlson told the detective he was outside his residence talking on his phone when he heard them screaming at each other from inside 326 Windsor. He told the detective that they were “really, really getting into it.” Harlson stated that the “male” voice he heard was doing most of the screaming.

While Harlson could not pinpoint an exact date, relying on his past work schedule he figured it was sometime between September 10 through September 15 that he overheard the Defendant and Johnson screaming at each other. Harlson did tell the detective that he was arrested by the Montana Highway Patrol approximately one week prior to overhearing the screaming by the Defendant and Johnson. Detective Tucker later obtained documentation showing that Harlson was arrested on September 6, 2018 by the highway patrol.

Harlson also indicated that he used to see Johnson outside of 326 Windsor occasionally checking the mail. Harlson told Detective Tucker he had spoken with the Defendant a few times and actually interacted with the Defendant when the Defendant helped him move a couch. He estimated that the Defendant moved into 326 Windsor sometime during the summer of 2018. He told the detective that several weeks after the Defendant had moved in he started noticing Laura Johnson, though he did not know her name at the time, at the residence. Harlson stated that Johnson would always drive the Buick and always park it in the same spot on the side of the driveway leading to the garage.

On October 29, 2018, Detective Tucker interviewed Amanda Guarino, an owner of 4x4 Tech Incorporated, who had called Laura Johnson on the morning of September 13, 2018 to offer her a job as a research assistant with their company after Johnson had done an interview with them on September 12, 2018. On the phone call Guarino told the detective that Johnson was excited about the job and that she had agreed to start the job with them on September 19, 2018. When she did not show for work on September 19, 2018, Guarino attempted to call Johnson. Guarino recalled that the call went directly to voicemail. Guarino has not seen or heard from Johnson since speaking with her early on September 13, 2018.

Detective Tucker began to watch the video surveillance recording that had been recovered from the neighbor across from 326 Windsor. The camera angle from the recorded video surveillance showed, from a distance, a portion of the front yard, garage area, and the entryway from the garage to the residence at 326 Windsor Circle. Detective Tucker watched the entirety of the video surveillance recordings from September 13, 2018 through September 25, 2018.

As Detective Tucker reviewed the recorded surveillance from September 13, 2018, through September 25, 2018, he logged the time and date and brief description of every event or activity that could be observed related to the residence, in an attempt to make a timeline of events relevant to Laura Johnson’s disappearance. To supplement the creation of this timeline of relevant events detectives obtained search warrants allowing them to obtain the Defendant’s bank records, Johnson’s phone information and location data, and the Defendant’s phone information and location data.

As events could be observed on the neighbor's video surveillance recordings, detectives were also able to obtain surveillance video from other businesses and structures in Yellowstone County. When detectives had observed the Defendant leaving in the ADH truck on September 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., after loading up what appeared to be a blanket covered body and a shovel, detectives attempted to find video surveillance that might show the truck and the Defendant's direction of travel. From surveillance that was recovered detectives determined a general direction of travel for the Defendant on September 14, 2018. Several minutes after 7:00 p.m. detectives recovered surveillance from Town Pump at 1030 Highway 87 East showing the Defendant passing the station heading in the direction of Interstate 90. Several minutes after this event, surveillance video from the west Billings Weigh Station shows the Defendant heading westbound on Interstate 90 toward Laurel. At 7:35 p.m. from a video surveillance recording from Cenex Refinery in Laurel, Montana the Defendant drives south on Highway 212 toward the Yellowstone River Bridge. Later detectives took a statement from one of the Defendant's co-workers who observed the Defendant driving east on Interstate 90 near South Billings Boulevard in the ADH truck at around 10:00 p.m. according to her recollection. The video surveillance showing 326 Windsor shows the Defendant returning in the ADH truck at 10:23 p.m. From these video recordings and the witness statement detectives determined that the Defendant left his residence for over three hours the evening of September 14, 2018, and drove to a rural area away from Billings, Montana, south of Laurel, Montana.

From the review of the video surveillance of 326 Windsor, the phone location data, and the corroboration of the other video surveillance Detective Tucker put together a timeline of events relevant to the events surrounding the disappearance of Laura Johnson. The detective noted that the times of the various surveillance recordings differed slightly by several minutes.

BPD timeline of several events from video surveillance and location data:

September 13, 2018:

- 5:32 p.m. Defendant arrives at the residence at 326 Windsor backing his ADH work truck up to the garage.
- 7:07 p.m. Laura Johnson arrives at the residence, parks the Buick in the driveway and walks into 326 Windsor. Defendant is seen working in the yard and garage area at the time Johnson arrives. Google location data from Johnson's phone indicates that her phone remains at 326 Windsor all night.
- 9:48 p.m. Defendant leaves 326 Windsor in his ADH truck.
- 10:01 p.m. Defendant is observed at Wal Mart in Billings Heights buying saw blades, a paint roller, an energy drink, spray paint, and a paint tray.
- 10:22 p.m. Defendant returns to 326 Windsor in his truck pulling it into the driveway. Defendant walks back and forth to the truck and residence several times.

September 14, 2018:

- 6:38 a.m. Defendant moves the ADH truck to the end of the driveway. The Defendant then gets into the Buick where Laura Johnson had parked it the night before and drives it into the garage. The Defendant then closes the garage door.
- 7:05 a.m. Defendant leaves 326 Windsor in his ADH truck. Google location data shows Johnson's phone begins to move at approximately the time the Defendant leaves for work in his truck. Google location data logs location points along a path that leads toward the Defendant's employer ADH at 650 Central Avenue.
- 7:16 a.m. Location data indicates that Johnson's phone activity ceases near the area of South Billings Boulevard and Montana Avenue near the underpass. No more phone activity is associated with Johnson's phone.
- 4:17 p.m. Defendant arrives at 326 Windsor and backs the truck up to the garage.
- 5:46 p.m. The garage door opens and Defendant walks to driver's side of the truck and opens the rear driver's side door. He leaves the door open and walks inside the garage.
- 5:48 p.m. Defendant emerges from the garage carrying, cradle style, a heavy object covered in a red blanket. The size and shape is consistent with a body. Defendant places this heavy object into the truck through the opened door.
- 5:51 p.m. Defendant emerges from the garage carrying a rectangular object, similar to a large suitcase, reddish in color. Defendant places this object into the back seat and returns to the garage. Several seconds later, the Defendant returns to the truck placing a smaller rectangular object, similar to a small suitcase, of the same color into the truck.
- 6:05 p.m. to 6:24 p.m. Defendant moves back and forth from the truck to the residence placing several objects into the truck.
- 6:26 p.m. Defendant takes something light colored held in his hand from the driver's side of the truck and walks to the rear of the truck. The Defendant then starts a fire on the ground between the rear of the truck and the garage entry. The fire burns for several minutes.
- 6:38 p.m. Defendant puts a shovel in the bed of the truck.
- 7:00 p.m. Defendant leaves the residence in the ADH truck.
- 7:04 p.m. Defendant's truck passes the Town Pump, 1030 Highway 87E, moving toward Interstate 90.
- 7:10 p.m. (approximately) Defendant's truck passes Interstate 90 West Billings Weigh Station heading westbound.
- 7:35 p.m. (approximately) Defendant's truck passes CHS Refinery heading south on Highway 212 over the Yellowstone River Bridge.
- 10:00 p.m. (estimated) Jen Huschka, a co-worker of the Defendant, observes the Defendant driving the ADH truck east on Interstate 90 in Billings.
- 10:23 p.m. Defendant arrives back at 326 Windsor in the ADH truck.
- 10:25 p.m. to 2:17 a.m. Surveillance video picks up significant motion light activity from the exterior of 326 Windsor. Motion light activity ceases at 2:17 a.m on September 15.

September 15, 2018

- 7:03 a.m. Defendant walks to ADH truck carrying several large white bags and places two bags into the bed of the truck.
- 7:12 a.m. Defendant puts another large white bag in the bed of the truck.
- 7:24 a.m. Defendant comes out to the truck with a small white bag, gets into the truck, and leaves 326 Windsor.
- 7:53 a.m. (approximately) Defendant sends a text to Laura Johnson's phone that says, "*You left again i see where to now.*"
- 8:51 a.m. Defendant returns to 326 Windsor in the truck. He walks toward the residence.
- 9:13 a.m. Defendant comes to the truck and places a white box in the bed of the truck.
- 9:16 a.m. Defendant puts a small dark colored bag in the right rear of the truck.
- 9:18 a.m. Defendant comes to the truck again and puts a shovel in the bed of the truck.
- 9:19 a.m. Defendant leaves 326 Windsor in the truck.
- 11:01 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. Defendant's cell phone records show a cellular tower ping east of Billings near Pompey's Pillar, Montana.
- 1:58 p.m. Defendant sends a text to Laura Johnson's phone that says, "*I hope your happy with your new guy, maybe you both will do harion together. DOPERS.*"
- 2:56 p.m. Defendant returns to 326 Windsor in the truck and backs the truck into the driveway.
- 3:09 p.m. to 4:05 p.m. Defendant moves back and forth from the residence to the truck several times carrying items from the residence to the truck.
- 5:25 p.m. Defendant moves from the residence to the truck carrying a reddish colored large piece of carpet and puts it into the bed of the truck.
- 5:27 p.m. Defendant opens garage door.
- 5:27 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Defendant moves in and out of the truck several times carrying items. The Defendant moves in and out of the garage and reaches into the open trunk of the Buick parked inside the garage.
- 6:30 p.m. Defendant stands outside of his truck holding a document that he lights on fire and drops to the ground to burn.
- 6:32 p.m. Defendant leaves 326 Windsor in the ADH truck.
- 8:10 p.m. Defendant arrives at 326 Windsor and parks the truck at the end of the driveway close to the street.
- 8:26 p.m. Defendant backs the Buick out of the garage, parks it, and then pulls his truck into the garage and then closes the garage door.
- 9:41 p.m. Defendant leaves 326 Windsor in Buick.

September 16, 2018:

- 1:17 a.m. Defendant returns to 326 Windsor and drives the Buick close to the garage door. Defendant opens and then closes the trunk and goes inside the residence.
- 1:26 a.m. Defendant comes outside and opens and closes Buick trunk. Defendant goes inside residence after several moments.
- 1:27 a.m. to 4:42 a.m. Surveillance video picks up significant motion light activity from the exterior of 326 Windsor. Activity ceases at 4:42 a.m.
- 10:20 a.m. Defendant comes outside residence moves toward Buick with a bag and then returns to residence.
- 10:23 a.m. Defendant comes outside with a large trash bag and puts bag in the front passenger seat of Buick.
- 10:26 a.m. Defendant leaves 326 Windsor in the Buick
- 11:34 a.m. Defendant arrives at 326 Windsor and parks the Buick to the right of the driveway.
- 12:24 p.m. Defendant backs the ADH truck out of the garage and parks in the middle of the driveway.
- 7:47 p.m. Defendant walks from 326 Windsor to the passenger side of truck carrying what appears to be a red purse and puts it into the truck. *During the course of this investigation BPD detectives recovered an e-mail from the Defendant to Laura Johnson on August 20, 2018. This email contained a digital photograph of the Defendant and Johnson standing in front of the Yellowstone County Museum at the Billings airport. Johnson is holding a red purse of similar size and shape as the purse the Defendant carried to the truck at this time.
- 8:52 p.m. Defendant leaves 326 Windsor in the truck.
- 9:01 p.m. Defendant arrives at 326 Windsor and pulls up to the garage. Defendant goes inside the residence.
- 11:47 p.m. The residence motion light goes off one time. The motion light is not activated again for the remainder of the night into the morning of September 17.

September 18, 2018

- 7:15 p.m. Defendant leaves 326 Windsor in the ADH truck.
- 8:40 p.m. Defendant arrives at 326 Windsor and backs the truck into the drive way with a roll of carpet in the bed of his truck. *During the course of the investigation BPD detectives obtained a subpoena for Defendant's bank records. A Home Depot transaction in the amount of \$242.50 was found on this date in the Defendant bank records. Home Depot surveillance was also recovered that showed the Defendant purchasing the new carpet that was located by BPD detectives in the back bedroom of Defendant and Johnson's residence during their search on October 5.

September 20, 2018

-5:25 p.m. Defendant arrives at 326 Windsor in the ADH truck. Defendant pulls a large roll of carpet padding from the bed of the pickup and moves it into the residence. *Home Depot surveillance showed that Defendant purchased this pad on this date.

Detective Tucker watched the entirety of the video surveillance from September 13, 2018, through September 25, 2018. At no time did he ever observe Laura Johnson walk from or leave the residence under her own power after she entered the 326 Windsor at 7:07 p.m. on September 13, 2018.

In October 2018 BPD detectives repeatedly searched possible areas south of Laurel, Montana in an attempt to find a location of Laura Johnson's body or possible burial site. BPD contacted the public through a media release to determine if anyone else had seen the Defendant's ADH truck south of Laurel around September 14, 2018, or September 15, 2018. Despite the search efforts and the media release no site was located and no clues were located.

On November 28, 2018, Rachel Fife, a forensic serologist, with the Montana State Crime Laboratory tested several swabs of suspected blood taken from the search of the Defendant's ADH truck. Three of the swabs from the inside of the rear driver's side door were found to be blood and could be tested through DNA analysis. A DNA profile was obtained from the blood and the profile was that of a female. Detectives had earlier obtained reference standards from J.B., Laura Johnson's biological mother, and L.B., Laura Johnson's biological father. During the comparison analysis, the forensic DNA analyst concluded, it is 112 quadrillion times more likely that the DNA analysis results obtained would be observed if the source of the blood was from the biological child of J.B. and L.B. rather than an unrelated individual selected from the U.S. population. The analyst further noted that this result indicates very strong evidence supporting parentage.

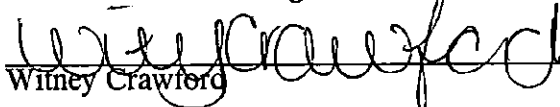
As of the date of this signed information, Laura Johnson (born November 1968) has not been located.

The investigation continues.



Scott Twito
County Attorney
Yellowstone County, Montana

This instrument was signed and sworn to before me on April 8, 2019 by Scott Twito.


Witney Crawford