

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070113864
Court File No. 07-CR-26-3024

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOSEPH MICHAEL BURNS DOB: 03/07/1978

207 James Avenue
Mankato, MN 56001

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Order of Detention

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: Threats of Violence-Reckless Disregard Risk

Minnesota Statute: 609.713.1

Maximum Sentence: 5 years or \$10,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 07/24/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26001247

Charge Description: On or about July 24, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Joseph Michael Burns, did, threaten, directly or indirectly, to commit any crime of violence with purpose to terrorize another, or in a reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror.

COUNT II

Charge: Felon Convicted Crime of Violence - Firearm Violation

Minnesota Statute: 609.165.1b(a)

Maximum Sentence: 15 Years or \$30,000 fine or both.

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 07/24/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26001247

Charge Description: On or about July 24, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Joseph Michael Burns did ship, transport, possess, or receive a firearm or ammunition after having been convicted of a crime of violence.

COUNT III

Charge: Domestic Assault-Misdemeanor-Commits Act to Cause Fear of Immediate Bodily Harm or Death

Minnesota Statute: 609.2242.1(1)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days or \$1,000 fine, or both.

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 07/24/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26001247

Charge Description: On or about July 24, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Joseph Michael Burns, did, against a family or household member, as defined in M.S.A. 518B.01 Subd. 2, commit an act with intent to cause fear in another of immediate bodily harm or death.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On July 24, 2026, Law Enforcement from Mapleton Police Department responded to a domestic situation within the County of Blue Earth involving Joseph Michael Burns (03/07/1978) Burns had told Victim that he was going to kill her if she took their children after she stated that she was going to. Victim believed that he would kill her. Victim stated that Burns has abused her and the children in the past. Burns told Victim that he was going to inflict a kind of violence she had never seen before. Victim was scared for her safety and believed she was going to die. When speaking with Law enforcement Burns admitted to threatening violence. There are two gun safes in their bedroom that Burns has access to. The Gun Safes contained 2 shot guns, 2 rifles and several BB guns. Victim claimed that the other safe has a handgun in it, but Victim could not open it. There were several cases of ammunition present. Burns is a felon with a crime of Violence conviction.

A criminal history states that Joseph had a felony Aggravated Battery conviction in Kansas. Joseph also had a prior conviction of Possess Pistol/ Assault Weapon with Conviction for Crime of Violence, see 07-CR-14-3944.

Burns was arrested and transported to Blue Earth County Jail.

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

Joyce Baker
Police Officer
104 2nd Ave NE
PO Box 342
Mapleton, MN 56065
Badge: 4874

Electronically Signed:
07/27/2026 12:09 PM
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Benjamin J Dolan
Assistant County Attorney
401 Carver Road
PO Box 3129
Mankato, MN 56002
(507) 304-4600

Electronically Signed:
07/27/2026 11:26 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 as directed in the Notice of Hearing before the above-named court 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: \$
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: July 27, 2026.

Judicial Officer Mark Betters
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 07/27/2026 12:37 PM

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

**COUNTY OF BLUE EARTH
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

Joseph Michael Burns

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: