

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070114040
Court File No. 07-CR-26-3483

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JOSEPH SPRINGS DOB: 12/03/1963

105 E Walnut Street #611
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: Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon

Minnesota Statute: 609.222.1, with reference to: 609.11.4

Maximum Sentence: 7 years or \$14,000 fine or both.

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 08/21/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26026580

Charge Description: On or about August 21, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Joseph Springs, did assault another with a dangerous weapon.

COUNT II

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): 08/21/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26026580

Charge Description: On or about August 21, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Joseph Springs, 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 III

Charge: Assault-5th Deg-Inflict or Attempt Bodily Harm

Minnesota Statute: 609.224.1(2)

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

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 08/21/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26026580

Charge Description: On or about August 21, 2026 at 4:00 PM, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Joseph Springs, did intentionally inflict or attempted to inflict bodily harm upon another.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On August 21, 2026, Officer Pike of the Mankato Department of Public Safety responded to an assault at Jackson Park. Witness 1 had called 911 reporting that “someone tried to kill me.”

Officer Strong spoke with Victim 1 who stated that Springs “tried to kill” him and pointed him out to law enforcement.

Surveillance footage showed Joseph Springs (DOB: 12/3/1993) in conversation on a park bench with Victim 1. Springs placed a shirt over Victim 1’s face, forcibly placing it over Victim 1’s mouth. Springs then violently places the shirt around Victim 1’s neck, leaning backwards and pulling Victim 1 by the neck. Springs then let go and Victim 1 moves to a different bench.

Springs walked towards Victim 1 again. Victim 1 verbally confronted Springs. Springs then hooked a shirt under Victim 1’s chin and around his neck, and crossed his hands behind Victim 1’s neck tightening the shirt, using his body weight to make the improvised ligature tighter and strangling Victim 1. Surveillance footage shows Victim 1 kicking his legs while Springs is strangling him.

While being placed under arrest, Springs asked Officer Pike to lock up his bike, and if he did not, Springs was going to come back and kill everyone. Springs also stated that he would kill Victim 1 then next time he saw him.

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

Matthew Huettl
Patrol Sergeant
710 S Front St
Mankato, MN 56001-3803
Badge: 3142

Electronically Signed:
08/24/2026 10:04 AM
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

John L.V. Brooks
Assistant Blue Earth County
Attorney
401 Carver Road
PO Box 3129
Mankato, MN 56002
(507) 304-4600

Electronically Signed:
08/24/2026 09:22 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: August 24, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Kristine Weeks
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 08/24/2026 10:15 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.

Joseph Springs

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: