Filed in District Court
State of Minnesota
1/25/2019

State of Minnesota
County of Washington

District Court
10th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. CR-2019-141
Court File No. 82-CR-19-374

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JACOB ERIC GERMAIN DOB: 03/29/1996

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Warrant

The Complainant submits this complaint to the Court and states that there is probable cause to believe Defendant committed the following offense(s):

COUNT I

Charge: Overwork/Mistreat Animals-Torture
Minnesota Statute: 343.21.1, with reference to: 343.21.9(d)
Maximum Sentence: 2 years and $5,000
Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 01/03/2019

Control #(ICR#): 19000422

Charge Description: overdrive, overload, torture, cruelly beat, neglect, or unjustifiably injure, maim, mutilate, or kill any animal, or cruelly work any animal when it is unfit for labor, whether it belongs to that person or to another person, resulting in death to a pet or companion animal

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STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The Complainant states that the following facts establish probable cause:

Your complainant is a licensed peace officer employed by the Washington County Sheriff's Office and offers the following statement to establish probable cause:

At approximately 7:00 p.m. on January 3, 2019, G.M.B. left her home in the 300 block of Wildwood Road in the City of Willernie, Washington County, Minnesota, to volunteer at an area restaurant. As she left her home, one of her two tenants, JACOB ERIC GERMAIN, d/o/b 03/29/1996, was just returning home.

G.M.B. returned home at approximately 9:00 p.m. and entered her locked home using her key. GERMAIN was the only person in the home at the time. G.M.B. found her 8-year-old Bichon Frise, Froto, laying on the floor of the kitchen, shaking, crying, and making odd noises. Froto was struggling to breathe, was bleeding from his mouth and ears, and he was unable to get up to walk. G.M.B. immediately called a friend to drive her and Froto to an emergency veterinary hospital in Oakdale. Despite their best efforts, the emergency veterinary hospital staff were unable to save Froto and rather than allow him to die a painful death, Froto was humanely euthanized.

The primary treating veterinarian determined that Froto was in respiratory distress, had a hemorrhaged nasal cavity, a hemorrhage of the sclera (the white outer layer of the eyeball) of his right eye, bilateral bleeding from his nostrils, severe pulmonary contusions, a left mild pneumothorax (collapsed lung), and broken ribs. Froto was at first coughing up blood, and then began vomiting blood. Based on her training and experience, the veterinarian concluded that Froto's injuries were caused by blunt force trauma.

Washington County Sheriff's Detective Joel Muellner spoke with G.M.B. and learned that G.M.B. obtained Froto from a rescue shelter six years earlier, and that he was her constant companion. G.M.B. told Detective Muellner that she rents out two bedrooms in her home. J.M.M. has been a longtime tenant, and GERMAIN moved in sometime in September or October of 2018 after responding to an advertisement G.M.B. placed on Craigslist.

G.M.B. noticed that Froto's behavior changed drastically after GERMAIN moved in to her home. Previously, Froto would come running to the door to greet her whenever she returned home. After GERMAIN moved in, however, Froto became much more timid. G.M.B. recalled returning home sometime in late November or early December of 2018 and finding Froto on the living room couch, shaking. Two nights later she again returned home and found Froto cowering on the living room couch. As G.M.B. comforted Froto she saw a U-shaped mark on his back. The mark went away after several days. G.M.B. said that both of these incidents occurred after Froto had been at home alone with GERMAIN. G.M.B. said that Froto was very skittish anytime GERMAIN was around.

On the night of Froto's death, Washington County Sheriff's Deputy Helms spoke with GERMAIN. GERMAIN was asleep in his upstairs bedroom so Deputy Helms had to wake him. GERMAIN appeared both nervous and aware of the reason why Deputy Helms wished to speak with him. When Deputy Helms asked questions of GERMAIN, he often stared blankly and provided no answer. GERMAIN admitted to yelling at Froto that evening but denied having any physical contact with Froto. GERMAIN did not tell Deputy Helms that anyone else had been in the home that evening.

Detective Muellner spoke with J.M.M., the only other resident of G.M.B.'s home, and confirmed that he was not at home at any time between when G.M.B. left and when she returned.

GERMAIN was asked to leave G.M.B.'s home the morning after Froto was killed, and efforts by Detective Muellner to locate him have been unsuccessful. At this time GERMAIN's whereabouts are unknown. For this reason a Complaint Warrant is requested.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: YOU MUST APPEAR FOR EVERY COURT HEARING REGARDING THIS CASE. FAILURE TO APPEAR FOR COURT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE AND MAY RESULT IN ADDITIONAL CRIMINAL CHARGES BEING IMPOSED AND PUNISHED AS PROVIDED IN MINNESOTA STATUTES SECTION 609.49.

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SIGNATURES AND APPROVALS

Complainant requests that Defendant, subject to bail or conditions of release, be:
(1) arrested or that other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court; or
(2) detained, if already in custody, pending further proceedings; and that said Defendant otherwise be dealt with according to law.

Complainant declares under penalty of perjury that everything stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat. § 358.116; Minn. R. Crim. P. 2.01, subds. 1, 2.

Complainant

Ronni Lake
Deputy Sheriff
15015 62nd Street N
PO Box 3801
Stillwater, MN 55082-3801
Badge: 175

Electronically Signed:
01/25/2019 09:54 AM
Washington County, Minneota

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

Prosecuting Attorney

Marc Berris
PO Box 6
15015 62nd Street North
Stillwater, MN 55082
(651) 430-6115

Electronically Signed:
01/25/2019 09:51 AM

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FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE

From the above sworn facts, and any supporting affidavits or supplemental sworn testimony, I, the Issuing Officer, have determined that probable cause exists to support, subject to bail or conditions of release where applicable, Defendant's arrest or other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court, or Defendant's detention, if already in custody, pending further proceedings. Defendant is therefore charged with the above-stated offense(s).

☐ SUMMONS

THEREFORE YOU, THE DEFENDANT, ARE SUMMONED to appear on **_____ ___, _____ at _____ AM/PM** before the above-named court at 14949 62nd Street N PO Box 3802, Stillwater, MN 55082-3802 to answer this complaint.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR in response to this SUMMONS, a WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST shall be issued.

☒ WARRANT

To the Sheriff of the above-named county; or other person authorized to execute this warrant: I order, in the name of the State of Minnesota, that the Defendant be apprehended and arrested without delay and brought promptly before the court (if in session), and if not, before a Judge or Judicial Officer of such court without unnecessary delay, and in any event not later than 36 hours after the arrest or as soon as such Judge or Judicial Officer is available to be dealt with according to law.

☐ ***Execute in MN Only*** ☒ ***Execute Nationwide*** ☐ ***Execute in Border States***

☐ ORDER OF DETENTION

Since the Defendant is already in custody, I order, subject to bail or conditions of release, that the Defendant continue to be detained pending further proceedings.

Bail: $
Conditions of Release:

This complaint, duly subscribed and sworn to or signed under penalty of perjury, is issued by the undersigned Judicial Officer as of the following date: January 25, 2019.

Judicial Officer Ellen Louise Maas
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 01/25/2019 10:13 AM

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON
STATE OF MINNESOTA

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

Jacob Eric Germain

Defendant

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RETURN OF SERVICE
I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Warrant upon the Defendant herein named.

Signature of Authorized Service Agent:

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DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

Name:	Jacob Eric Germain
DOB:	03/29/1996
Address:	
Alias Names/DOB:	
SID:	
Height:	
Weight:	
Eye Color:	
Hair Color:	
Gender:	MALE
Race:	
Fingerprints Required per Statute:	Yes
Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record:	No
Driver's License #:	
Alcohol Concentration:	

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STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

Cnt Nbr	Statute Type	Offense Date(s)	Statute Nbrs and Descriptions	Offense Level	MOC	GOC	Controlling Agencies	Case Numbers
1	Charge	1/3/2019	343.21.1 Overwork/Mistreat Animals-Torture	Felony	M8196	N	MN0820000	19000422
	Penalty	1/3/2019	343.21.9(d) Torture or cruelty to pet or companion animal- Death or Great Bodily Harm	Felony	M8196	N	MN0820000	19000422