State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070114261
Court File No. 07-CR-26-4836

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

MARKESE DENAUGHTIS ZEIGLER DOB: 08/04/2001

208 Main Street W
Mapleton, MN 56065

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Summons

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: Domestic Assault - By Strangulation
Minnesota Statute: 609.2247.2
Maximum Sentence: 3 years or $5,000 fine, or both
Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 08/29/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26001483

Charge Description: On or about August 29, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Markese Denaughtis Zeigler did assault a family or household member by strangulation.

COUNT II

Charge: Domestic Assault-Felony
Minnesota Statute: 609.2242.4
Maximum Sentence: 5 years or $10,000 fine, or both
Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 08/29/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26001483

Charge Description: On or about August 29, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Markese Denaughtis Zeigler did, against a family or household member, as defined in M.S.A. 518B.01 Subd. 2, intentionally inflicted or attempted to inflict bodily harm upon another and has two or more previous qualified domestic violence-related offense convictions or adjudications of delinquency within ten years following discharge from sentence or disposition for that offense.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On August 29, 2026, at around 4:00 AM, law enforcement officers were dispatched to a residence in Mapleton, Minnesota, in response to a 911 call by Victim in which Victim reported Markese Zeigler had choked her, had his hands around her neck, and then ran. When Officer Hinderscheit of the Mapleton Police Department arrived at the residence, Victim refused to speak Officer Hinderscheit due to an incident in which Officer Hinderscheit pulled over Victim's daughter about a week prior. Victim stated she would lock her doors to keep Ziegler out and she would report the incident to a different officer later.

Officer Hinderschiet reviewed the 911 recording. On the recording, Victim can be heard repeatedly stating "please leave me alone" and "you just choked me". Ziegler can be heard stating "call the police if you feel like I'm gonna kill your or something."

Chief Honsey then spoke with Victim on the phone on August 29th. Victim was again not willing to provide a detailed accounting of the incident, although Victim alluded to Ziegler grabbing her throat.

On September 23, 2026, Chief Honsey received two emails that Victim sent to Blue Earth County Probation and the Minneapolis Police Department. Chief Honsey reached out to Victim and asked if she wanted him to reopen the investigation into the August 29th incident, and Victim stated she was willing to provide a statement. Victim then provided a statement regarding the incident. During the statement, Victim indicated she had been in a sexual relationship with Ziegler, they had previously lived together, and he stays at her residence approximately four days every two weeks. On August 29, 2026, Victim indicated Ziegler wanted Victim to pick him up in Mankato when he was done with work. Victim suspected Ziegler was at the bars and not at work, so Victim declined to pick him up as she did not feel safe when he was drinking. Victim then agreed that Zeigler could stay at her house if he drove himself. While Victim was in bed, Ziegler came into her room and told her to unlock her phone. Victim refused and rolled over in bed. Ziegler then started choking her with both of his hands around her neck. Victim reported she could not breathe at all. Victim stated Ziegler choked her until she unlocked her phone. Victim stated she was crying and her neck was hurting.

Victim provided law enforcement screenshots of text messages Victim received on August 29th from Ziegler in which Zigler stated he "shouldn't have touch you" and that he was "sorry for hurting you by choking you that's what I wanna do". Victim also provided photos she stated were of injuries she received on August 29th.

Zeigler has multipole previous qualified domestic violence-relate offense convictions in the previous ten years, including the following: 1) Adjudicated delinquent of 5th Degree Assault on March 15, 2017 in 07-JV-16-4019, 2) Adjudicated delinquent of 5th Degree Assault on May 23, 2018 in 07-JV-18-1879, 3) Convicted of Gross Misdemeanor 5th Degree Assault on October 7, 2024 in 07-CR-24-17, and 4) Convicted of Gross Misdemeanor 5th Degree Assault on October 7, 2024 in 07-CR-23-4201.

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:
11/13/2026 08:14 AM
Blue Earth County,

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:
11/12/2026 10:34 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).

[X] 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: November 13, 2026.

Judicial Officer Mark Betters
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 11/13/2026 10:24 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.

Markese Denaughtis Zeigler

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: