

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070110372
Court File No. 07-CR-25-1100

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT
Order of Detention

vs.

MICHAEL LEE MILLER DOB: 01/07/1997

417 Commodore Drive
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: Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated

Minnesota Statute: 609.19.1(1)

Maximum Sentence: 40 years

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 03/17/2025

Control #(ICR#): 25007280

Charge Description: On or about March 17, 2025, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Michael Lee Miller did cause the death of a human being with intent to effect the death of the person or another, but without premeditation.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On March 18, 2025, at 3:03 AM, the Mankato Department of Public Safety was dispatched to a disturbance at Business 1 in Mankato, Blue Earth County. Dispatch reported an individual was inside the store breaking stuff and the 911 call had disconnected. Dispatch attempted calls back to the caller. During the call, dispatch could hear sounds of an altercation. As officers were responding, dispatch advised they received a second call from Witness 1 who stated they had fled Business 1.

Officers arrived on scene and searched Business 1. Officer Honetschlager located broken glass near the back room of Business 1 as Officers Rutz and Johnson searched additional areas of Business 1. Officer Rutz and Johnson found Victim unresponsive behind the counter and surrounded by a large pool of blood. Officers observed multiple lacerations consistent with a knife wound on Victim's neck, head, back, and leg. Officers began administering medical aid. Victim was transported to the hospital emergency department where he was declared deceased. A provisional autopsy was conducted and noted Victim had 43 sharp force injuries. Victim's cause of death was determined to be multiple sharp force injuries and his manner of death homicide.

Using surveillance images from Business 1 and a description provided by Witness 1, officers identified the suspect as Michael Lee Miller (DOB 01/07/1997).

Witness 1 reported to Officer Janak that Miller entered Business 1 and had a large knife with a white handle. Miller went to the refrigerator section and selected some meat and started to eat it. Miller then got a water from the cooler. Witness 1 told Miller he needed to pay for the items. Victim, who was also working at Business 1, told Witness 1 to call the cops. Witness 1 went to the back room to collect images of Miller to provide to law enforcement. While in the back room, Witness 1 observed Miller walking towards him so he shut the door and locked it. Miller then began hitting the glass on the door until it broke. Witness 1 left Business 1 and called 911.

Officer Janak reviewed surveillance video at Business 1 and observed Miller entering Business 1 shortly before 3:00 AM. Miller has a large knife in his left hand. Miller selects food and a water out of the fridge. Miller uses the knife to open the food. Miller is seen walking behind the counter and confronting Victim. Miller cornered Victim behind the register and throws him to the ground and uses the knife to stab Victim multiple times. Miller then exited Business 1 and headed westbound on foot.

The Minnesota River Valley Tactical Response Team took Miller into custody at his residence, which is located westbound from Business 1. While being arrested, Miller asked if that guy survived.

Miller was read his Miranda rights and agreed to speak with Detectives Sack and Hullopeter. When asked why he went to Business 1, Miller stated "like god is telling me." Miller also stated he was hearing voices and that he needs to destroy and burn everything down. Miller stated he walked from his house with a knife and a lighter and walked there and did it. He stated "I wasn't gonna knife the guy at first. I was just gonna set it on fire, the place on fire." Miller stated he threw the knife in a dumpster and he described the knife as a big kitchen knife with a white handle. Miller stated he had helped himself to some snacks and water and he was asked if he was going to pay for it, to which he said no. Miller stated one guy, Witness 1, was trying to escape in the back room and he followed him but Witness 1 locked the door. He then smashed his head on the window until it broke. Miller stated he turned his attention to the guy behind the cash register and that Victim tried to grab the knife and he wrestled it back from Victim and he started stabbing him. Detective Sack noted that Miller stated "I smiled for some reason 'cause apparently something was working, but when he tried to escape from me...that was a no for me. So I just, he tried to defend himself, but I got him." Miller stated he did not remember using the knife, he thinks it was just blunt rage. When

asked where he stabbed Victim, Miller stated after it was over he looked at Victim and said he thinks he got him in the neck.

A knife with a white handle and an approximately 9 inch blade was recovered in the dumpster where Miller stated he threw it. The knife was bent at the point and covered in apparent blood.

A search of Miller's residence was completed. Detectives located knives similar to the knife recovered in the dumpster, suspected blood in various locations including in Miller's bedroom, the dining area, the living area, and the stairwell in the garage.

The investigation is ongoing.

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

Chris Baukol
Commander
710 S Front St
Mankato, MN 56001-3803
Badge: 3150

Electronically Signed:
03/19/2025 01:23 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:
03/19/2025 01:14 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: March 19, 2025.

Judicial Officer

Kristine Weeks
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 03/19/2025 01:44 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.

Michael Lee Miller

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: