

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070111240
Court File No. 07-CR-25-2855

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

ZEAL JAMES NHIAL DOB: 04/14/2001

508 Castle Pines Drive
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: Predatory Offender - Knowingly commits act or fails to fulfill registration requirement

Minnesota Statute: 243.166.5(a)(1), with reference to: 243.166.5(b)

Maximum Sentence: Not less than one year and one day and not more than five years' imprisonment, a fine of not more than \$10,000, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 07/20/2025

Control #(ICR#): 25020625

Charge Description: On or about July 20, 2025, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Zeal James Nhial did, as a person required to register under section 243.166, who was given notice, knows, or reasonably should know of the duty to register, knowingly commit an act or fail to fulfill a requirement that violates any provision of this section.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On June 22, 2020, Zeal James Nhial (DOB 04/14/2001) was convicted of Aggravated Robbery in the First Degree in Blue Earth County file 07-CR-19-3561. The initial charges included two Felony Kidnapping mandating Predatory Offender Registration. Nhial is required to register until at least January 10, 2033. Registration requires information regarding current employment. Predatory Offender Registration requires individuals to update their file on any of the required information within 5 days of any changes. Information offenders are required to provide to law enforcement includes: primary address, secondary addresses, employment, schools, vehicles owned and/or regularly driven, and phone numbers.

On July 20, 2025, officers of the Mankato Department of Public Safety were on foot patrol in downtown Mankato. Officer Wagner was doing bar checks and saw Nhial. Nhial was a suspect in an assault that same night. Officer Casillas informed Officers Wagner and Gelle that police had been looking for Nhial regarding his need to update information in his Predatory Offender Registration file. At about 1:30 a.m., officers located Nhial. Officer Casillas told Nhial that Nhial had failed to update Nhial's employment information. Investigation revealed that Nhial had been working at Business 1 for about two and a half months. Nhial's registration information indicated Nhial was working at Business 2.

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

Jesse Gilbertson
Patrol Sergeant
710 S Front St
Mankato, MN 56001-3803
Badge: 3126

Electronically Signed:
07/21/2025 02:42 PM
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Christopher K Lowe
Assistant County Attorney
401 Carver Road
PO Box 3129
Mankato, MN 56002
(507) 304-4600

Electronically Signed:
07/21/2025 12:41 PM

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 21, 2025.

Judicial Officer

Krista J Jass
Judge of District Court

Electronically Signed: 07/21/2025 02:57 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.

Zeal James Nhial

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: