

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: 20J14474

CA of Record: Jabari J Barner
(0398282)

**Juvenile Felony Delinquency Age 16 Or Older
FIREARM
Presumptive Certification**

Mother: Ladella Nicole Thomas
(Same as Child)

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: A1123 Assault-1st Degree-Great Bodily Harm (Felony) (Aid/Abet)

MINN. STAT. 609.221.1, 609.221.1, 609.11.5(a), 609.05.1, 609.05.2, 609.101.2

That on or about 11/18/2020, at 8517 Jefferson Ln. N., in Brooklyn Park, Hennepin County, Minnesota, Quayzhan Thomas, acting alone or intentionally aiding, advising, hiring, counseling or conspiring with another or otherwise procures the other to commit the crime assaulted M.B. and inflicted great bodily harm, while using a firearm.

Count 2: R1323 Aggravated Robbery-1st Degree (Felony) (Aid/Abet)

MINN. STAT. 609.245.1, 609.245.1, 609.11.5(a), 609.05.1, 609.05.2

That on or about 11/18/2020, at 8517 Jefferson Ln. N., in Brooklyn Park, Hennepin County, Minnesota, Quayzhan 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 M.B., knowing that he was not entitled to the property and used and/or threatened the imminent use of force against M.B. to overcome his resistance or powers of resistance to or to compel acquiescence in the taking or carrying away of the property, while using a firearm.

Count 3: R1323 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 11/18/2020, at 8517 Jefferson Ln. N., in Brooklyn Park, Hennepin County, Minnesota, Quayzhan 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 M.B., knowing that he was not entitled to the property and used and/or threatened the imminent use of force against M.B. to overcome his resistance or powers of resistance to or to compel acquiescence in the taking or carrying away of the property, and inflicted bodily harm upon M.B.

Count 4: A2423 Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon (Felony) (Aid/Abet)**MINN. STAT. 609.222.1, 609.222.1, 609.245.1, 609.11.5(a), 609.05.1, 609.05.2, 609.101.2**

That on or about 11/18/2020, at 8517 Jefferson Ln. N., in Brooklyn Park, Hennepin County, Minnesota, Quayzhan Thomas, acting alone or intentionally aiding, advising, hiring, counseling or conspiring with another or otherwise procures the other to commit the crime assaulted M.M., while using a firearm.

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 18, 2020, at approximately 10:30 p.m., Brooklyn Park Police were dispatched to a Holiday Gas station at 8517 Jefferson Ln N., in Brooklyn Park, Hennepin County, Minnesota, on a call of a robbery. Upon arrival, officers found that one employee, Victim M.B. had been shot and was laying on the ground near the cash register. A second employee, Victim M.M. told officers that he and M.B. were getting ready to close the store when a black male approached his register and put a gun to his face. This male told M.M. to "run your stuff." At the same time, a second black male approached M.B., pulled out a handgun and started to hit M.B. in the head several times. M.M. reported there was a third black male with the first two. M.M. reported that the suspect male and M.B. struggled and he then heard the gun go off and saw M.B. fall to the ground as two of the males grabbed money from M.B.'s hand and from the floor.

Police spoke with M.B. at the hospital on November 20, 2020. M.B. reported that he was doing the cash drop to the safe when three males came into the store. One male pulled out a gun and told him to give him all the money and wrestled with him to get the money. M.B. reported that he was on the ground when the suspect shot him. M.B. reported that he is paralyzed and it is not likely that he will walk again. Medical records show M.B. suffered a gunshot wound and spinal cord injury at T7-T12 and is unlikely to regain the ability to walk.

Police were able to view the surveillance video from the store which showed three African American males enter the store at 10:26 p.m. One male wore a black hooded sweatshirt with a flame on the left breast and a colorful triangle on the back. This individual was later identified as W.T. (1/23/04). The second male wore a black jacket with white stripes around the biceps, blue jeans that were ripped with colorful patches, and black Nike shoes with colors that fade from orange to yellow/green. This male was later identified as juvenile Quayzhan Thomas, Respondent herein. A third male wore a red hooded sweatshirt with a black jacket over it, jeans and black Nike shoes with white bottoms. This male was later identified as E.W. (12/14/03).

The video showed the males enter the store and separate while they looked at the clerks. At 10:27 p.m., an African American female entered wearing a long white jacket with brown fur on the hood who appeared to be with the three males. This female was later identified as A.T. At 10:28 p.m., all three male suspects approach the counter and M.M. moves to assist them. At this point Respondent goes around the counter and pulls a handgun from his waistband. At the same time E.W. also pulls out a gun and points it at M.M.

The video shows Respondent assault M.B. by striking him in the head several times with a black handgun. M.B. tries to grab Respondent and the two move out of the employee entry doors to the back of the clerk

counter onto the floor. M.M. is seen holding his head and wincing which is when it appears the gunshot is heard. Respondent then runs toward the doors with E.W., W.T. and the female following.

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. Approximately 4 hours after M.B. was shot, there was a similar robbery in Golden Valley, on November 19, 2020, at approximately 2:45 a.m., in which three suspects robbed a Holiday gas station. Surveillance video from that incident shows three suspects enter the store. All three point handguns at the clerk, take money from the till and run out. The clothing worn by two of the suspects is the same as the suspects in the robbery at the Holiday, in Brooklyn Park. The video showed that the suspects parked a Toyota Sienna tan van close to the Holiday store and ran back to the van after the robbery.

Shortly after the robbery in Golden Valley, officers observed the Toyota Sienna traveling eastbound on Highway 55. The officer noticed the van did not have any license plates and saw the van go through a red light and begin to flee. The officer pursued the van into Minneapolis, but lost sight of the vehicle near Dowling and Oliver Avenue, in Minneapolis. The van was later located at 3601 Upton Ave. The van was determined to have been stolen on November 17, 2020, from Brooklyn Center, and had license number MN MLH958. 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. The countertop of the Holiday store, in Golden Valley was processed and a latent print on the counter next to the register matched a juvenile male R.C. (6/11/04).

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 the sweatshirt with the flame design, and the Nike shoes with the colors fading from orange to yellow/green. 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 Ave. N., officers found Respondent and R.C. Officers located items of interesting 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 Ave. N., 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 Ave. N., officers found a male A.K. (8/14/04) who had been identified as a possible suspect in some of the robberies. 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 18, at the Holiday station, in Brooklyn Park. Officers showed E.W. images from the November 18, 2020, 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, jeans with patches and the Nike shoes with the colors fading orange to yellow/green. E.W. identified the third suspect wearing the black sweatshirt with the triangle and flame as W.T. and the female as A.T. who is his ex-girlfriend. Officers showed E.W. images from the robbery at the gas station, in Golden Valley, on November 19. E.W. identified himself and Respondent as wearing the same clothing, and R.C. as the male in the black puffy coat. 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 denied being involved in any of the robberies. Respondent admitted that he lives at 36XX Queen Ave. N., 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 offenses enumerated in Counts 1, 2, and 4 are felonies that involve the use of a firearm.

The offenses enumerated in Counts 1, 2, 3, and 4 are presumptive prison offenses.

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.

 12/21/2020

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