

State of Minnesota  
County of Blue Earth

District Court  
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070110133  
Court File No. 07-CR-25-644

**State of Minnesota,**

Plaintiff,

vs.

**BETTY ANN MERCADO DOB: 09/22/1986**

532 Capitol Drive  
St Peter, MN 56082

Defendant.

**COMPLAINT**

Summons

Amended

The Complainant submits this complaint to the Court and states that there is probable cause to believe Defendant committed the following offense(s):

**COUNT II**

**Charge: Drugs - 1st Degree - Sale - 17 Grams or More-Cocaine or Meth w/in 90-Day Period**

Minnesota Statute: 152.021.1(1), with reference to: 152.021.3(a)

Maximum Sentence: 30 years or \$1,000,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 02/11/2025

Control #(ICR#): 25003867

Charge Description: On or about February 11, 2025, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Betty Ann Mercado did within a 90 day period, unlawfully sold one or more mixtures of a total weight of 17 grams or more containing cocaine or methamphetamine.

**COUNT III**

**Charge: Drugs - 2nd Degree - Possess 25 grams or more cocaine or methamphetamine**

Minnesota Statute: 152.022.2(a)(1), with reference to: 152.022.3(b)

Maximum Sentence: 40 years and/or \$500,000 (not less than 3 years nor more than 40 years)

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 02/11/2025

Control #(ICR#): 25003867

Charge Description: On or about February 11, 2025, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Betty Ann Mercado did unlawfully possess one or more mixtures of a total weight of 25 grams or more containing cocaine or methamphetamine and said Defendant was previously convicted of a controlled substance crime.

**COUNT IV**

**Charge: Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Controlled Substance**

Minnesota Statute: 169A.20.1(2), with reference to: 169A.26.2

Maximum Sentence: 364 days or \$3,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 02/11/2025

Control #(ICR#): 25003867

Charge Description: On or about February 11, 2025, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Betty Ann Mercado, did, drive, operate, or was in physical control of any motor vehicle when he/she was under the influence of a controlled substance, and one aggravating factor was present when the violation was committed.

## COUNT V

**Charge: Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle - Any Amount Schedule I/II Drugs/metabolite; Not cannabis/hemp**

Minnesota Statute: 169A.20.1(7), with reference to: 169A.26.2

Maximum Sentence: 364 days or \$3,000, or both

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 02/11/2025

Control #(ICR#): 25003867

Charge Description: On or about February 11, 2025, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Betty Ann Mercado, did, drive, operate, or was in physical control of any motor vehicle, when the person's body contains any amount of a controlled substance listed in schedule I or II, or its metabolite, other than marijuana or tetrahydrocannabinols, and one aggravating factor was present when the violation was committed.

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On February 11, 2025, at 6:36 p.m., officers of the Mankato Department of Public Safety observed Betty Ann Mercado (DOB 09/22/1986) drive into the parking lot of a Mankato gas station, drive around the lot and then park the vehicle she was driving. Officers were aware of outstanding warrants for her arrest.

Officer Honetschlager arrested Mercado. Officer Wagner search Mercado and officer located a clean glass bubble pipe as commonly used in ingesting Methamphetamine. The officer also found a clear plastic baggie with a significant number of smaller baggies such as typically used in drug sales. Officer Wagner transported Mercado to jail.

At the jail, Mercado volunteered that she was “really like super high right now.” Mercado said she had used meth and was just driving to the gas station to buy cigarettes. Mercado told Officer Wagner that she had used a little bit more meth than normal and said, “Like, I’m really high, I’m high right now. Mercado said she had smoked more meth than she had used before she got clean.

Officer Wagner went through standard field sobriety testing assisted by Drug Recognition Officer Gelle. Mercado’s performance on the HGN, Walk & Turn and One Leg stand tests lead officer to conclude that she was under the influence. A PBT revealed an alcohol level of 0.00. Mercado had dilated pupils. The officers concluded she was under the influence of narcotics. A search warrant was obtained, and a urine sample was taken and sent to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

Mercado told an officer that there was “shit” in the back seat of the car she was driving, A 2021 Hyundai Kona with license plates numbered LZJ323. “Shit” is slag for methamphetamine. A search of the car revealed 26.1 grams of methamphetamine.

The Defendant has a current pending drug related case in file 52-CR-24-480 and is charged with three counts of a Controlled Substance Crime in the 5th Degree. In that case a Fail to Appear Warrant has been outstanding since December 4, 2024. On May 21, 2018 Mercado was convicted of Controlled Substance Crime in the 3rd Degree (Sale) in 40-CR-18-1125. On July 11, 2023 in Watonwan County file 83-CR-22-669 Mercado was convicted of Felony Fleeing in Motor Vehicle and Misdemeanor Driving Under the Fluence of a Controlled Substance. (07/11/2023)

The results of the analysis of Mercado's urine sample completed by the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension indicated the presence of amphetamine, methamphetamine, and delata-9-THC.

## 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**

Brent Gagnon  
Police Officer  
710 S Front St  
Mankato, MN 56001-3803  
Badge: 3124

Electronically Signed:  
03/23/2026 09:48 AM  
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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

**Prosecuting Attorney**

Todd Coryell  
Assistant County Attorney  
401 Carver Road  
PO Box 3129  
Mankato, MN 56002  
(507) 304-4600

Electronically Signed:  
03/23/2026 09:24 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: March 23, 2026.

**Judicial Officer**

Bradley C Walker  
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 03/23/2026 10:55 AM

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.

**Betty Ann Mercado**

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: