

State of Minnesota  
County of Hennepin

District Court  
4th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 19A01749  
Court File No. 27-CR-19-3844

---

**State of Minnesota,**

Plaintiff,

vs.

**JERRY ARNOLD WESTROM DOB: 05/16/1966**

37192 BAY SHORE CIRCLE  
ISANTI, MN 55040

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: Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated**

Minnesota Statute: 609.19.1(1), with reference to: 609.19.1(1)

Maximum Sentence: 40 YEARS

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 06/13/1993

Control #(ICR#): 93152901

Charge Description: That on or about 6/13/1993, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, JERRY ARNOLD WESTROM, caused the death of J.C., a human being, with intent to effect the death of that person or another, but without premeditation.

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Complainant has investigated the facts and circumstances of this offense and believes the following establishes probable cause:

On June 13, 1993, property management for an apartment building in the 3100 block of Pillsbury Avenue South, City of Minneapolis, County of Hennepin, State of Minnesota, was notified by a tenant that water was coming into her apartment. Property management responded to the apartment and found water in the hallway coming from an apartment rented by A.G. Staff initially entered the apartment and observed water on the floor and a significant amount of blood. Supervisors were called to the apartment, who entered and found the shower to be running and observed a body of a deceased female, J.C., on the floor. Law enforcement officers were called to the scene and an investigation commenced.

Officers learned that J.C. was dating A.G., who had been out of state at this time. The investigation further revealed that J.C. was active as a prostitute and would use the apartment for meetings with customers. J.C. was found on the floor only wearing a pair of socks. A number of stab wounds were apparent to J.C.'s body. J.C. was brought to the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's Office. The evaluation located 17 superficial cuts to J.C.'s abdomen, as well as one large cut that exposed her intestines. Seven superficial cuts were found on J.C.'s neck and stab wounds were also observed on her chest, back, arms, hands, and buttocks. The Hennepin County Medical Examiner determined J.C.'s death to be a result of homicide caused by multiple sharp force trauma to the chest and further opined that a number of wounds were inflicted postmortem.

Within the apartment, blood was observed to be covering J.C., the bed and bedding, and a substantial portion of the adjoining bathroom. A number of items were collected from the apartment that would be later tested for the presence of DNA. These included: the comforter from the bed, a blue towel hanging in the bathroom, a washcloth found on the toilet seat, a red t-shirt found on the toilet seat, and a scraping of a blood stain from the sink.

In 2018, investigators consulted with a genealogist who has worked with law enforcement on another cold case where genealogy assisted with the development of a suspect. A DNA sample that was recovered from the scene of J.C.'s death and found to be of unknown origin was used to enter into available commercial genealogy websites. Information derived from this search coupled with additional genealogical searching led to two suspects, one being JERRY ARNOLD WESTROM, "the Defendant." Officers learned that the Defendant had lived in the Twin Cities metropolitan area from April 9, 1991, to December 31, 1993. Additionally, records checks showed contacts with law enforcement related to prostitution, including a conviction for solicitation in February 2016.

In January 2019, officers began to surveil the Defendant with the intent of surreptitiously obtaining a DNA sample. Investigators tracked the Defendant to a hockey game where he was observed ordering food from the concession area. Investigators observed the Defendant wiping his mouth with a napkin that the Defendant then placed within a cardboard food container before disposing of both in a trashcan. Investigators recovered the napkin and submitted it to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension for analysis. The BCA was able to determine that the napkin contained a mixture of DNA, however the major male profile observed was consistent with DNA samples recovered from the crime scene.

Officers subsequently located the Defendant and took him into custody. Investigators collected a known DNA sample from the Defendant and submitted that to the BCA. The analysis revealed that a mixture of two or more individuals' DNA was found on the washcloth recovered from the toilet seat. Neither J.C. nor the Defendant could be excluded from contributing to the mixture. However, 99.993% of the general

population can be excluded as contributors. The Defendant's DNA was found to be a match to the sperm cell fraction sample recovered from the comforter from the bed and the sperm cell fraction recovered from the blue towel that had been hanging in the bathroom. The Defendant's DNA was additionally found to be a match to the non-sperm cell fraction sample collected from the blue towel. Lastly, a mixture of two or more individuals' DNA was recovered in a non-sperm cell fraction sample collected from the comforter. The Defendant cannot be excluded from being a contributor to the sample, yet 99.999995% of the population can be. Further Y-Chromosomal DNA testing is pending at the BCA and will be compared to evidence recovered from the scene.

Investigators met with the Defendant, who agreed to speak with them after having been read his rights. The Defendant denied having been at the apartment complex, denied having been in the apartment, denied recognizing J.C., and denied having had sex with any women in Minneapolis in 1993. When confronted with the DNA evidence available to investigators at the time of arrest, the Defendant indicated he had no knowledge as to why his DNA would be present at the scene.

## 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**

Chris Karakostas  
Sgt  
350 S 5th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1389  
Badge: 3636

Electronically Signed:  
02/14/2019 10:28 AM  
Hennepin County, Minnesota

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

**Prosecuting Attorney**

Mike Radmer  
300 S 6th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55487  
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:  
02/14/2019 09:09 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 300 S Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487 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: \$1,000,000.00  
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: February 14, 2019.

**Judicial Officer**

Luis Bartolomei  
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 02/14/2019 10:45 AM

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

**COUNTY OF HENNEPIN  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**State of Minnesota**

Plaintiff

vs.

**JERRY ARNOLD WESTROM**

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:

## DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

**Name:** JERRY ARNOLD WESTROM  
**DOB:** 05/16/1966  
**Address:** 37192 BAY SHORE CIRCLE  
ISANTI, MN 55040

**Alias Names/DOB:**

**SID:** MN04002440

**Height:**

**Weight:**

**Eye Color:**

**Hair Color:**

**Gender:** MALE

**Race:** White

**Fingerprints Required per Statute:** Yes

**Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record:** Yes

**Driver's License #:**

**SILS Person ID #:** 701900

**SILS Tracking No.** 3083113

**Alcohol Concentration:**

## STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

<b>Cnt Nbr</b>	<b>Statute Type</b>	<b>Offense Date(s)</b>	<b>Statute Nbrs and Descriptions</b>	<b>Offense Level</b>	<b>MOC</b>	<b>GOC</b>	<b>Controlling Agencies</b>	<b>Case Numbers</b>
1	Charge	6/13/1993	609.19.1(1) Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated	Felony	H2030		MN0271100	93152901
	Penalty	6/13/1993	609.19.1(1) Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated	Felony	H2030		MN0271100	93152901