

State of Minnesota
County of Blue Earth

District Court
5th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0070114018
Court File No. 07-CR-26-3521

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT
Warrant

vs.

BRANDEN ANTHONY HENDRICKSON DOB: 03/26/1999

227 S Broad Street #3
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: Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle

Minnesota Statute: 609.487.3

Maximum Sentence: 3 years and one day or \$5,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 08/18/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26026130

Charge Description: On or about August 18, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Branden Anthony Hendrickson did by means of a motor vehicle, flee or attempt to flee a peace officer who is acting in the lawful discharge of an official duty, and the perpetrator knows or should reasonably know the same to be a peace officer.

COUNT II

Charge: Traffic - Reckless driving; Drives Consciously Disregarding a Substantial or Unjustifiable Risk

Minnesota Statute: 169.13.1(a)

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

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 08/18/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26026130

Charge Description: On or about August 18, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Branden Anthony Hendrickson, did drive any vehicle or light rail transit vehicle while aware of and consciously disregarding a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the driving may result in harm to another or another's property and that risk was of such a nature and degree that disregard of it constituted a significant deviation from the standard of conduct that a reasonable person would observe in the situation.

COUNT III

Charge: Traffic - Speeding - Exceed Limit

Minnesota Statute: 169.14.2(a), with reference to: 169.14.2(d)

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

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 08/18/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26026130

Charge Description: On or about August 18, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Branden Anthony Hendrickson, did operate a motor vehicle in excess of the posted speed limit; to wit: 90 mph in a 50 mph speed zone and the violation was committed in a manner or under circumstances so as to endanger or be likely to endanger any person or property.

COUNT IV

Charge: Traffic - Drivers License - Driving After Revocation

Minnesota Statute: 171.24.2(a)

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

Offense Level: Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 08/18/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26026130

Charge Description: On or about August 18, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Branden Anthony Hendrickson did after being given notice, or reasonably should have known of the revocation, disobeyed the order by operating in this state any motor vehicle, the operation of which requires a driver's license, while her/his license or privilege was revoked.

COUNT V

Charge: Traffic Regulations - Failure to obey traffic control device

Minnesota Statute: 169.06.4(a)

Maximum Sentence: \$300 fine

Offense Level: Petty Misdemeanor

Offense Date (on or about): 08/18/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26026130

Charge Description: On or about August 18, 2026, in the County of Blue Earth, Minnesota, Branden Anthony Hendrickson did fail to obey the instructions of any official traffic-control device applicable thereto and placed in accordance with Minn. Stat. 169.06.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On August 18, 2026, law enforcement officers from the Mankato Department of Public Safety and Blue Earth County's Sheriff's Office attempted to conduct a traffic stop on a vehicle that Branden Anthony Hendrickson (DOB: 03/26/1999) was driving. Law enforcement observed Hendrickson to be driving a black 2001 Chevrolet Silverado. Law enforcement confirmed the driver to be Hendrickson and Officer Pike of the Mankato Department of Public Safety attempted to initiate a traffic stop within the City of Mankato.

Officer Pike noted that Hendrickson's driving status had been revoked and that Hendrickson had an active A&D for his arrest. Officer Pike activated his emergency lights to initiate a traffic stop and Hendrickson started to slow down before continuing to drive. Officer Pike then activated his emergency siren and Hendrickson turned into a gravel parking lot. Hendrickson rapidly accelerated and spun the tires rapidly, turning completely 180 degrees. When Hendrickson did this, Officer Pike was also able to confirm that the driver was Hendrickson.

Hendrickson then re-entered the roadway while attempting to avoid Officer Pike and other law enforcement. Hendrickson then traveled south on US Highway 169 from W Lind Street. Law enforcement, including Officers Pike, Wendell, and Sokolov, remained in pursuit of Hendrickson who was traveling between 90 – 100 mph in a 50mph zone. Officers Pike, Wendell, and Sokolov all had their emergency lights and sirens activated during the pursuit.

Hendrickson then drove through a red semaphore railway traffic stop signal at Webster avenue and nearly crashed into another motor vehicle. Officer Pike observed that Hendrickson then continued southbound on US Highway 169 / US Highway 60 and traveled at speeds in excess of 100mph with law enforcement in pursuit. Officer Pike, Officer Wendell, and Officer Sokolov continued their pursuit with their sirens and emergency lights activated.

Officer Sokolov noted that Hendrickson drove erratically and around other vehicles at high rates of speed throughout the pursuit. Hendrickson's erratic driving and high rates of speed continued to put the public and law enforcement at risk, so the pursuit was ultimately terminated. The chase lasted approximately 7 miles.

Hendrickson fled lawful custody while being held on Felony convictions in 07-CR-23-733 through the Blue Earth County Jail, tampered with the GPS monitoring device, and has absconded. The GPS monitoring device is no longer giving information on Hendrickson's whereabouts and attempts at contact have failed. Hendrickson's whereabouts after this incident are currently unknown. Given Hendrickson has escaped lawful custody, absconded while not reporting back to jail or contacting law enforcement or his probation agent, and now fled at high speeds from law enforcement during a traffic stop, a substantial likelihood exists that Hendrickson would not respond to a Summons and his actions present an imminent public danger. As a result, a Complaint Warrant is requested. Hendrickson also has a warrant for his arrest in 07-CR-26-3420.

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

Adam Gray
Operations Commander
710 S Front St
Mankato, MN 56001-3803
Badge: 3117

Electronically Signed:
08/25/2026 10:50 AM
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:
08/25/2026 08:23 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: \$1,000,000.00

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: August 25, 2026.

Judicial Officer

Kristine Weeks
District Court Judge

Electronically Signed: 08/25/2026 11:01 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.

Branden Anthony Hendrickson

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: