

# INTERIM COMPLAINT

8

STATE OF ARIZONA

Date

7/12/2024

Offense Time/Date: 7/12/24 8:38am

Offense Location

Arrest Time/Date

Arrest Location

Justice

Pima County, State of Arizona

vs.

Christopher Ryan Scholtes

No.

1

Defendant's Name (Please Print)

Precinct No. 1

## BOND RECOMMENDATION

Arresting Agency Marana Police Department

High Bond

Low Bond

Agency Case No. 2407-0484

No Recommendation

✓

Arresting Officer Det. C. Chavez #445

Hold Without Bond

## INTERIM COMPLAINT:

To be used only where necessary to comply with the provisions of Rule 4.1, Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure.

## PLEASE PRINT CHARGING INFORMATION

The undersigned, having appeared personally and having been duly sworn does, upon information and belief, accuse Christopher Ryan Scholtes of the crime(s) of Domestic Violence-Second Degree Murder (F1), Domestic Violence-Child Abuse (F3)

committed on the 9th day of July, 20 24, in Pima County, in violation of A.R.S. Section 13-3601-13-1104.A3, 13-3601-13-3623.A2

Statute(s)

7-12-24

Date

Arrest Location:

Arrest Time/Date:

Offense Location:

Offense Time/Date:

R. Moreno 4688

Complaining Witness

R. Moreno /PCSD

Name and Agency (Please Print)

## Statement of Probable Cause:

On July 9, 2024 at approximately 1616 hours, Officers were dispatched to [REDACTED] which is located within the Town of Marana in Pima County, Arizona reference an unresponsive 2 year old female child left inside a vehicle.

☐ Continued on next page

7/12/2024

Date

Det. C. Chavez #445

Reporting Officer / Badge No.

This court has found reasonable cause to believe that such offense was committed and that the defendant committed it.

7/12/24

Date

Justice of the Peace / Magistrate

Defendant's Name: Christopher Ryan Scholtes

Agency Case No. 2407-0484

Statement of Probable Cause continued:

Prior to police arrival, the child was brought inside the residence by the parents who began performing life saving measures. Paramedics transported the child to the hospital via ambulance where she was pronounced deceased at 1658 hours.

Christopher was interviewed by detectives and stated he arrived home at approximately 1430 hours with his 2 year old in the back seat sleeping in her child restraint system. He advised he did not want to wake her up and wanted her to remain in the vehicle while she slept. He advised he left the vehicle running with the air-conditioning operating. He was aware the vehicle would automatically shut off after approximately 30 minutes based on previous experience of his vehicle.

Christopher advised that his wife arrived home from work at approximately 1600 hours. When she asked where the 2 year old was, he began to check the rooms of the home and then realized he had left her in the vehicle. He then went to the vehicle, which was now not running and he discovered the 2 year old unresponsive in the back seat still strapped her child restraint system.

Detectives further investigated and obtained nearby security footage from adjacent residences. The video surveillance showed that Christopher's vehicle arrived at the residence and was parked in the driveway at approximately 1253 hours, just after his other 2 children arrived home at 1252 hours. Christopher was seen walking from his vehicle to the front door of the residence by himself. At 1608 hours, the wife's vehicle was shown arriving at their residence and the 911 call was made at 1616 hours. Video surveillance obtained does not show Christopher checking on his vehicle or daughter during this time-frame.

The reported temperature was 109 degrees at the time of the call. The vehicle was parked in direct sunlight with the car seat on the driver's side of the vehicle which was a west facing window. Christopher knew that he had left his 2 year old daughter in the vehicle.

Through forensic interviews with Christopher's other 2 children, ages 9 and 5, they said that Christopher had left all 3 children alone in vehicle regularly and stated that "he got distracted by playing his game and putting his food away". When their sister was in the car.

Christopher received text messages from his wife while the 2 year old was being transported to the hospital stating: "I told you to stop leaving them in the car, How many times have I told you" he responded "Babe I'm sorry!" She said "We've lost her, she was perfect" He said "Babe our family. How could I do this. I killed our baby, this cant be real".

Justification for Bond Recommendation: