

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070114169
Court File No. 07-CR-26-3773

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

NICKOLAS GIDEON HANSON DOB: 05/27/2006

1245 Hall Avenue
West Saint Paul, MN 55118-2242

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Order of Detention

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: Threats of Violence-Reckless Disregard Risk

Minnesota Statute: 609.713.3(a)(2)

Maximum Sentence: 1 year and 1 day or \$3,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 09/09/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26029081

Charge Description: On or about September 9, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Nickolas Gideon Hanson did display, exhibit, brandish, or otherwise employed a replica firearm or a BB gun in a threatening manner; and acted in reckless disregard of the risk of causing terror in another person.

COUNT II

Charge: Carry BB Gun/Rifle/Shotgun/Aslt Wpn-Public Place

Minnesota Statute: 624.7181.2

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

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 09/09/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26029081

Charge Description: On or about September 9, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Nickolas Gideon Hanson did carry a BB gun in a public place.

COUNT III

Charge: Assault-5th Degree-Fear of Bodily Harm or Death

Minnesota Statute: 609.224.1(1)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days or \$1,000 fine, or both.

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 09/09/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26029081

Charge Description: On or about September 9, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Nickolas Gideon Hanson, did commit an act with intent to cause fear in another of immediate bodily harm or death.

COUNT IV

Charge: Assault-5th Degree-Fear of Bodily Harm or Death

Minnesota Statute: 609.224.1(1)

Maximum Sentence: 90 days or \$1,000 fine, or both.

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 09/09/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26029081

Charge Description: On or about September 9, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Nickolas Gideon Hanson, did commit an act with intent to cause fear in another of immediate bodily harm or death.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On September 9, 2026, officers from the Mankato Department of Public Safety responded to a call regarding three individuals, later identified as Nickolas Gideon Hanson (DOB: 05/27/2006), Co-Defendant 1, and Co-Defendant 2, in a vehicle shooting at Victim 1 and Victim 2 while Victim 1 and Victim 2 were walking within the City of Mankato.

Officer Rutz spoke with the complainant, Victim 1, who stated that he and his wife were walking in the City of Mankato when a sedan drove by northbound on the frontage road that Victim 1 and Victim 2 were walking on. Victim 1 reported to Officer Rutz that the vehicle was driving slowly and that he observed Hanson, hanging out the passenger side front window. Victim 1 reported that he heard the sound of what he later realized was an automatic firing pellet or BB gun.

One of the individuals in the vehicle then said something to Victim 1 and Victim 2 as Victim 1 reported that he then again heard the same sound and felt an object hit him. Victim 1 indicated that Hanson was one of the individuals brandishing a gun of some sort and shooting at them.

Victim 2 told Officer Rutz that she knew right way from the sound that it was a gun of some sort and she was afraid that it was a real gun. Victim 2 stated that she was worried that Hanson, Co-Defendant 1, and Co-Defendant 2, were going to turn around and that they had a real gun.

Victim 2 stated that she was afraid for her life when she heard the automatic gun sound because there was nowhere for Victim 1 and Victim 2 to hide. Victim 2 told Officer Rutz that she was worried they would come back to get them after they drove off, or that they would follow them home to harm them further. Victim 1 told Officer Rutz that he was in "fight or flight" mode and was fearful that after getting shot by the automatic style BB gun, Hanson and Co-Defendant 1 and Co-Defendant 2 could come back to further harm Victim 1 and/or Victim 2.

Officer Wright conducted a traffic stop on the sedan and identified the driver as Co-Defendant 1, the front passenger as Hanson, and the rear passenger as Co-Defendant 2. Officers ultimately searched the vehicle and located a realistic AR-15 BB gun, that officers indicated had no features that would suggest it to be fake or a BB gun. The automatic firing AR-15 BB gun was located wedged in between the front seats and back seats. Officers also located multiple CO2 cartridges commonly used in pellet/BB style guns, a black butt stock, 16 brass BBs located on the floorboard of Co-Defendant 1's seat, a black realistic-looking BB handgun (located under Hanson's seat), and a black and silver BB handgun located in the backseat with Co-Defendant 2.

Officer McGuire spoke with Hanson. Hanson acknowledged that it would be reasonable to be in fear when seeing people drive past while Hanson is hanging out the window of the vehicle with a black pistol style gun in his hand. Hanson stated that Co-Defendant 1 fired the AR 15 style BB gun and was in possession of it the entire time.

Officer Wright spoke with Co-Defendant 1 who admitted to driving the vehicle. Co-Defendant 1 stated that he was in possession of the AR-15 style BB gun the entire time. Co-Defendant 1 stated that Hanson had the black realistic looking BB handgun and that Co-Defendant 2 had the black and silver BB handgun. Co-Defendant 1 admitted to firing the AR-15 style BB gun and stated that they shot before and after seeing Victim 1 and Victim 2 and stated that his rounds would not have hit anyone. Co-Defendant 1 also stated that Hanson was yelling racial slurs and other things at Victim 1 and Victim 2 and was discharging his BB gun over the top of the vehicle toward Victim 1 and Victim 2. Co-Defendant 1 acknowledged that if he were Victim 1 and Victim 2 he would have been "scared shitless" based on what happened.

Officer Strong spoke with Co-Defendant 2 who stated that Co-Defendant 1 was in possession of the AR-15 style BB gun and driving the vehicle. He stated that Hanson was in possession of the realistic black handgun style BB gun that was found under Hanson's seat. Co-Defendant 2 stated that he was in possession of the silver and black BB gun. Co-Defendant 2 stated that Co-Defendant 1 was pointing the AR-15 style rifle out of the vehicle as they drove past Victim 1 and Victim 2. He stated that he heard Co-Defendant 1 fire approximately 20-30 rounds towards Victim 1 and Victim 2. Co-Defendant 2 also stated that Hanson had the handgun style BB gun in his hand as they drove past the victims but he did not see if Hanson fired at Victim 1 and Victim 2 or not.

Officers showed Victim 1 and Victim 2 the vehicle that Hanson, Co-Defendant 1, and Co-Defendant 2 were found in, and they confirmed that to match the description of the vehicle they witnessed.

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

Ken Baker
Commander/Patrol Division
710 S Front St
Mankato, MN 56001-3803
Badge: 3144

Electronically Signed:
09/10/2026 04:32 PM
Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

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

Electronically Signed:
09/10/2026 04:09 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: September 11, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Greg Anderson
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 09/11/2026 08:36 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.

Nickolas Gideon Hanson

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: