

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No.
Court File No.

BEC-16-0392
07-CR-16-921

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

HEATHER MARIE MELVIN DOB: 10/17/1985

317 Main Street W
St. Clair, MN 56080

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Order of Detention

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: Burglary-3rd Deg-Steal/Commit Felony or Gross Misd

Minnesota Statute: 609.582.3

Maximum Sentence: 5 years and/or \$10,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 03/09/2016

Control #(ICR#): 16006752

Charge Description: Heather Marie Melvin

On or about March 9, 2016, in the County of Blue Earth, said Defendant, Heather Marie Melvin enter a building without consent and with intent to steal or commit any felony or gross misdemeanor while in the building, or entered a building without consent and did steal or commits a felony or gross misdemeanor while in the building, either directly or as an accomplice.

COUNT II

Charge: Possession of Burglary or Theft Tools

Minnesota Statute: 609.59

Maximum Sentence: 3 years and/or \$5,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 03/09/2016

Control #(ICR#): 16006752

Charge Description: Heather Marie Melvin

On or about March 9, 2016, in the County of Blue Earth, said Defendant, Heather Marie Melvin did have in his/her possession any device, explosive, or other instrumentality with intent to use or permit the use of

the same to commit burglary or theft.

COUNT III

Charge: Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent

Minnesota Statute: 609.52.2(a)(1)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days and/or \$1,000

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 03/09/2016

Control #(ICR#): 16006752

Charge Description: Heather Marie Melvin

On or about March 9, 2016, in the County of Blue Earth, said Defendant, Heather Marie Melvin did, intentionally and without claim of right, take, use, transfer, conceal or retain possession of the movable property of another without the other's consent and with intent to deprive the owner permanently of possession of the property.

COUNT IV

Charge: Trespass-Return to Property Within One Year

Minnesota Statute: 609.605.1(b)(8)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days and/or \$1,000

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 03/09/2016

Control #(ICR#): 16006752

Charge Description: Heather Marie Melvin

On or about March 9, 2016, in the County of Blue Earth, said Defendant, Heather Marie Melvin did, return to the property of another within one year after being told to leave the property and not to return, and the actor is without claim of right to the property or consent of one with authority to consent.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On March 9, 2016 at approximately 6:29 p.m., Officer Hoppe of the Mankato Department of Public Safety was dispatched to Walmart in the City of Mankato on a report of a shoplifting that had just occurred. Officer Hoppe was provided information that the female offender had fled in a vehicle bearing Minnesota license plate 968-LBC. Prior to arrival, Officer Hoppe learned that the vehicle was registered to Heather Marie Melvin, DOB 10-17-1985, and that Melvin was most likely heading towards St. Clair to her residence. Blue Earth County deputies advised that they would go check Melvin's residence to look for her.

Upon arrival at the Walmart store, Officer Hoppe spoke to a loss prevention member that had reported the incident. He learned the following information. The loss prevention worker was drawn to a female with a completely empty bag in the store. He observed the female conceal several items. He stopped the female after she passed all points of sale and she initially complied. The female then became reluctant to comply and began to leave. Upon trying to get her to stop and cooperate, the female threw the bag with the merchandise at his feet. She got into the passenger seat of a maroon vehicle bearing Minnesota license plate 968-LBC with a male driver. Officer Hoppe reviewed the security footage of the suspect and identified her as Melvin. He then looked at the bag that was used to conceal the merchandise and found it to be a very large, black, leather style purse that was completely empty short of the stolen merchandise. It was very clear to Officer Hoppe that Melvin used this purse as an instrument to aid her in the theft and to help her conceal the items she was stealing. Officer Hoppe was notified that deputies located Melvin at her residence in St. Clair, along with a male. He was also notified by the loss prevention member that Melvin had been previously trespassed from Walmart on August 6, 2015 due to a prior shoplifting incident. Officer Hoppe obtained a copy of the 2015 trespass notice.

Melvin was transported to the Blue Earth County Jail and advised by Officer Hoppe of her charges. He also advised her that she was being trespassed again from Walmart properties with a new start date of March 9, 2016 for a period of one year. Officer Hoppe took photographs of the large purse used in the theft and placed the purse into evidence.

The items Melvin had placed in the large purse included a bottle of Acetaminophen valued at \$4.00, a bottle of Ibuprofen valued at \$14.98, Real Tree Suspenders valued at \$9.00, and a 2pk package of automotive wipes valued at \$6.88.

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

Sandra J Schnorenberg
Public Safety Commander
710 S Front St
Mankato, MN 56001-3803
Badge: 3133

Electronically Signed:
03/10/2016 03:07 PM
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Ryan S. Hansch
401 Carver Road
PO Box 3129
Mankato, MN 56002
(507) 304-4600

Electronically Signed:
03/10/2016 10:53 AM

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 401 Carver Rd, Mankato, MN 56002-0347 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: March 11, 2016.

Judicial Officer

Greg Anderson
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 03/11/2016 08:13 AM

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

**COUNTY OF BLUE EARTH
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

HEATHER MARIE MELVIN

Defendant

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

Signature of Authorized Service Agent: