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Attorney 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.

HENRY DOUGLAS LENNING,

Defendant.

No. _____

**INITIAL COMPLAINT,
AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT, AND
MOTION TO DETERMINE
PROBABLE CAUSE AND SET
BOND**

Citation No. ,

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: INTIMIDATION, a Felony, in violation of M.C.A. § 45-5-203(2). A person convicted of the offense of intimidation shall be imprisoned in the state prison for any term not to exceed 10 years or be fined an amount not to exceed \$50,000, or both.

STATE OF MONTANA)

: ss.

County of Cascade)

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT

As outlined in the attached probable cause affidavit, on January 27, 2022 at 1032 hrs, the FBI received an e-tip via their online reporting system stating there was going to be a "large scale attack" at CMR High School in Great Falls, Cascade County, Montana, the following morning involving a "mass shooting" and an arsenal of "several military style firearms and explosives." The tip was made by a person who identified themselves as "Todd Butler" from Shelby, Montana. The local FBI agents reported the tip to the Great Falls Police Department for investigation.

Investigators found an IP address on the Incident Summary sheet provided by the FBI. The provider for that IP address was Vision Net. Upon contacting Vision Net, their employees advised the IP address was leased to an entity in Great Falls who then issued the address to the Great Falls Public Library (301 2 Ave N).

During the investigation, a male by the name of Henry Lenning surfaced as he had made similar threats in the past using the same method, and the same IP address was used. Investigators found Lenning, who was from Shelby, was currently residing in Great Falls and was a regular at the Great Falls Public Library as recognized by the staff there. While observing camera footage at the library, Det. Bambenek observed Lenning in the library. Lenning was detained, advised of his Miranda rights and interviewed about the threats. Lenning admitted to making several threats to include the threat of a mass shooting at CMR High School. Lenning knew details of the report he would not have known otherwise unless he was the individual making the report to include using the name "Todd Butler" who Lenning said he knew from when he lived in Shelby. Lenning admitted to using the computers at the public library without knowing investigators had knowledge of the IP address linking the submission of the tip to the library computers.

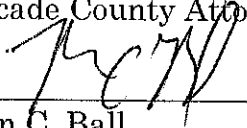
January 28, which was believed to be the day of the reported attack based on the tip made by Lenning, was a scheduled school day during which over 1000 students, staff and visitors would have been present on campus.

Based on the above information, Lenning communicated a threat or false report of a pending fire, explosion, or disaster that would endanger life or property.

Due to the serious nature of the incident, putting in fear a large number of children and adults, the State believes a large bond is necessary to protect the community. For the foregoing reasons, the State respectfully requests bond in the amount of \$150,000.

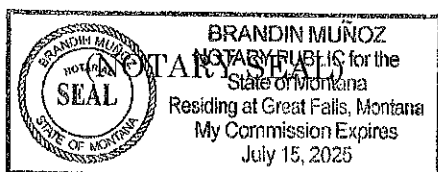
DATED this 28th day of January, 2022.

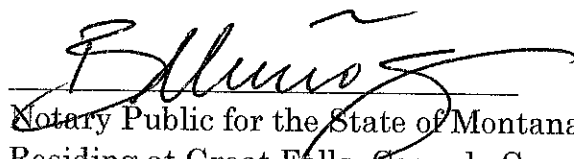
JOSHUA A. RACKI
Cascade County Attorney



Ryan C. Ball
Deputy County Attorney

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me on the 28th day of January, 2022.





Notary Public for the State of Montana,
Residing at Great Falls, Cascade County,
Montana.
My commission expires Jul 15, 2025

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

PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT



DISTRICT COURT GREAT FALLS, CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA

STATE OF MONTANA

Plaintiff

vs.

LENNING, HENRY DOUGLAS

Defendant

PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT/ HEARING

CASE NUMBER: PD22-01021

INCIDENT DATE: 01/27/22

OFFICER AFFIDAVIT:

The undersigned Officer of the Great Falls Police Department, being first duly sworn, states the following:

1. The offense(s) charged in this complaint occurred within the city limits of Great Falls, Montana.
2. I base the probable cause to charge or issue a warrant in this case on the following:

On January 27, 2022 at 1032 hrs, the FBI received an e-tip via their online reporting system stating there was going to be a "large scale attack" at CMR High School (228 17 Ave NW) the following morning involving a "mass shooting" and an arsenal of "several military style firearms and explosives." The tip was made by a person who identified themselves as "Todd Butler" from Shelby, Montana. The local FBI agents reported the tip to the Great Falls Police Department for investigation.

Investigators found an IP address on the Incident Summary sheet provided by the FBI. The provider for that IP address was Vision Net. Upon contacting Vision Net, their employees advised the IP address was leased to an entity in Great Falls who then issued the address to the Great Falls Public Library (301 2 Ave N).

During the investigation, a male by the name of Henry Lenning surfaced as he had made similar threats in the past using the same method, and the same IP address was used. Investigators found Lenning, who was from Shelby, was currently residing in Great Falls and was a regular at the Great Falls Public Library as recognized by the staff there. While observing camera footage at the library, Det. Bambenek observed Lenning in the library. Lenning was detained, advised of his Miranda rights and interviewed about the threats. Lenning admitted to making several threats to include the threat of a mass shooting at CMR High School. Lenning knew details of the report he would not have known otherwise unless he was the individual making the report to include using the name "Todd Butler" who Lenning said he knew from when he lived in Shelby. Lenning admitted to using the computers at the public library without knowing investigators had knowledge of the IP address linking the submission of the tip to the library computers.

January 28, which was believed to be the day of the reported attack based on the tip made by Lenning, was a scheduled school day during which over 1000 students, staff and visitors would have been present on campus.

Based on the above information, Lenning communicated a threat or false report of a pending fire, explosion, or disaster that would endanger life or property.

3. I know the purpose of this statement is part of the probable cause hearing for the issuance of the below listed charges, and/ or requesting a warrant for the arrest of the defendant named in the complaint.

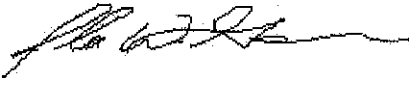
CHARGES:

45-5-203 - Intimidation

Dated this Thursday, January 27, 2022

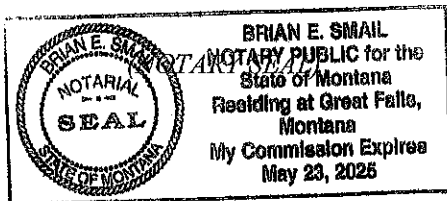
OFFICER SIGNATURE:

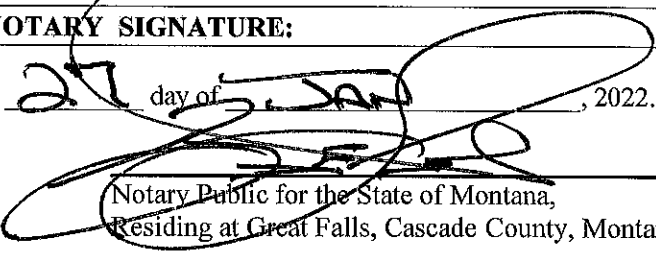
BADGE NUMBER/OFFICER NAME:


259 - Garner, Joshua

NOTARY SIGNATURE:

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 27 day of Jan, 2022.




Notary Public for the State of Montana,
Residing at Great Falls, Cascade County, Montana

My commission expires: 5-23-2025

JUDGE ORDER:

The Court/ undersigned Judge hereby finds: ☐ *THERE IS* ☐ *THERE IS NOT*

SUFFICIENT PROBABLE CAUSE to file the above listed charges, and/ or hold the defendant pending trial or hearing, based on the facts outlined herein.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this _____ day of _____, 2022.

JUDGE SIGNATURE:

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

CITY ATTORNEY <input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY ATTORNEY <input type="checkbox"/>	COUNTY JAIL <input type="checkbox"/>	SHERIFF'S OFFICE <input type="checkbox"/>	PUB DEF PARALEGAL <input type="checkbox"/>	DEFENDANT <input type="checkbox"/>	DEFENSE COUNSEL <input type="checkbox"/>
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