

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No.
Court File No.

BEC-16-0617
07-CR-16-2118

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CURLENE ROSEMARY KEECH DOB: 10/07/1988

19973 552nd Avenue
Mankato, MN 56001

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Summons

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: Neglect of a Child-Likely Subst. Harm Physical/Emot Health-G

Minnesota Statute: 609.378.1(a)(1)

Maximum Sentence: 1 year and/or \$3,000

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 02/26/2016 to 03/02/2016

Control #(ICR#): 16002900

Charge Description: Curlene Rosemary Keech

On or between February 26, 2016 and March 2, 2016, in the County of Blue Earth, said Defendant, Curlene Rosemary Keech did as a parent, legal guardian, or caretaker, willfully deprived a child of necessary food, clothing, shelter, health care, or supervision appropriate to the child's age, when the parent, guardian, or caretaker is reasonably able to make the necessary provisions and the deprivation harms or is likely to substantially harm the child's physical, mental, or emotional health.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On March 2, 2016, Investigator Wendler, of the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office; and J.M., a Blue Earth County Child Protection Worker, conducted a home visit at a location on 552nd Avenue, Mankato, Minnesota, in the County of Blue Earth. The home visit stemmed from a child protection report that had been made to Blue Earth County Human Services. Upon arrival, Investigator Wendler was met by Witness 1, an adult male; and Witness 2, an adult female. There were also two children present, Juvenile 1 and Juvenile 2, who are the grandchildren of Witness 1 and Witness 2. Investigator Wendler and J.M. explained why they were there. Witness 1 and Witness 2 spoke in length about how their daughter, Curlene Rosemary Keech, date of birth October 7, 1988, had left her four children last Thursday night, February 25, 2016, with them; and has not been back since then. They have no idea where Keech is. Keech is Witness 1 and Witness 2's daughter and lives in the basement of their house.

Witness 1 and Witness 2 wanted Investigator Wendler to remove what they suspected to be drug paraphernalia from the basement. Witness 1 and Witness 2 lead Investigator Wendler downstairs into a family living room area. Witness 2 pointed to a coffee table in the middle of the room and said Witness 2 put the drug stuff in there so the kids would not get it. Investigator Wendler opened the drawer and observed a 'one-hitter' style pipe and also a wooden 'bat box' along with a plastic baggy that had the raw smell of marijuana in it.

Witness 1 and Witness 2 also said that they were very concerned about the damage that Keech and Keech's friends have caused in the basement area. Investigator Wendler observed the area to be cluttered with soiled clothing and there were several used diapers and in piles on the floor. There was one mattress on the floor. Witness 1 and Witness 2 said that is where Keech slept and also had some of the kids sleep on it with her. Keech has four children with dates of birth in the year 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2014. Investigator Wendler noted that there were piles of dirty and soiled clothes strewn across the floor and also in piles on the floor and in every room. Investigator Wendler noted that there was a small room that had a broken wooden crib in which the youngest child stayed in. Witness 1 and Witness 2 were very concerned about the way Keech was living in the basement and the way she kept the basement with the children down there. Investigator Wendler took numerous photos of the basement area. Investigator Wendler also noted that there was an odor of must/mildew and of uncleanness in the basement. At one point, Investigator Wendler stepped on a soiled diaper that had been laying on the floor along with food that was laying on the floor. Investigator Wendler also saw that there were open wall outlets with no cover plates on them, and the door to the basement was broken as if someone had punched or kicked it.

Investigator Wendler went back upstairs with Witness 1 and Witness 2. Investigator Wendler and J.M. discussed options with them. Witness 1 and Witness 2 had been doing a lot of the care for Keech and the kids and making sure the kids got to school, were fed and clothed. It was determined that the children could continue to stay with Witness 1 and Witness 2 and that J.M. and Investigator Wendler would attempt to contact Keech and meet with her.

On March 4, 2016, Investigator Wendler and J.M. returned to Keech's residence and completed a 72-hour health and welfare hold on the children and placed them with Witness 1 and Witness 2 at that time as that is where the children had been staying and because the children's mother, Keech, was not able to be located. While Investigator Wendler was at the Keech residence, Witness 2 received several calls and text messages from Keech. At one point, Witness 2 handed Investigator Wendler Witness 2's phone and Investigator Wendler tried talking to Keech. Investigator Wendler told Keech who he was and that Investigator Wendler wanted to speak with Keech. Keech called Investigator Wendler a 'fucking asshole' and said that Investigator Wendler was 'full of shit.' Keech then hung up the phone. Keech continued to call Witness 2's cellphone, and Investigator Wendler again spoke with Keech. Keech was yelling at Investigator

Wendler and then said to meet her at the Good Thunder Police Department. J.M. and Investigator Wendler drove to the Good Thunder Police Department in hopes of meeting with Keech. Upon arrival, Investigator Wendler and J.M. met Keech and introduced themselves and advised who they were. Keech was very upset and wanted to argue with Investigator Wendler and J.M. as well as yell and cry. Keech stated she would not provide a urine sample and admitted she was told to self-medicate herself by using marijuana from her doctor. Investigator Wendler noted that Keech became more and more agitated and then walked away from Investigator Wendler and J.M., rambling something about getting a lawyer and called to CADA.

During the course of the investigation, Investigator Wendler and J.M. also interviewed Keech's children. Based on Investigator Wendler's and J.M.'s investigation and observations, Investigator Wendler referred the matter to the County Attorney's Office for review of child neglect or endangerment charges.

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

Richard Murry
Captain
401 Carver Rd
Mankato, MN 56002-0228
Badge: 2708

Electronically Signed:
05/23/2016 09:15 AM
Blue Earth County, MN

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:
05/20/2016 03:23 PM

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: May 23, 2016.

Judicial Officer

Krista J Jass
Judge of District Court

Electronically Signed: 05/23/2016 11:31 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.

CURLENE ROSEMARY KEECH

Defendant

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

Signature of Authorized Service Agent: