

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070114258
Court File No. 07-CR-26-4018

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT
Order of Detention

vs.

DEANNA MARIE NICKS DOB: 08/24/1973

208 Central Avenue S
Geneva, MN 56035-5542

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: Check Forgery-Make or Alter a Check

Minnesota Statute: 609.631.2(1), with reference to: 609.631.4(2)

Maximum Sentence: 10 years or \$20,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 09/08/2026 to 09/11/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26019173

Charge Description: On, about, or between September 8 and September 11, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Deanna Marie Nicks 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 amount of the forged check or checks is more than \$2,500.00.

COUNT II

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): 09/08/2026 to 09/11/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26019173

Charge Description: On, about, or between September 8 and September 11, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Deanna Marie Nicks, did, intentionally and without claim of right removed mail from a mail depository.

COUNT III

Charge: Possession or Sale of Stolen or Counterfeit Check; Crimes

Minnesota Statute: 609.528.2

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

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 09/08/2026 to 09/11/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26019173

Charge Description: On, about, or between September 8 and September 11, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Deanna Marie Nicks did sell, possess, receive, or transfer a check that was stolen or counterfeit, knowing or having reason to know the check was stolen or counterfeit; and the offense involves a single direct victim and the total, combined loss to the direct victim and any indirect victims is more than \$250 but not more than \$500.00.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On September 11, 2026, Victim, a Blue Earth County resident, reported to Blue Earth County Sheriff's Deputy Brashear that on September 8 or 9, 2026, he had placed three envelopes in his mailbox, each containing a check payable to businesses. On September 11, Victim received a call from his bank advising him that someone was attempting to cash one of the checks he placed in the mailbox to Business 1. The check amount was \$3,209. Victim's bank advised Victim the check appeared to be altered. Victim then contacted his spouse's bank and learned one of the other checks had been altered from \$143.82 to \$443.82 and cashed.

Witness 1, a security officer from Victim's bank, reported to Investigator Lindmeyer that on September 10th a female came to the drive-up window and attempted to cash the \$3,209 check. The check was made payable to Deanna Marie Nicks. Witness 1 noted faint writing had been washed off or erased on the "pay to the order of" line on the check. Deanne Marie Nicks (DOB 07/24/73) provided her driver's license and filled out a form with her name on it when trying to cash the check. In the form she completed, Nicks identified her boss as Victim. Witness 2, an employee of the bank, informed Nicks they would not be cashing the check until they contacted the account holder. Investigator Lindmeyer received from Witness 1 the photocopy of Nick's DL that had been obtained and the security video footage of Nick's attempting to cash the check.

Investigator Lindmeyer also learned the check from Victim's spouse's bank was altered in the "pay to the order of" line, changing the receipting from Business 2 to Deanna Marie Nicks, and the person who cashed it was identified through surveillance video as Nicks. Nicks is identifiable in surveillance video cashing the check.

Victim does not know Nicks and does not have a house cleaning service.

Nicks was arrested in Freeborn County. Investigator Lindmeyer took a statement from Nicks. Nicks claimed she had recently met "Samantha" whom she helped clean a house for a guy with a bunch of antiques. Samantha told her she would pay her, but they needed to cash checks and Samantha did not have an ID, so Nicks would have to cash the checks. Nicks claimed Samantha told her the outskirts of Mankato was her "honey hole" for taking mail from mailboxes.

Nicks has multiple prior theft related convictions. Included in those convictions is a Felony Theft in 74-CR-16-2054, Felony Check Forgery in 74-CR-23-1773, and Felony Check Forgery in 24-CR-24-747.

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

Jim Othoudt
Deputy Sheriff
401 Carver Rd
Mankato, MN 56002-0228
Badge: 2703

Electronically Signed:
09/24/2026 10:59 AM
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:
09/24/2026 10:47 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: September 24, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Bradley C Walker
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 09/24/2026 12:28 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.

Deanna Marie Nicks

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: