

P E T I T I O N

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT – JUVENILE DIVISION

COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE WELFARE OF

Child: Quayzhan Demario Thomas, (4/6/2003)
Quayzahan Thomas, (4/6/2003)
3615 Queen Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55412

SILS ID: 865446
Family ID: 367361
C.A. Case No: 20J14559

CA of Record: Stephanie Morgan
(272656)

Juvenile Felony Delinquency Age 16 Or Older

Mother: Ladella Nicole Thomas
(Same as Child)

Presumptive Certification

Father: Unknown

PO:

The Juvenile Court has jurisdiction by reason of the following allegations: The above-named juvenile is alleged to be delinquent pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 260B.007, Subd. 6(1) because said child has violated a state/local law as follows:

Count 1: R2313 Aggravated Robbery-1st Degree (Felony) (Aid/Abet)

MINN. STAT. 609.245.1, 609.245.1, 609.05.1, 609.05.2

That on or about November 17, 2020, at 11430 Jefferson Court North in Champlin, Hennepin County, Minnesota, Quayzhan Demario Thomas, acting alone or intentionally aiding, advising, hiring, counseling or conspiring with another or otherwise procures the other to commit the crime took personal property from the person or in the presence of J.G., knowing that he was not entitled to the property and used and/or threatened the imminent use of force against J.G. to overcome his resistance or powers of resistance to or to compel acquiescence in the taking or carrying away of the property, while using an article used or fashioned in a manner to lead the victim to reasonably believe it to be a dangerous weapon.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

Your Petitioner is an Assistant County Attorney. In that capacity, Petitioner believes the facts and circumstances recited below establish probable cause:

On November 17, 2020 at approximately 9:21 p.m. Champlin police were dispatched to 11430 Jefferson Court North in the city of Champlin, Hennepin County, Minnesota on a call of a robbery of the Holiday gas station. Upon arrival, officers spoke with victim J.G., an employee who stated that he was robbed by 4 black males.

J.G. reported that one of the suspects came up to the counter and asked about tobacco products. At the same time, a second male walked behind the counter and held a gun to him and demanded he open the register. J.G. reported that four males were involved and two had guns. J.G. reported that the suspects took money as well as tobacco products before leaving. The store manager reported that the suspects took a total of \$217.07 in cash and tobacco products.

Officers were able to watch video surveillance of the robbery and observed four male suspects. The video shows the first suspect walk behind the counter and produce a handgun as two other suspects also come behind the counter. The fourth male stays in front of the counter but all four reach into the cash drawer to grab money. Two males also take tobacco products before they leave.

Investigators reviewed the video to identify the suspects. The first male was wearing a black jacket and black sweatpants with a shark mouth on the front. This male can be seen walking behind the counter and pointing a handgun at J.G. The male was later identified as R.C. The second male was wearing a black jacket, red sweatshirt, black hat and blue jeans with a retractable keychain lighter. The male can be seen putting a gun into his pocket. This male was later identified as E.W. The third male was wearing a dark puffy jacket, grey sweatshirt, blue jeans and black shoes. This male was later identified as A.K. The fourth male was wearing a black jacket with white stripes on the arms, black pants and black shoes. This male was later identified as Quayzhan Demario Thomas, Respondent herein.

Investigators reviewed surveillance video from several nearby businesses. Video surveillance from the Mann Theatre shows a gold colored van drive toward the gas station a few minutes before the robbery, and then away after. A license plate cannot be seen on the van. Investigators determined that a gold Toyota Sienna with Minnesota plate MLH958 had been stolen from Brooklyn Center in the morning of November 17, 2020. The van was later located at 3601 Upton Avenue. The van was processed and one latent print from the driver's side interior door matched E.W. A second latent print from the rear-view mirror of the van matched Respondent. A black face mask with a red broken heart was found in the van.

Investigators were aware of a rash of gas station robberies in the area with a similar pattern involving young black male suspects wearing the same clothing. On November 17, 2020 at approximately 10:15 p.m. three suspects robbed a Speedway gas station in Brooklyn Park. On November 18, 2020 at 10:30 p.m. three suspects robbed a Holiday store in Brooklyn Park in which the suspects shot a clerk. On November 19, 2020 at approximately 12:10 a.m. a gas station was robbed at gunpoint in White Bear Lake. On November 19, 2020 at approximately 2:45 a.m. three suspects robbed a Holiday gas station in Golden Valley. The countertop of the Holiday store in Golden Valley was processed and a latent print on the counter next to the register matched juvenile male R.C.

Investigators reviewed social media including Facebook and located several accounts showing possible suspects. Investigators observed in the social media posts photographs of the suspects in the robberies wearing some of the same clothing observed in the surveillance videos including pants with a shark mouth and a face mask with a broken red heart on a page for R.C. Investigators simultaneously requested warrants to trace social media and cell phone numbers associated with the suspects.

Based on the investigation results, investigators from several law enforcement agencies executed search warrants at three homes on December 17, 2020. When the search warrant was executed at 36XX Queen Avenue North officers found Respondent and R.C. Officers located items of interest, including a pair of black Nike shoes with colors fading orange to yellow/green, jeans with colorful patches, a black Nike jacket with reflective stripes around the biceps, a blue jacket with red and white USA, black Nike shoes with white bottoms, a .38 Taurus revolver, a BB gun that looked like a real gun, and ammunition. During the search of 55XX 32nd Avenue North officers located E.W. Items of interest were collected including a black jacket with blue lapels, red hooded sweatshirt, two BB guns and several bullets. During the search warrant at 35XX Thomas Avenue North officers found A.K. Items of interest were collected including loose ammunition, a BB gun, and both the license plates MLH958 for the stolen van.

Investigators interviewed the three arrested suspects. In a post-Miranda interview, E.W. admitted his involvement in 5 different robberies, including the one on November 17, 2020 at the Holiday station in Champlin. Officers showed E.W. images from the Champlin robbery and E.W. identified himself as the male in the black jacket with the red hooded sweatshirt, Respondent as the male in the black Nike jacket with white stripes on the biceps. E.W. identified R.C. as the male in the black puffy coat with the shark pants, and A.K. as the male in the dark coat with grey hoodie. E.W. stated that the gun he used in the robberies was provided by R.C. E.W. admitted to being in the stolen van when it was pursued by officers and stated that Respondent was driving. E.W. stated that Respondent was the one who shot the clerk in Brooklyn Park. E.W. stated he did not intend for anyone to get hurt in the robberies.


In a post-Miranda interview, Respondent admitted that he lives at 36XX Queen Avenue North and that he stays in two bedrooms. Respondent acknowledged a photograph from Facebook is him in the USA jacket. Respondent stated he shares clothes with friends.

The offense enumerated in Count 1 is a presumptive prison offense.

PURSUANT TO M.S. 260B.125, THE STATE IS MOVING, BY SEPARATE MOTION, THAT THIS PROCEEDING BE CERTIFIED TO THE DISTRICT COURT FOR ACTION UNDER THE CRIMINAL LAWS.

I endorse this Petition as to form and verify that the contents are true to the best of my information and belief pursuant to MRJDP 6.03, Subd. 3.

I DECLARE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT EVERYTHING I HAVE STATED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

 01/04/2021

Stephanie Morgan (272656)
Assistant County Attorney
Heath Services Building, 11th floor
525 Portland Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415
Telephone: 612-348-6859

Police CCN #: 20017741
Champlin
Agency #: MN0272900