

**FILED
08-24-2021
CIRCUIT COURT
DANE COUNTY, WI
2021CF001891**

AAF In Custody
Assign to Branch

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT DANE COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Plaintiff,

vs.

CRYSTAL E HAIRSTON

755 Braxton Pl Apt A304
Madison, WI 53715
DOB: 12/24/1970
Sex/Race: F/B
Eye Color: Brown
Hair Color: Brown
Height: 5 ft 8 in
Weight: 300 lbs
Alias:

Ref. Agency: Madison (City) Police
Department

DA Case No.: 2021DA006424

Assigned DA/ADA:

Agency Case No.: 2021-00291173

Court Case No.: 2021CF _____

ATN:

For Official Use

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Defendant,

The below-named complaining witness being first duly sworn states the following:

Count 1: FIRST DEGREE INTENTIONAL HOMICIDE

The above-named defendant on or about Tuesday, July 27, 2021, in the City of Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin, did cause the death of MTR, with intent to kill that person, contrary to sec. 940.01(1)(a), 939.50(3)(a) Wis. Stats., a Class A Felony, and upon conviction shall be sentenced to imprisonment for life.

Count 2: MISDEMEANOR BATTERY

The above-named defendant on or about Tuesday, July 27, 2021, in the City of Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin, did cause bodily harm to WMO, by an act done with intent to cause bodily harm to that person, without that person's consent, contrary to sec. 940.19(1), 939.51(3)(a) Wis. Stats., a Class A Misdemeanor, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than nine (9) months, or both.

FACTS:

Your complainant is a Court Officer with the City of Madison Police Department and for this complaint is relying on the written police report(s) submitted by City of Madison Police Officer(s) Brandon Sheraden, Rayvell Gillard, and Detective(s) Shawn Kelly and Samantha Kellogg.

Officer Sheraden reports on July 27, 2021, he responded to a weapons offense that occurred in the 750-block of Braxton Place, in the City of Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin. It was reported that the suspect, who was later identified verbally and confirmed via her WI driver's license as **Crystal E. Hairston**, the defendant herein, had stabbed a male individual in the main lobby/elevator lobby of the above address. Officer Sheraden reports later during his

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contact with the defendant, she admitted to stabbing the male individual twice in the back near his ribs and once in the front in the heart.

When Officer Sheraden arrived on scene he observed Madison Fire/EMS ambulance medic 4 parking in front of the main entrance to the building. Officer Sheraden entered the building with his electronic control device (ECD) drawn and as he entered the main lobby, he observed the defendant seated on a bench to the right side of the lobby near the elevator. The defendant was still holding the purple knife at this time. Officer Sheraden observed the defendant actively stabbing the cardboard packages near the mailbox area. Officer Sheraden did not observe anyone else in the lobby at this time. Officer Sheraden further observed that the defendant had what appeared to be a large bottle of liquor in her possession that was half empty. Officer Sheraden immediately ordered the defendant to drop the knife, to which she complied by tossing the knife toward the other officers and Officer Sheraden near the main entrance.

Officer Sheraden heard Officer Pine request Officer Soch and Officer Holtan to check on the male victim, whose name forms the initials MTR, near the elevators. Officer Sheraden first looked at MTR and saw him sitting on the floor. Officer Sheraden heard Officer Holtan state that MTR appeared to have stab wounds, and Madison Fire/EMS personnel were immediately requested to respond inside the building to attend to MTR.

While taking the defendant into custody, she continuously stated, "I'm sorry," multiple times. The defendant told Officer Sheraden that "tonight I was so mad" and admitted to stabbing MTR by the elevator. When Officer Sheraden asked the defendant if she stabbed MTR, she stated, "Yes I stabbed him." The defendant stated she stabbed MTR twice in the back and once in the front. The defendant stated something to the effect of she "stabbed him twice in the back by his ribs because his ribs are really strong and once in the heart in the front." The defendant stated she stabbed MTR with her purple knife, which she stated was the same purple knife she was holding when Officer Sheraden first contacted her and took her into custody.

Officer Gillard spoke with an individual whose name forms the initials WMO (ID'd verbally). WMO seemed as though she was in pain and was making grunting noises and holding onto the rear of her lower back. WMO stated that she came home and used her key fob to open the front door. WMO stated that out of nowhere, a female/Black wearing a white and black dress, who was identified as the defendant, came out of nowhere and shoved her in the chest really hard. WMO stated that the push from the defendant caused her to fall to the floor on her lower back. WMO stated that the defendant then said something to the effect of, "You don't belong here." WMO then stated that she informed the defendant that she did live here. WMO then stated that when the defendant pushed her it caused her pain and she did not give consent to being pushed to the ground. WMO stated the defendant then got on the elevator. WMO stated that she saw the elevator had stopped at floor number three. WMO stated that a few moments later, the defendant came back down through the stairs. WMO stated that the defendant had a "big butcher knife" and a bottle of alcohol in her hands. WMO stated at this point she called 911.

Det. Penly advised that he had viewed video from the above address on Braxton Place that showed the incident and he was able to view the defendant approaching victim MTR while he was exiting an elevator into the public lobby area. The video then showed the defendant push MTR to the ground, where she stabbed him multiple times with a knife before returning to a chair in the lobby.

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Det. Kellogg reports on July 29, 2021, she attended the autopsy of MTR that was performed by Dr. Rogalska. MTR's death was ruled as a homicide, caused by sharp force injury with a smooth opposable edge. There were 3 major stab wounds:

1. Stab wound to the left lateral back. The entrance was between the 7th and 8th ribs, went through the left lung, through the pericardial sac and into the left ventricle. There were 6 separate stabbing motions made into the heart without removing the blade from the body. The depth of the wound was at least 6 ½ inches deep. This was the fatal wound.
2. Stab wound to the right side of the back. This entrance was between the 6th and 7th intercostal rib area and cut the 7th rib. This wound was at least 3 ¾ inches deep. This injury would have affected MTR's ability to breath.
3. Stab wound to the center-left back. This wound would require a lot of force and would have caused paralysis.

In addition, Dr. Rogalska found several incisions:

- Left thumb interior
- Left index finger
- Horizontal mid upper back
- Left upper back

The first two were consistent with defensive wounds as if MTR had grabbed the blade with his left hand. In summary, Dr. Rogalska noted 7 separate external injuries on MTR with a possible total of 11 stabbing/sharp force injury motions.

****THIS COMPLAINT IS BASED ON** the information and belief of your complainant, who is a Court Officer for the city of Madison Police Department, and who learned of the above offense from the reports of city of Madison Police Officer(s) Brandon Sheraden, Rayvell Gillard, and Detective(s) Shawn Kelly and Samantha Kellogg, which report your complainant believes to be truthful and reliable inasmuch as they were prepared during the course of the officer(s) official duties.

Further, your complainant believes the information furnished by the witnesses to be truthful and reliable inasmuch as they are citizen informant(s) and witnessed the events described.

Your complainant believes the statements of the Defendant(s) to be truthful and reliable insofar as they are admissions against penal interest.

Your complainant believes the information provided by Dr. Rogalska to be truthful and reliable as she is a trained forensic medical doctor performing her duties in an official capacity for the Dane County Medical Examiner's Office.

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Subscribed and sworn to before me on
08/24/21

Electronically Signed By:

Dallas B. Montano

Assistant District Attorney

State Bar #: 1112901

Electronically Signed By:

Kristine Acker

Complainant