

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No.
Court File No.

0070112740
07-CR-26-424

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT

Order of Detention

vs.

ZACHARY HUGH ERTMAN DOB: 07/10/1990

14197 550th Avenue
Good Thunder, MN 56037

Defendant.

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: Aid and Abet Burglary - 3rd Degree - Enters public building; Steals either directly or as an accomplice

Minnesota Statute: 609.582.3(b), with reference to: 609.05.1

Maximum Sentence: 5 years and/or \$10,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 02/02/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26002077

Charge Description: On or about February 2, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, said Defendant, Zachery Hugh Ertman did, intentionally aid, advise, hire, counsel, or conspire with, or otherwise procure another to commit the crime, and/or did personally commit said crime; to wit: did enter a building without consent and with intent to steal or commit any felony or gross misdemeanor while in the building, or enters a building without consent and steals or commits a felony or gross misdemeanor while in the building, either directly or as an accomplice.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office Deputy Andrew Hagen states that on 02/02/26 at 2:33 a.m., he and Deputy Elijah Blakesley were dispatched to a burglary in progress at a rural farm site in the county, near the City of Amboy. The farm site has an old house and some outbuildings. The complainant reported that two individuals were breaking into his shed. The complainant was viewing live footage from a camera watching from a different location.

Deputy Hagen was in Amboy at the time and responded to the scene. It had been snowing off and on all night, and blowing. Highway 30 was drifted over due to the snow. While Deputy Hagen was driving south bound on County Road 1, he could see headlights driving slowly west bound on County Road 1 within approximately a quarter of a mile from the address. Based upon his experience, Deputy Hagen noted it is extremely rare to see any vehicle traffic on that road at that time and immediately suspected that the headlights were the suspect vehicle as it was in direct proximity to the address by less than a quarter of a mile.

Deputy Hagen did not see any other vehicles enroute to the scene or in the area. Deputy Hagen ran the plate as he met the vehicle traveling eastbound at 2:39 a.m. The readout showed the registered owner was Shayne Jacobson. Deputy Hagen was aware that Shayne Jacobson was suspected in a burglary last summer in Good Thunder and was also suspected in a recent icehouse break-in on Lake Ida with Zachary Ertman within the last couple of weeks, which is also only a few miles from the location.

Deputy Hagen turned on the vehicle and followed the vehicle until Highway 30 and stopped the vehicle due to the very close proximity to the address and the immediate time frame of the report, and the knowledge of recent break-ins. Deputy Hagen approached the vehicle and saw Shayne Jacobson in the driver's seat and Zachary Ertman in the front passenger seat. He could see the back seat was full of items. He advised Shayne Jacobson that I stopped him due to his immediate proximity to a just reported burglary and that he was there. Jacobson denied involvement. Deputy Hagen observed the tonneau cover was down but there was exhaust tubing holding it up. He looked in and could see the truck bed was full of items.

Deputy Hagen took photos of the tire tracks the pickup made in the snow as it pulled over on the shoulder. He sent the photos of the tire tracks to Lt. Kyle Phillips. When Lt. Phillips arrived at the address, he advised the tire tracks appeared to match.

Deputy Blakesley spoke to Jacobson who was the owner of the truck and driver and explained that guys matching their description were seen on camera near a shed and they appeared to be stealing. Jacobson and Ertman both stated they were not at the property ever and were coming from checking the lake. Jacobson stated nothing in the truck was stolen. Deputy Blakesley asked Jacobson if he could show him what was in the back of the truck so he could photograph it and have the potential victim view the items to see if they were his. Jacobson stated he would allow Deputy Blakesley to view the items and opened the tailgate and bedcover. Deputy Blakesley photographed the items for the victim to view. Jacobson also stated he would allow him to look in the backseat of the truck and photograph it.

Lt. Phillips was at the shed with the victim, and Deputy Blakesley sent him the photos. Lt. Phillips stated the victim identified a compressor as stolen from the shed. The compressor head had blue tape with the number 51 on the tape. The victim recognized it as an item he bought at an auction. Lt. Phillips requested that a search warrant be done on the truck. Deputy Blakesley did a quick inventory search looking for anything of note without touching or moving anything. He noted a white cardboard box in the bed of the truck behind the compressor head along with a tall cardboard box with the number 7 written on it.

Deputy Blakesley noted that both boxes were in photos from the victim, with a suspect carrying them out of the shed to a truck. The photos also showed two males, both wearing bibs, one with a camo sweatshirt and one with a gray sweatshirt. The clothing in the photos matched the clothing that Jacobson and Ertman were wearing. At the jail Deputy Blakesley photographed both Jacobson and Ertman with their clothing on. He noted both were wearing heavy winter bibs, and boots. The boots were photographed as well.

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.

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| Complainant | Jeremy J Brennan Chief Deputy 401 Carver Rd Mankato, MN 56002-0228 Badge: 2706 | Electronically Signed: 02/03/2026 08:59 AM Blue Earth County, Minnesota |
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Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

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| Prosecuting Attorney | Patrick R. McDermott Blue Earth County Attorney 401 Carver Road PO Box 3129 Mankato, MN 56002 (507) 304-4600 | Electronically Signed: 02/03/2026 08:44 AM |
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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: February 3, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Mark Betters
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 02/03/2026 09:07 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.

Zachary Hugh Ertman

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: