

State of Minnesota
County of Hennepin

District Court
4th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 20A08786
Court File No. 27-CR-20-17040

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT
Order of Detention

vs.

VIVIAN JEAN JONES DOB: 10/23/1982

4042 Humboldt Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55412

Defendant.

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: 609.11.5(a), 609.19.1, 609.11.9

Maximum Sentence: 40 YEARS

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 07/31/2020

Control #(ICR#): 20199721

Charge Description: That on or about 7/31/2020, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, VIVIAN JEAN JONES, caused the death of Victim, a human being, with intent to effect the death of that person or another, but without premeditation, while using a firearm.

Minimum Sentence: 3 YEARS

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

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

On July 31, 2020 at approximately 7:50 PM, Minneapolis police responded to a residence in Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota on a report that a man had shot himself.

Upon arrival, officers made contact with a woman inside the residence, identified as VIVIAN JEAN JONES, Defendant herein. Police also located a forty-one-year-old man, hereafter "Victim," in a downstairs bedroom who was unresponsive and had an apparent gunshot wound behind his right ear. Victim was pronounced dead at the scene shortly after 8:00 PM.

Defendant told the first police officer on the scene that Victim was her boyfriend and had shot himself in the head. Defendant said she did not know where the gun was.

In a subsequent statement to other officers at the house, Defendant said that Victim had crashed Defendant's vehicle earlier in the day, and Defendant was angry about that. Defendant said she locked Victim out of the house. Defendant reported that Victim then forced his way into the house, and Defendant saw that Victim had a gun. Defendant claimed that Victim followed Defendant into the bedroom and began holding the gun to his head saying he was "tired" and had "nothing left." Defendant said she grabbed the magazine out of the gun, and Victim then shot himself in the head. Defendant said she "could've" put the gun in a nightstand drawer after Victim shot himself. Police recovered the gun from a nightstand in Defendant's bedroom.

Defendant repeatedly claimed that the gun belonged to Victim and that he had purchased it a couple months earlier. Defendant said the first time she saw the gun on July 31 was when Victim came downstairs holding it.

When employees of the medical examiner's office arrived at the residence to remove Victim's body, they noted that Victim had a second gunshot wound to the back of his upper thigh.

Defendant's neighbor told police that they had observed Victim walking outside the residence toward the alley. The neighbor then heard the "crack" of a gunshot and heard Victim yelling, "V! V!" The neighbor saw Victim walk back toward Defendant's residence and noticed Victim was now limping.

Defendant was transported to the Minneapolis Police Department and interviewed by an investigator. Defendant described being angry with Victim earlier in the day because Victim was being insensitive about Defendant's deceased cousin and because Victim had a car accident with Defendant's vehicle. When Victim and Defendant returned to Defendant's home, Defendant told the investigator, Victim said he needed something out of the vehicle and took Defendant's keys. Victim then left in Defendant's vehicle for 30-40 minutes, outraging Defendant.

When Victim returned, Defendant said she angrily pushed Victim out of the house and locked the door. Victim then stood outside the house asking Defendant to let him in to retrieve his phone. Victim eventually forced his way into the house through the back door.

Defendant said that Victim came downstairs to where Defendant was, and Defendant saw that Victim had a gun. Defendant told the investigator that Victim was apologizing to her and "being his usual self." Defendant said she then got "on him" while "tryin' to grab" the gun from Victim, during which "the clip [fell]

out" of the gun. Defendant said that, as she grabbed the clip, Victim shot himself in the head "so quick." The investigator asked Defendant what she did with the gun after Victim shot himself, and Defendant said, "I don't know. I think I put it in the drawer or something...I know I took it out of his hand probably..."

The investigator then confronted Defendant with the fact that Victim was shot in the leg in addition to the fatal shot to the head. When asked how Victim was shot in the leg, Defendant stated, "I have no idea," and repeatedly denied knowing anything about the other injury, saying, "I swear, I did not know he was shot in the leg."

After some additional discussion, Defendant was advised she would be booked for murder. Defendant then blurted out, "I did shoot him in the leg, I'm sorry for lying." Defendant proceeded to tell the investigator that she had shot Victim in the leg after he had returned with her vehicle, saying, "When he first came back, that's when I did that to him in his leg. That's how I got him back out the door." Defendant claimed that Victim then forced his way into the house, came downstairs, and took the gun from her. Defendant said she was "trying to take it back from him" when he shot himself. Defendant also admitted that the gun was hers.

Two witnesses told police that they spoke to Victim on the phone or in person on the day of his death. Both reported that he was in good spirits and gave no indication of suicidal thoughts.

Defendant is in custody.

The State will seek to offer the following evidence pursuant to Minn. R. Evid. 404(b): In 2006, Defendant was charged with Attempted Murder and 1st Degree Assault after she shot a female victim twice. In her interview with the investigator in the current case, Defendant said the prior victim was "dealing with the same dude as me," so "I seen her and I shot her." Defendant served approximately five years in prison in connection with the 2006 shooting.

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

Mark Suchta
Sergeant
350 S 5th St
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1389
Badge: 6995

Electronically Signed:
08/04/2020 11:36 AM
Hennepin County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Paige L Starkey
300 S 6th St
Minneapolis, MN 55487
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:
08/04/2020 11:34 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: \$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: August 4, 2020.

Judicial Officer

Luis Bartolomei
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 08/04/2020 11:45 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.

VIVIAN JEAN JONES

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: VIVIAN JEAN JONES
DOB: 10/23/1982
Address: 4042 Humboldt Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55412

Alias Names/DOB:

SID: MN02413165

Height:

Weight:

Eye Color:

Hair Color:

Gender: FEMALE

Race: Black

Fingerprints Required per Statute: Yes

Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record: Yes

Driver's License #:

SILS Person ID #: 434649

SILS Tracking No. 3181419

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	7/31/2020	609.19.1(1) Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated	Felony	H2011		MN0271100	20199721
	Modifier	7/31/2020	609.11.9 Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment - Applicable Offenses	No-Level	H2011		MN0271100	20199721
	Penalty	7/31/2020	609.19.1 Murder - 2nd Degree	Felony	H2011		MN0271100	20199721
	Penalty	7/31/2020	609.11.5(a) Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm Use or Possession	Felony	H2011		MN0271100	20199721