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Attorneys for the State

**IN THE JUSTICE COURT, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CASCADE
CITY OF GREAT FALLS, STATE OF MONTANA
BEFORE THE HONORABLE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

STATE OF MONTANA, Plaintiff, vs. CHRISTOPHER JAMES OFFERDAHL, Defendant.	No. INITIAL COMPLAINT, AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT, AND MOTION TO DETERMINE PROBABLE CAUSE AND SET BOND Citation No. 510 B023872 E, 510 B023873 E, 510 B023874 E
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The State of Montana, by and through the Cascade County Attorney, pursuant to M.C.A. §§ 46-11-101(1), 46-11-401(1), 46-1-202(6), and 46-11-401(3), hereby files this complaint against the above-named Defendant in the above-captioned Justice Court for purposes of M.C.A. § 46-10-105(1), pending filing of an Information and Affidavit in District Court pursuant to M.C.A. §§ 46-11-101(3), 46-11-201, and 46-11-203. This complaint consists of this pleading and the attached law enforcement citation form(s) and probable cause affidavit(s) which by this reference are hereby incorporated herein as if set forth in their entirety.

The State further moves the Court for a finding of probable cause and to set bail in this matter pursuant to M.C.A. §§ 46-9-109 and 46-9-301. This Defendant has been charged with the following offenses:

COUNT I: CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUGS, a Felony, in violation of M.C.A. § 45-9-102. A person convicted of criminal possession of dangerous drugs shall be imprisoned in the state prison for a term not to exceed 5 years or be fined an amount not to exceed \$5,000, or both.

COUNT II: CRIMINAL POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPHERNALIA, a Misdemeanor, in violation of M.C.A. § 45-10-103. A person convicted of this offense shall be imprisoned in the county jail for not more than six months, fined not more than \$500, or both.

COUNT III: CRIMINAL CHILD ENDANGERMENT, a Felony, in violation of M.C.A. § 45-5-628(1)(d). A person convicted of this offense shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$50,000 or be imprisoned in the state prison for a term not to exceed 10 years, or both.

STATE OF MONTANA)

: ss.

County of Cascade)

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT

As outlined in the attached probable cause affidavit, on May 27, 2021 MHP Trooper Palen observed a vehicle without visible registration on I-15 in Cascade County, Montana. Trooper Palen made contact with two males who had exited the

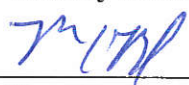
vehicle and advised that the vehicle was overheating. The older male was identified as Christopher Offerdahl and the younger male was his 14 year old son, GO. Trooper Palen observed that Offerdahl seemed nervous and continued to reach towards the driver's seat. Trooper Palen was advised that Offerdahl had numerous warrants for his arrest. Trooper Palen asked Offerdahl if there was anything in the vehicle he should know about. Offerdahl advised that his girlfriend, Tiffany Wells, was hiding in the trunk because she had outstanding warrant and was on probation. Trooper Palen received permission to search the vehicle from Offerdahl. Trooper Palen retrieved Wells from the trunk.

During the search of the vehicle, Trooper Palen located multiple glass pipes used to ingest methamphetamine, a scale, a mirror with residue, a Ziploc bag containing suspected methamphetamine and a small container containing suspected methamphetamine. Both substances tested positive for methamphetamine. Both Offerdahl and Wells claimed possession of the items and admitted recent meth use. GO, the 14 year old son of Offerdahl, was exposed to the presence of methamphetamine in the vehicle.

For the foregoing reasons, the State respectfully requests bond in the amount of 7,500.

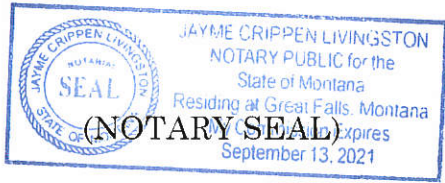
DATED this 28th day of May, 2021.

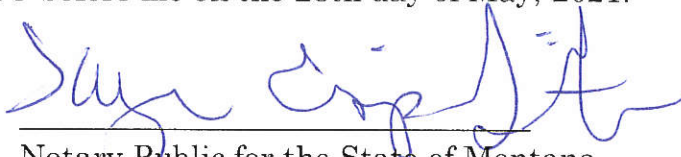
JOSHUA A. RACKI
Cascade County Attorney



Deputy County Attorney

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me on the 28th day of May, 2021.





Notary Public for the State of Montana,
Residing at Great Falls, Cascade County,
Montana.
My commission expires 9-13-21

cc: CA/Racki

O R D E R

Upon examining the foregoing Motion and Affidavit,

IT IS THE FINDING OF THIS COURT:

_____ that probable cause exists to charge the Defendant as stated above;

OR,

_____ that probable cause does not exist to charge the Defendant as stated above.

DATED this _____28th day of _____ in Cascade County,
Montana.

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE