

State of Minnesota  
County of Blue Earth

District Court  
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070113333  
Court File No. 07-CR-26-2056

---

**State of Minnesota,**

Plaintiff,

vs.

**DONALD TERRIENCE THOMAS III DOB: 08/03/1989**

17831 340th Avenue  
Winnebago, MN 56098

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: Check Forgery-Make or Alter a Check**

Minnesota Statute: 609.631.2(1), with reference to: 609.631.4(3)(a)

Maximum Sentence: 5 years or \$10,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 04/20/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26012105

Charge Description: On or about April 20, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Donald Terrience Thomas III did falsely make or alter a check so that it purports to have been made by another or by the maker under an assumed name, or at another time, or with different provisions, or by the authority of one who did not give authority and the aggregate value of the forged check(s) was over \$250.00 but not more than \$2,500.00.

**COUNT II**

**Charge: Check Forgery-Offer/Possess W/Intent to Defraud**

Minnesota Statute: 609.631.3, with reference to: 609.631.4(3)(a)

Maximum Sentence: 5 years or \$10,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 04/18/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26012105

Charge Description: On or about April 18, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Donald Terrience Thomas III did, with intent to defraud, offer, or possess with intent to offer, a forged check, whether or not it was accepted, and the aggregate value of the forged check(s) is more than \$250.00 but less than \$2,500.00.

**COUNT III**

**Charge: Mail Theft-Intentionally Removes Mail from Depository without Claim of Right**

Minnesota Statute: 609.529.2(1), with reference to: 609.529.3

Maximum Sentence: 3 years or \$5,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 04/18/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26012105

Charge Description: On or about April 18, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Donald Terrience Thomas III, did, intentionally and without claim of right, remove mail from a mail depository.

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On April 20, 2026, Victim 1 reported Victim 1 mailed a check in the amount of \$157.63, made payable to Business 1, on April 18, 2026. Victim 1 stated Victim 1 placed the check in Victim 1's mailbox on the street in front of Victim 1's residence.

On April 20, 2026, Business 2 notified Victim 1 that someone attempted to cash the same check, after changing information on the check, including the payable amount to \$957.63.

Witness 1 is an employee at Business 2, a bank in the City of Mankato. Witness 1 told Officer Terry from Mankato Department of Public Safety that a male, identifying himself as Donald Terrence Thomas (DOB: 08/03/1989) by temporary Minnesota ID, tried to cash the altered check at Business 2 on April 20, 2026, endorsing the check and placing his fingerprint on the face of the check.

Business 2 refused to cash the check and made a copy of the ID presented by Thomas. Witness 1 provided to police surveillance video of the attempted transaction.

Investigator Mathiowetz reviewed the surveillance footage and confirmed the male suspect was Thomas, comparing the image of the male in the footage to Thomas's driver's license photograph.

Mathiowetz examined the check presented and observed indications it had been altered such as irregularities in coloration where information appeared to have been edited including "Pay to the order of," the amount, and the memo field.

## 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**

Adam Gray  
Operations Commander  
710 S Front St  
Mankato, MN 56001-3803  
Badge: 3117

Electronically Signed:  
05/20/2026 08:20 AM  
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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

**Prosecuting Attorney**

Christopher K Lowe  
Assistant County Attorney  
401 Carver Road  
PO Box 3129  
Mankato, MN 56002  
(507) 304-4600

Electronically Signed:  
05/19/2026 04:37 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: May 20, 2026.

**Judicial Officer** Mark Betters  
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 05/20/2026 09:39 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.

**Donald Terrence Thomas III**

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: