

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070113785
Court File No. 07-CR-26-3367

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT
Summons

vs.

JESSE LEE LEACH DOB: 12/12/1979

915 8th Street S
St James, MN 56081-1530

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: Motor Vehicle Registration - Intent to Escape Tax

Minnesota Statute: 168.35

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

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 07/07/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26021168

Charge Description: On or about July 7, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Jesse Lee Leach did with intent to escape payment of any tax on a motor vehicle, delayed or neglected to properly list and apply to register the same, or, with intent to prevent the payment or collection of the proper tax, fee, or lien thereon, violated or neglected to comply with any of the provisions of MN Statute Section 168.

COUNT II

Charge: Traffic-DL-Driving after cancellation-inimical to public safety

Minnesota Statute: 171.24.5

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

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 07/07/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26021168

Charge Description: On or about July 7, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Jesse Lee Leach did after being given notice, or reasonably should have known of the cancellation, disobeyed the order by operating in this state any motor vehicle, the operation of which requires a driver's license, while her/his license or privilege was canceled; and the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety has determined that the operation of a motor vehicle on the highways by the person would be inimical to the public safety or welfare.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On July 7, 2026, Officer Maxwell Strong of the Mankato Department of Public Safety was patrolling in a marked Mankato Police Squad vehicle. He was patrolling northbound on Highway 169 over the North Star Bridge within Blue Earth County, when he observed a blue Harley Davidson traveling in front of him.

Officer Strong observed the rear license plate plaque was covered making it difficult to determine if the vehicle was displaying a license plate. The cover appeared to be tinted in a manner to obstruct the license plate. Officer Strong then initiated a traffic stop. As he approached the stopped motorcycle and driver, he observed the license plate to be MN 13896MK. Officer Strong then made contact with the driver who was identified to be Jesse Lee Leach (DOB 12-12-1979). Leach advised that he did not have a valid motorcycle permit, endorsement, or a valid license. It was discovered that Leach has a "cancelled-IPS" driving status.

After further investigation into the MN 13896MK plate it was discovered that the registration to be expired from February 2025. Officer Strong also observed the plate to be registered to a Honda motorcycle, not Harley Davidson motorcycle. The 13896MK plated showed to be from 2027 and was discovered to register to the WC0518 which was discovered to be the correct plate for the Harley.

Leach stated that he had taken the WC0518 plate off the Harley motorcycle because he believed he would've been pulled over because of it. Leach further stated that the 13986MK plate was for his old Honda motorcycle. Leach was then arrested and taken into custody. He was transported to the BEC Jail to be booked and released. His 13896MK plate was seized for destruction. He was then issued a new temporary plate for his WC0518 plate.

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

Jacob Price
Patrol Sergeant
710 S Front St
Mankato, MN 56001-3803
Badge: 3137

Electronically Signed:
08/13/2026 05:36 PM
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Benjamin J Dolan
Assistant County Attorney
401 Carver Road
PO Box 3129
Mankato, MN 56002
(507) 304-4600

Electronically Signed:
08/13/2026 12:22 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: August 14, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Bradley C Walker
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 08/14/2026 10:47 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.

Jesse Lee Leach

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: