

State of Minnesota
County of Hennepin

District Court
4th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No.
Court File No.

19A03459
27-CR-19-6984

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOHN ROSS WHITAKER DOB: 03/25/1994

211 East 7th Street #221
St. Paul, MN 55101

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

Minnesota Statute: 609.582.3, with reference to: 609.582.3, 609.11.5(a)

Maximum Sentence: 5 YEARS AND/OR \$10,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 03/09/2019

Control #(ICR#): 19001462

Charge Description: That on or about 3/9/2019, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, JOHN ROSS WHITAKER, either directly or as an accomplice, entered 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 stole or committed a felony or gross misdemeanor while in the building, while possessing a firearm.

Minimum Sentence: 3 YEARS

COUNT II

Charge: Receiving Stolen Property

Minnesota Statute: 609.53.1, with reference to: 609.52.3(1)

Maximum Sentence: 20 YEARS AND/OR \$100,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 03/09/2019

Control #(ICR#): 19001462

Charge Description: That on or about 3/25/2019, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, JOHN ROSS WHITAKER received, possessed, transferred, bought or concealed stolen property or property obtained by robbery, and JOHN ROSS WHITAKER knew or had reason to know the property was stolen or obtained by robbery, and the property was a firearm.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

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

That on March 9, 2019, at approximately 2:28 a.m., St Louis Park Police were dispatched to Frontiersman in St. Louis Park, Hennepin County, a business which sells guns and ammunition on a call of a security alarm being activated. Upon arrival, officers heard the audible alarm and checked the perimeter however did not detect signs of forced entry. No one was found inside the business.

The owner later came to the store and reviewed surveillance video. The video shows an individual wearing all black clothing, shoes and a black mask or balaclava concealing almost the entire face. Only the eyes and the bridge of the nose were visible, showing what appeared to be a Caucasian male. The owner reported that no one had permission to be in the business at the time of the burglary.

The video shows this person, later identified as Defendant herein, JOHN ROSS WHITAKER III, age 25, DOB 3-25-1994, in the front area of the store and walking toward a display of 9mm handguns. Defendant is seen selecting two 9mm handguns, an H&K make and a Walther make. Defendant is then seen selecting approx. 40 boxes of 9mm ammunition which he puts in a duffle. He then is seen taking magazines for the guns he selected. Defendant exits out of the back door. The guns and ammunition were reported stolen with the law enforcement including the ATF.

Additional video from the business shows Defendant at the exterior back door picking the lock, permitting entry into the business. He also picked a lock to an interior door.

Officers recovered video from neighboring businesses and apartment complexes. One of these videos shows a light-colored pickup truck leaving the area at the time of the burglary.

On March 25, 2019, at approximately 5:25 a.m., Eden Prairie Police were called to a residence in Eden Prairie, Hennepin County, on a call of an unwanted person at the residence. Upon arrival, officers met with the homeowner who reported that Defendant, one of his patients, rang his doorbell at 5:15 a.m. and spoke nonsensically. Defendant was dressed in all black and was driving a light-colored pickup truck with U haul lettering on the side. The homeowner told Defendant became afraid for his safety and contacted police.

Eden Prairie Police arrived and found Defendant near the scene. As Officer Moua talked with Defendant, the office saw a handgun in the inside left breast pocket of Defendant's coat. Defendant was immediately detained and officers recovered a second handgun in the right breast pocket of his coat. The guns were loaded and matched the two guns reported stolen from Frontiersman.

Officers also searched Defendant's pickup truck and found a duffle bag containing a black ski mask, lock picking tools and ammunition. Two additional guns were found in a backpack located in the rear of the truck.

Following defendant's arrest, he was interviewed. After having been advised of his rights, Defendant agreed to be questioned. Defendant admitted he burglarized the Frontiersman and stole the guns and ammunition.

Defendant is currently in custody.

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

Dallas Williams
Sergeant
3015 Raleigh Ave S
St Louis Park, MN 55416
Badge: P264

Electronically Signed:
03/26/2019 04:43 PM
Hennepin County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Elizabeth Beltaos
300 S 6th St
Minneapolis, MN 55487
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:
03/26/2019 03:13 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 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: \$45,000.00

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: March 26, 2019.

Judicial Officer

Fred Karasov
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 03/26/2019 04:59 PM

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

**COUNTY OF HENNEPIN
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

JOHN ROSS WHITAKER

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:

DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

Name: JOHN ROSS WHITAKER
DOB: 03/25/1994
Address: 211 East 7th Street #221
St. Paul, MN 55101

Alias Names/DOB:

SID:

Height:

Weight:

Eye Color:

Hair Color:

Gender: MALE

Race: White

Fingerprints Required per Statute: Yes

Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record: No

Driver's License #:

SILS Person ID #: 859123

SILS Tracking No. 3091114

Alcohol Concentration:

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	3/9/2019	609.582.3 Burglary-3rd Deg-Steal/Commit Felony or Gross Misd	Felony	B1344		MN0272100	19001462
	Penalty	3/9/2019	609.11.5(a) Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm Use or Possession	Felony	B1344		MN0272100	19001462
	Penalty	3/9/2019	609.582.3 Burglary-3rd Deg-Steal/Commit Felony or Gross Misd	Felony	B1344		MN0272100	19001462
2	Charge	3/9/2019	609.53.1 Receiving Stolen Property	Felony	Q1230		MN0272100	19001462
	Penalty	3/9/2019	609.52.3(1) Theft-Firearm or Property Value Over \$35,000	Felony	Q1230		MN0272100	19001462