

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070113357
Court File No. 07-CR-26-1884

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT
Warrant

vs.

DEREK DARBY RUTH DOB: 05/17/1989

401 Carver Road
Mankato, MN 56001

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: Domestic Abuse No Contact Order - Violate No Contact Order - within 10 years of previous conviction

Minnesota Statute: 629.75.2(c)

Maximum Sentence: 10 days to 364 days or \$3,000 fine, or both.

Offense Level: Gross Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 05/06/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26013983

Charge Description: On or about May 6, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Derek Darby Ruth did violate a Domestic Abuse No-Contact Order and the respondent or person to be restrained knew of the existence of the order and the violation occurred within ten years of a previous qualified domestic violence-related offense conviction or adjudication of delinquency.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On May 5, 2026, The Honorable Andrea J. Lieser, Judge of District Court, issued a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order (“DANCO”) listing Derek Darby Ruth (DOB: 05/17/1989) as the Defendant and Victim 1 as the Protected Person. The DANCO prohibits Ruth from having contact “directly, indirectly or through others, in person, by telephone, in writing, electronically or by any other means with [Victim 1].” Ruth was personally served with a copy of the DANCO on May 5, 2026. At that time, there was only one active DANCO listing Ruth as the Defendant.

Ruth was in the Blue Earth County Jail on May 5, 2026, following his arrest for an alleged assault committed against Victim 1. Ruth and Victim 1 are in a significant romantic relationship and have been dating for approximately one year.

Ruth’s text messages and phone calls while in the jail were reviewed by Sergeant Wood from the Mankato Department of Public Safety. Between May 5 and May 6, 2026, Ruth exchanged numerous text messages with Phone Number 1. In the messages, Ruth made statements like, “you’re all I think about babe I love you so much,” “will you marry me,” and “miss you bunches.”

In a series of messages on May 5, 2026, from the sender at Phone Number 1 to Ruth, the sender wrote, “So I wrote a letter for a request for motion of danco dirty Ruth you’re honor I’m writing as the protected party in the domestic abuse no contact order currently in place involving Derek Darby Ruth I understand why this order was issued and I respect the court responsibly to ensure safety I am requesting that the court consider modifying or lifting the Danco the request is being made voluntarily without pressure I feel it is important for the court to hear directly from me.”

Additional messages from Phone Number 1 to Ruth detail the remainder of a letter apparently contemplated for the court’s review regarding the active DANCO protecting Victim 1 from Ruth.

In the evening on May 5, 2026, Ruth placed a phone call to Phone Number 1. The call lasted for ten minutes and Sergeant Wood listened to it. Wood recognized the female voice on the call as Victim 1’s. During the call, Ruth expressed his intense disapproval of the DANCO and the pending charges against Ruth.

It is apparent from this text message and phone call communication that Ruth has been communicating with Victim 1 from the Blue Earth County Jail, in violation of the DANCO protecting Victim 1.

Ruth has been convicted of one qualified domestic violence-related offense in the last ten years: (1) Threats of Violence – Court File No. 52-CR-21-155 – convicted May 10, 2022.

Ruth remains in the Blue Earth County Jail, and the State requests a Warrant.

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

Jesse Gilbertson
Patrol Sergeant
710 S Front St
Mankato, MN 56001-3803
Badge: 3126

Electronically Signed:
05/08/2026 10:10 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:
05/08/2026 09:57 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: May 8, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Andrea Jo Lieser
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 05/08/2026 10:22 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.

Derek Darby Ruth

Defendant

*LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RETURN OF SERVICE
I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Warrant
upon the Defendant herein named.*

Signature of Authorized Service Agent: