

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070112901
Court File No. 07-CR-26-703

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT
Order of Detention

vs.

MELVIN REYNOLDS III DOB: 01/13/1995

721 S Victory Drive #5
Mankato, MN 56001

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: Drugs - 2nd Degree - Sale 10 Grams or More - A narcotic other than heroin w/in 90-Day Period

Minnesota Statute: 152.022.1(1), with reference to: 152.022.3(a)
Maximum Sentence: 25 years or \$500,000, or both
Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 01/26/2026 to 02/19/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26002627

Charge Description: On or between January 26, 2026 and February 19, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Melvin Reynolds III did on one or more occasions within a 90 day period, unlawfully sold one or more mixtures of a total weight of ten grams or more containing a narcotic drug other than heroin.

COUNT II

Charge: Drugs - 3rd Degree - Possess 10 grams or more a narcotic drug other than heroin or fentanyl

Minnesota Statute: 152.023.2(a)(1), with reference to: 152.023.3(a)
Maximum Sentence: 20 years or \$250,000, or both
Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 01/26/2026 to 02/19/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26002627

Charge Description: On or between January 26, 2026 and February 19, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Melvin Reynolds III did on one or more occasions within a 90-day period unlawfully possess one or more mixtures of a total weight of ten grams or more containing a narcotic drug other than heroin or fentanyl.

COUNT III

Charge: Drugs - Simulated - Represent Noncontrolled Substance Will Sell as Controlled Substance

Minnesota Statute: 152.097.1(2), with reference to: 152.097.4

Maximum Sentence: 3 years or \$20,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 02/19/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26002627

Charge Description: On or about February 19, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Melvin Reynolds III did knowingly sell, transfer or deliver a noncontrolled substance upon the express representation that the substance was of such a nature or appearance that the recipient would be able to sell, transfer, or deliver the substance as a controlled substance

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On January 26, 2026 and February 11, 2026, agents of the Minnesota River Valley Drug Task ("MRVDTF") Force conducted controlled purchases of cocaine from Melvin Reynolds III (DOB 01/13/1995).

On January 26, 2026, a CRI, utilizing pre-recorded buy fund money, met Reynolds at location in Mankato, Blue Earth County. Reynolds was observed leaving his apartment and entering a Nissan Sentra as a passenger. The Nissan then traveled to the pre-determined meeting location where Reynolds met with the CRI and sold CRI 4.5 grams of purported cocaine that field tested positive for cocaine.

On February 11, 2026, a CRI met with Reynolds again. Reynolds was operating the same Nissan Sentra and was the sole occupant when he arrived at the pre-determined sale location. The CRI entered Reynolds' vehicle and using pre-recorded buy fund money purchased from Reynolds 8.0 grams of purported cocaine that field tested positive for cocaine from Reynolds.

On February 19, 2026, MRVDTF agents executed a search warrant at Reynolds' residence. Reynolds was taken into custody as he exited his apartment. Located on Reynolds' person was a clear sandwich baggie with 97.4 grams of white powdery substance inside a tobacco envelope that later field tested positive for baking soda. Inside a bedroom in the apartment, agents located numerous documents and pill containers with Reynolds' name on them. Multiple corner cut baggies that are consistent with those used to package drugs were located in the bedroom, and one contained a white residue that field tested positive for cocaine.

Reynolds was read a Miranda warning and indicated he wanted to talk to a public defender. Despite this, Reynolds continued to request to talk with agents. Agents informed him they could not speak with him as he requested an attorney. Reynolds continued to request to speak with agents. He was then read his Miranda warning again and then told agents the white substance was baking soda, Tylenol, and ibuprofen that he mixed up to simulate cocaine and he was trying to make some quick "plays" so he could purchase another vehicle. Reynolds denied ever selling cocaine.

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:
02/20/2026 01:03 PM
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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:
02/20/2026 11:54 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: February 20, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Timothy J. Looby
Judge of District Court

Electronically Signed: 02/20/2026 01:20 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.

Melvin Reynolds III

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: