

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No.

0070112608

Court File No.

07-CR-26-581

State of Minnesota,

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff,

Summons

vs.

NICOLOZA JENNIFER KERNS DOB: 04/04/1973

1624 Colony Court #10
North Mankato, MN 56003

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: Traffic Regulation - School Bus - Fail to Stop

Minnesota Statute: 169.444.2(a)

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

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 10/08/2025

Control # (ICR#): 26000031

Charge Description: On or about October 8, 2025, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Nicolaza Jennifer Kerns, failed to stop a vehicle or to keep it stopped, at least 20 feet away from a bus displaying an extended stop-signal arm and flashing red lights is guilty of a misdemeanor.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On January 8, 2026, Officer Joyce Baker was notified by Palmer Bus Service of School Bus Arm Violation. Palmer Bus Service supplied video of the violation and a screen shot of the vehicle's license plate. Officer Baker reviewed video and observed that at 15:16:42 The School Bus Stop arm is fully extended, and children begin exiting the bus. Officer Baker also observed that at 15:17:08 Vehicle drives by the stop arm while numerous children are outside of the bus and continuing to exit the bus. The vehicle reported and depicted in the video was a gray Toyota Camry with a license plate of EAG874. Through her investigation Officer Baker discovered the owner to be Nicoloza Kerns regarding the violation. Kerns stated that she was driving and did not notice the bus. She did not notice the stop arm out, and by the time she did notice it was too late.

The school bus driver Witness 1 called the Mapleton Police Department to report the violation that he had witnessed. He stated that there were two girls about cross the street when he saw the vehicle coming towards them. He honked his horn several times to get the two girls' attention so they would not be hit by the vehicle as it passed the bus through the traffic where they were trying to cross.

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	Benjamin M Honsey Chief of Police 104 2nd Ave NE PO Box 342 Mapleton, MN 56065 Badge: 4871	Electronically Signed: 02/12/2026 02:10 PM Blue Earth County, Minnesota
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Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

Prosecuting Attorney	Benjamin J Dolan Assistant County Attorney 401 Carver Road PO Box 3129 Mankato, MN 56002 (507) 304-4600	Electronically Signed: 02/12/2026 09:44 AM
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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: February 12, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Greg Anderson
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 02/12/2026 02:20 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.

Nicoloza Jennifer Kerns

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: