

State of Minnesota  
County of Hennepin

District Court  
4th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 20A02581  
Court File No. 27-CR-20-6391

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**State of Minnesota,**  
Plaintiff,

**COMPLAINT**  
Summons

vs.

**KIPP WAYNE BALDWIN DOB: 10/23/1960**

1206 EAST 97TH ST  
BLOOMINGTON, MN 55425

Defendant.

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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: Theft-By Swindle**

Minnesota Statute: 609.52.2(a)(4), with reference to: 609.05.2, 609.52.3(1)

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

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 10/17/2019

Control #(ICR#): 19010838

Charge Description: That on or about March 12, 2015 to November 15, 2019, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, KIPP WAYNE BALDWIN, date of birth 10/23/60, acting alone or intentionally aiding, advising, hiring, counseling or conspiring with another, obtained property or services from Hunt Electric by swindling Hunt Electric using artifice, trick, device or other means, and the property or services had a value in excess of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00).

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

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

On October 17, 2019, officers of the Airport Police Department received a report that an employee of the Metropolitan Airport Commission (MAC), KIPP WAYNE BALDWIN, date of birth 10/23/1960, Defendant herein, had been stealing copper from contractors retained by MAC to do construction work at the Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport, which is located in Hennepin County, Minnesota. The report indicated that Defendant had been seen taking copper from the construction area in Valet, loading the materials into his work vehicle and covering them up with a blue moving blanket. The report also indicated that barrels of stripped copper wire had been found in electrical vault 11A, located in Room LT-0144 and that it appeared to be the same type of wire used by the contractor working in the Valet area.

Upon receiving the complaint, officers obtained further information regarding Defendant and his actions. Defendant has worked for MAC for over 20 years and is employed as an electrician and is a foreman. Defendant works the day shift Monday to Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Defendant always drives MAC truck #616-841, when at work, using it to travel from the Trades Building to other areas of the airport, including Terminal 1. The report officers received indicated that Defendant had been seen at the airport on weekends, when he was off duty, but in uniform and driving the same MAC truck and parking it at Terminal 1 in the Valet area. The report also indicated that Defendant would park his personal vehicle in the wash bay in the Trades Building and then transfer stolen materials from the MAC truck into his personal vehicle. Officers learned that there is a large project currently underway referred to as the Baggage Claim Ticket Lobby Project (BCTL). Multiple construction crews are removing and replacing all types of wiring, HVAC systems and other piping. Multiple companies are working on the project, including Hunt Electric. It should be noted that by contract, materials that are removed during construction through demolition are removed by the contractor and are retained by the contractor. MAC electricians do not work with retained construction companies, but are tasked with specific repair work orders such as lights and other electrical issues throughout the airport, and some occasional demolition work. MAC has a formal process for an employee to remove discarded items from the airport, which includes a written request and approval prior to items being taken by the employee.

Just adjacent to the BCTL project are two doors that lead to a hallway that has several rooms that belong to MAC and are used by MAC electricians. MAC electricians are the only ones who have access to the rooms located within the hallway and are mainly controlled by Cliq key access, with the exception of one room that is accessed by cipher code. To gain access into the hallway, one must swipe a SIDA (Secure Identification Display Area) badge first. There is no other way to get into the hallway and into the electricians' rooms without first swiping a badge. Defendant would have access to all of the rooms.

On October 18, 2019 Complainant and other officers searched Room LT-0144 and found a bin of wire insulation. They also located a box of perfectly stripped copper wire, weighing approximately 50 pounds. Both the wire insulation and the stripped copper wire were hidden under plastic sheets and boxes. That box was later found, empty, in the back of Defendant's work truck after he had left at the end of his shift. Based upon the report and the observations of the officers, Complainant and Detective Hobbs of APD conducted surveillance of the Defendant's actions the following weekend.

On Sunday, October 20, 2019, officers observed Defendant arrive at the Trades Building in his personal vehicle. He then got into his MAC work truck and used his secured access badge to access AOA and drive to Terminal 1 where he parked outside of the E Concourse. Defendant entered the Valet hallway where Hunt Electric equipment and supplies were located. He rummaged around and picked up some items, some which looked like thick coated wires and pipes and placed them in a box. Officers watched him continue to move and carry items and then went in and out of the valet area with boxes, which he loaded onto the MAC truck. Defendant eventually drove back to the Trades Building, using his SIDA access badge to exit the AOA area of the airport. MAC employees were present in the Trades building. Defendant drove back to the Valet area, waited about 15 minutes and then returned to the Trades Building, after the MAC

employees there had left.

Complainant and other officers of the Airport Police Department obtained search warrants to place GPS trackers on Defendant's personal vehicles, set up surveillance devices in relevant areas of the airport, utilized live CCTV and conducted physical surveillance of Defendant. Officers also examined payroll records, work orders and records of Defendant's SIDA badge scans and learned that Defendant had accessed Airside Operations Area (AOA) airport facilities 58 days outside of normal workdays just between October 22, 2018 and November 1, 2019. Further analysis of security data and access by Defendant of airport facilities is ongoing.

Detective Hobbs reviewed both archived and live CCTV video during the course of the surveillance. Det Hobbs saw that on October 13, 2019, Defendant had used his SIDA badge to access the AOA and then badged through the stairwell to the Valet area. He is seen going in and out the electrical rooms, then is seen pushing a large cart with boxes into the elevator and arrives in the hallway of the old Bradford Loading Dock. While in the hallway to the loading dock. Defendant digs into one of the boxes and takes out an orange reflective vest that said "HUNT" on the back, which he puts on over his shirt. He then removes his baseball cap and puts on a hardhat that he has in a box. Finally, he puts out a spool of wire that a Hunt electrician would use. Disguised as a Hunt employee, Defendant then pushes the bin into the tug drive and through door. He later returns to the area, having removed the Hunt clothing.

Officers continue to monitor Defendant's actions and review live CCTV and archived CCTV and the results of GPS tracker information and note that on multiple occasions, Defendant is present on MSP property using his work uniform and truck on days that he is not scheduled to work. He continues to engage in behavior that indicates that he is taking materials from the Hunt Electric work site, secreting them in electrical rooms nearby, stripping the wires and then surreptitiously removing them from MAC property. Officers also observe that Defendant appears to be in an electrical room stripping copper wire during work hours. He is also observed on at least one occasion during work hours, to have used his MAC work vehicle to drive to his residence in Bloomington and unload items into his garage.

On October 31, 2019, Complainant and Detective Hobbs marked copper wire that had been placed in Hunt Electric bins that were in the BCTL construction area with theft detection powder. The theft detection powder was later found on items at a local scrap facility, United Milwaukee, as well as on items in Defendant's garage and in his work vehicle.

On November 14, 2019. Officers learned that Defendant was part of a MAC demolition project that involved gathering and packaging up scrap CAT wiring in the DHL building. Officers followed the Defendant as he drove his work truck and noted that he was driving southbound on Highway 77. Defendant drove to his home and backed up to his garage. The officer saw two very large cardboard boxes in the bed of his truck and partially covered with a blue blanket. The officer had seen the blanket before in the back of Defendant's truck. About a half an hour later, Defendant left his residence and then drove to United Milwaukee Scrap in Burnsville, where he was observed to be unloading a number of boxes. Officers then followed Defendant, who eventually returned to the Trades Building

Complainant and Det. Hobbs went to United Milwaukee and spoke to B.T., a known adult male and account executive for the scrap business. The officers asked to see the records of a recent transaction involving Kipp Baldwin. B.T. seemed nervous and said he needed to call the corporate office. B.T. eventually said that he had had a call from Baldwin, who said that he was going to be dropping off scrap. Baldwin dropped off "Bare Bright Copper", which was packed in boxes and barrels and two large containers of data wire and Cat 5 wire. Officers got a copy of the receipt. Officers asked to see the materials that Defendant had dropped off and he said that the materials had already been loaded on a truck and were in transit. He attempted to call the driver to come back and then realized that the materials were still in the loading dock. Officers observed that the materials were stripped copper and copper wire and that they had the theft powder on them that had been placed by the officers. Officers also noted in the dumpster that there were two cardboard boxes, one that had been addressed to MAC Trades and one that had theft powder inside. Officers spoke to B.T., who said that he has known Defendant for about 20 years and has worked at United Milwaukee for about 9 years. B.T. buys scrap from electricians, plumbers and peddlers and recycles it. B.T. said that he knows that Defendant works at MAC as an electrician, but did not know why he had copper to

sell. B.T. said that Defendant claimed that the money he got from the loads he brought in was used for parties, coffee and miscellaneous items. The items dropped off by Defendant at the business were seized as evidence.

On November 15, 2019, your complainant and two other officers contacted Defendant as he was leaving work at the end of his shift. The officers were in civilian clothes. Sgt. Mademann asked Defendant if they could talk to him for a few minutes and he said "yes." They asked if they could go back into the electrical shop and he said, yes, no problem. After returning to the electrical shop, Defendant was told that they wanted to speak to him about a few matters of concern and asked if he would be willing to talk to them, he said yes. He was told that he was not under arrest and that he was free to leave at any time. Defendant said that he understood and that he had no problem talking to them.

During that interview, which was recorded, Defendant admitted taking materials from the area where Hunt Electric was working. Defendant said that he was taking some of the materials and selling them for coffee funds, Christmas dinners and things for the division. Defendant also claimed that most of the materials came from his deceased father's shed in Iowa. Defendant questioned why he had not been told that he couldn't take the "discards." Defendant said that if you had a fund to take care of your people, you sort of keep it under wraps. He said it was only a couple of hundred dollars a month. Defendant denied that anyone else was involved with taking or selling the materials. When asked if the other company would have liked to do the same thing with the discards he said "yes, I can see your point." Defendant admitted that he had made about \$50,000 in proceeds from items taken from "around the terminal." Defendant said that he used accounts at TCF and BMO Harris to negotiate the United Milwaukee checks. Defendant walked the officers through the Valet area and pointed out three bins owned by Hunt Electric and said that is where he had obtained the copper that he took. Defendant also walked through the electrical vault and adjoining rooms and workspaces and showed the officers where he had hidden copper wire taken from Hunt Electric.

Defendant was transported to the Police Operations Center and was booked and released. He was allowed to remove some personal belongings from MAC Trades and then relieved of his SIDA badge and work keys.

On that same date, officers executed a search warrant at Defendant's residence and vehicles. Officers located a barrel of large wire segments in the garage, a blue moving blanket, a Premier Electric Corporation yellow jacket, several boxes containing various types of copper wire, cable, copper wire with theft powder, a city of Minneapolis Public Works yellow jacket, spools of wire and \$10,000 in currency in a safe. Officers searched a Toyota Camry and located an open box of stripped copper wire, as well as single piece of heavy gauge insulated copper wire. Officers also located and seized copies of financial records. Officers received records from United Milwaukee Scrap, as well as from two checking accounts held by Defendant at TCF and BMO Harris, which revealed that between the dates of March 12, 2015 and November 15, 2019, Defendant received payment for delivery of materials to United Milwaukee on more than 70 occasions. An examination of the individual transactions reveals that Defendant was paid over \$145,722.25 for those materials. Many of the receipts had initials that suggested that a portion of the sum went to another individual and the remainder to Defendant. An examination of those receipts reveals that over \$126,737.18 of the proceeds were payment for the delivery of copper.

Officers obtained search warrants for Defendant's financial records. Complainant learned that in addition to having accounts with the aforementioned banks, Defendant also had ten 401k, investment, retirement, IRA or deferred compensation accounts that contained more than \$1,300,000.00, excluding accounts in the name of his spouse. Prior to selling scrap metal to United Milwaukee, Defendant had received payment for scrapped metal materials from seven other scrap companies going back to 1995.

It should be noted that since November 15, 2019, Defendant has not received any funds from United Milwaukee for scrapping metal.

The facts of the case indicate that aggravating factors exist to find that Defendant's criminal acts constitute a Major Economic Offense under the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines as they involve a series of illegal acts that involve multiple incidents per victim, an actual monetary loss substantially greater than the minimum loss specified in the statute, occurred over a lengthy period of time and involve Defendant's use

of position of trust, confidence or fiduciary relationship.  
Defendant is 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**

Jared Dittbenner  
Police Officer  
4300 Glumack Drive  
Suite 3255  
St Paul, MN 55111  
Badge: 59

Electronically Signed:  
03/09/2020 12:05 PM  
Hennepin County, Minnesota

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

**Prosecuting Attorney**

Susan Crumb  
300 S 6th St  
Minneapolis, MN 55487  
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:  
03/09/2020 11:48 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: \$100,000.00

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 9, 2020.

**Judicial Officer**

Michelle Hatcher  
Judge

Electronically Signed: 03/09/2020 12:09 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.

**KIPP WAYNE BALDWIN**

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:** KIPP WAYNE BALDWIN  
**DOB:** 10/23/1960  
**Address:** 1206 EAST 97TH ST  
BLOOMINGTON, MN 55425

**Alias Names/DOB:**

**SID:** MN07546517

**Height:**

**Weight:**

**Eye Color:**

**Hair Color:**

**Gender:** MALE

**Race:** Unknown

**Fingerprints Required per Statute:** Yes

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

**Driver's License #:**

**SILS Person ID #:** 405580

**SILS Tracking No.** 3159835

**Case Scheduling Information:** This is a Complex Crimes Team case and should be scheduled on the Serious Felony Criminal Block.

**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	10/17/2019	609.52.2(a)(4) Theft-By Swindle	Felony	U1061	X	MN0272500	19010838
	Penalty	10/17/2019	609.52.3(1) Theft - Firearm or property value over \$35,000	Felony	U1061	X	MN0272500	19010838
	Modifier	10/17/2019	609.05.2 Liability for Crimes of Another-Reasonably Forseeable	No-Level	U1061	X	MN0272500	19010838