

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070114476
Court File No. 07-CR-26-4463

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

NICHOLAS ALLEN STANGLER DOB: 01/21/1981

11904 Dodd Road
Kilkenny, MN 56052

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: Criminal Vehicular Operation - Bodily Harm - Leave scene of collision

Minnesota Statute: 609.2113.3(7)

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

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 10/21/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26033957

Charge Description: On or about October 21, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Nicholas Allen Stangler, did, as the driver of a motor vehicle caused an accident and left the scene of the accident in violation of Minn. Stat. Section 169.09, subd. 1 or 6, and did cause bodily harm to another as a result of operating a motor vehicle.

COUNT II

Charge: Traffic Collision - Driver Fail to Stop - Injury or Death

Minnesota Statute: 169.09.1, with reference to: 169.09.14(b)

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

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 10/21/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26033957

Charge Description: On or about October 21, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Nicholas Allen Stangler, did, as the driver of any motor vehicle involved in a collision resulting in bodily harm to another, failed to immediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the collision, or as close to the scene as possible, and reasonably investigate what was struck; and the driver knew or had reason to know the collision resulted in injury to or death of another, and the driver did not, in every event remain at the scene of the accident, until fulfilling the requirements of MN St. §169 as to the giving of information.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

In the evening on October 21, 2026, Officer Christianson from the Mankato Department of Public Safety was dispatched to Business 1 in Blue Earth County, following a report by Witness 1 that Victim 1, an employee at Business 1, had been hit and injured by a vehicle that did not stop after the collision. Witness 1 is also employed at Business 1.

The incident was recorded on Business 1's CCTV. The recording shows a blue truck accelerating toward Victim 1 in the Business 1 parking lot and Victim 1 trying to get out of the vehicle's path.

Victim 1 spoke with Officer Christianson and said that while Victim 1 was walking to his vehicle in the Business 1 parking lot, a white sedan "cut [him] off." Victim 1 then observed a blue truck traveling toward him and the driver of the truck put his hands in the air, which Victim 1 thought showed agreement by the truck driver that the white sedan had cut off Victim 1, who described the driver of the truck as an older white male.

According to Victim 1, the blue truck driver then looked Victim 1 in the eyes and accelerated quickly, requiring Victim 1 to move/jump out of the way. Victim 1 said the side and side-view mirror of the truck made impact with Victim 1 and caused pain to Victim 1's right side, including his right shoulder and hip. Victim 1 said the impact was loud and caused the truck's passenger-side mirror to fold in. Victim 1 said, "if I hadn't moved, I would have been killed or really hurt."

Witness 1 was able to see the Minnesota license plate of the vehicle. The registered owner of it is Nicholas Allen Stangler (DOB: 01/21/1981).

Officer Christianson made contact with Stangler who said he encountered a male in the parking lot at Business 1 who was "acting weird." Stangler said as Stangler drove past the male, the male jumped out of the way as if Stangler was close to hitting the male. Stangler denied making contact with the male. Stangler admitted he continued driving without stopping, picked up his daughter from Business 1, and left the area.

Officer Christianson reported that in pictures of the truck's front passenger fender, gathered by the Rice County Sheriff's Department, dirt and dust appears disturbed, consistent with having struck something in that area of the truck.

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:
10/22/2026 03:17 PM
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:
10/22/2026 03:05 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: October 22, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Bradley C Walker
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 10/22/2026 03:39 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.

Nicholas Allen Stangler

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: