

State of Minnesota
County of Hennepin

District Court
4th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 20A04003
Court File No. 27-CR-20-13613

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

AARON JAMES HJERMSTAD DOB: 01/01/1979

5357 71st Circle North
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

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: Solicit Child to Engage in Sexual Conduct-Prohibited Act

Minnesota Statute: 609.352.2, with reference to: 609.352.4

Maximum Sentence: 3 YEARS AND/OR \$5,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 02/28/2020

Control #(ICR#): 20000978

Charge Description: That on or about 2/28/2020, in Brooklyn Center, Hennepin County, Minnesota, AARON JAMES HJERMSTAD (DOB 01/01/1979), who was 18 years of age or older, solicited Victim, a known juvenile 15 years of age or younger, to engage in sexual conduct with intent to engage in sexual conduct.

COUNT II

Charge: Criminal Sex Conduct-2nd Degree-Victim Under 13-Actor > 36m Old

Minnesota Statute: 609.343.1(a), with reference to: 609.101.2, 609.343.2(a), 609.3455.6

Maximum Sentence: 25 YEARS AND/OR \$10,500-\$35,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 10/01/2019

Control #(ICR#): 20000978

Charge Description: That on or between October 1, 2019 and November 6, 2019, in Brooklyn Center, Hennepin County, Minnesota, AARON JAMES HJERMSTAD, born 01/01/1979, engaged in sexual contact with Victim, a person under the age of thirteen years, and more than thirty-six months younger than AARON JAMES HJERMSTAD.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Complainant, a licensed peace officer with the Brooklyn Center Police Department, has investigated the facts and circumstances of this offense and believes the following establishes probable cause:

On March 5, 2020, law enforcement received a report that a 12-year-old male, hereinafter referred to as Victim, had been propositioned by an adult basketball coach, AARON JAMES HJERMSTAD, the defendant herein. The information received by law enforcement was that Victim stayed the night at the defendant's house in Brooklyn Center, Hennepin County, Minnesota, on February 28th, 2020, and that during the night, the defendant asked Victim to "beat his meat" in exchange for money.

An investigation started and Complainant was able to confirm that the defendant (date of birth 1/1/79) was a teacher at Mastery School and was a basketball coach for Hospitality House. Complainant reached out to Victim's mother to set up a CornerHouse interview. During that conversation, Victim's mother reported that Victim had been offered money not to cooperate with the investigation.

Victim was interviewed at CornerHouse. During the interview, Victim reported that there had been more than one incident with the defendant. Victim stated the most recent incident was the one from February 28th. Victim stated that he was sleeping at the defendant's home, so the defendant could give him a ride to basketball the next morning. Victim reported that he was sleeping in the defendant's bed and the defendant was on the floor. Victim reported that the defendant offered him money by saying "If you beat my meat, I will pay you some money", referring to manual masturbation of the defendant's penis.

Victim stated that he left the room to tell his brother who was in another room of the house. According to Victim, the defendant told him to get back in the bedroom or he would not get any playing time at the game the next day.

Victim reported that another incident occurred prior and described it as occurring again when he was sleeping at the defendant's home. Victim stated he was 11 years old at the time and he believed it was in October. Victim reported that he was lying in the bed while the defendant was standing at the foot of the bed with his penis hanging out of his boxer shorts. Victim described that the defendant touched his foot with his erect penis.

Victim also described another incident where he awoke with the defendant on top of him and that the defendant was breathing hard. Victim stated that the defendant made the players take a shower anytime they were at his house and would tell them they had to shower if they wanted to play video games.

Complainant interviewed Victim's mother who stated that the day after the February 28th incident was a big game. Victim's mother stated that Victim unexpectedly walked off the court, threw his jersey at the defendant and quit the team. Victim's mother stated that Victim said he would not play for the defendant anymore and to keep the defendant away from him.

The defendant was previously accused of sexual assault by a player he coached. That case is being re-investigated. The State intends to use that case as Spreigl evidence.

The defendant is currently not 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

John Ratajczyk
Police Detective
6645 Humboldt Avenue N
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430
Badge: 105

Electronically Signed:
06/10/2020 11:08 AM
Anoka County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Dan Allard
300 S 6th St
Minneapolis, MN 55487
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:
06/10/2020 10:32 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 the address listed on the attached court summons 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: \$75,000.00

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: June 10, 2020.

Judicial Officer

Luis Bartolomei
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 06/10/2020 11:20 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.

Aaron James Hjermsstad

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:

DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

Name: Aaron James Hjermstad
DOB: 01/01/1979
Address: 5357 71st Circle North
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

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 #: 781469

SILS Tracking No. 3165761

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	2/28/2020	609.352.2 Solicit Child to Engage in Sexual Conduct-Prohibited Act	Felony	Z1A06		MN0270200	20000978
	Penalty	2/28/2020	609.352.4 Solicitation - Solicit Child in Person or via Computer or Internet - Sexual Conduct - Felony Penalty	Felony	Z1A06		MN0270200	20000978
2	Charge	10/1/2019	609.343.1(a) Criminal Sex Conduct-2nd Degree-Victim Under 13-Actor > 36m Old	Felony	L3052		MN0270200	20000978
	Definition	10/1/2019	609.3455.6 Dangerous Sex Offenders - Ten Year Conditional Release	No-Level	L3052		MN0270200	20000978
	Penalty	10/1/2019	609.343.2(a) Criminal Sexual Conduct-2nd Degree-Penalty-Stat. Max.	Felony	L3052		MN0270200	20000978
	Definition	10/1/2019	609.101.2 Minimum Fines – Victim Assistance Programs	No-Level	L3052		MN0270200	20000978