

STATE OF WISCONSIN	CIRCUIT COURT	GREEN LAKE COUNTY
STATE OF WISCONSIN		DA Case No.: 2017GL000276 Assgnd. DA: ANDREW J CHRISTENSON Agency Case No.: 17PPD0119 Court Case No.: ATN: 24040000301224
vs.  ANTONIO R CONTRERAS C/O GREEN LAKE COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY DOB: 02/01/1988  Defendant.		CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

The undersigned being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

Your complainant, a sworn law enforcement officer with the Green Lake County Sheriff's Department, states that the following complaint is based on the official law enforcement agency reports prepared by Chief Matthew Bargenquast of the City of Princeton Police Department, whom your complainant knows to be truthful and reliable, based on past professional contacts. Said reports have been prepared, filed and maintained in the normal and ordinary course of business of the City of Princeton Police Department.

#### **Count 1: FIRST DEGREE INTENTIONAL HOMICIDE, USE OF A DANGEROUS WEAPON**

The above-named defendant on or about March 12 to 13, 2017, in the City of Princeton, Green Lake County, Wisconsin, did cause the death of Grace Reiter-Rudolph, with intent to kill that person, contrary to sec. 940.01(1)(a), 939.63(1)(b), 973.047(1f) Wis. Stats., a Class A Felony, and upon conviction shall be sentenced to imprisonment for life.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.63(1)(b) Wis. Stats., because the defendant committed this offense while using a dangerous weapon, the maximum term of imprisonment for the felony may be increased by not more than 5 years.

And furthermore, invoking the provisions of Wisconsin Statute 973.047(1f), if the court imposes a sentence or places a person on probation, the court shall require the person to provide a biological specimen to the state crime laboratories for deoxyribonucleic acid analysis. The court shall inform the person that he or she may request expungement under s. 165.77 (4).

#### **Count 2: ARSON OF BUILDING**

The above-named defendant on or about March 12 to 13, 2017, in the City of Princeton, Green Lake County, Wisconsin, by means of fire, did intentionally damage the building of Jerry Newton, without that person's consent, contrary to sec. 943.02(1)(a), 973.047(1f) Wis. Stats., a Class C Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000), or imprisoned not more than forty (40) years, or both.

And furthermore, invoking the provisions of Wisconsin Statute 973.047(1f), if the court imposes a sentence or places a person on probation, the court shall require the person to provide a biological specimen to the state crime laboratories for deoxyribonucleic acid analysis. The court shall inform the person that he or she may request expungement under s. 165.77 (4).

#### **Count 3: MUTILATING A CORPSE**

The above-named defendant on or about March 12 to 13, 2017, in the City of Princeton, Green Lake County, Wisconsin, did mutilate a corpse with the intent to conceal a crime, contrary to sec. 940.11(1), 973.047(1f) Wis.

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Stats., a Class F Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), or imprisoned not more than twelve (12) years and six (6) months, or both.

And furthermore, invoking the provisions of Wisconsin Statute 973.047(1f), if the court imposes a sentence or places a person on probation, the court shall require the person to provide a biological specimen to the state crime laboratories for deoxyribonucleic acid analysis. The court shall inform the person that he or she may request expungement under s. 165.77 (4).

#### **Count 4: POSSESSION OF A FIREARM BY A FELON**

The above-named defendant on or about March 12 to 13, 2017, in the City of Princeton, Green Lake County, Wisconsin, did possess a firearm, having been convicted of a felony in this state, contrary to sec. 941.29(1m)(a), 973.047(1f) Wis. Stats., a Class G Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), or imprisoned not more than ten (10) years, or both.

And furthermore, invoking the provisions of Wisconsin Statute 973.047(1f), if the court imposes a sentence or places a person on probation, the court shall require the person to provide a biological specimen to the state crime laboratories for deoxyribonucleic acid analysis. The court shall inform the person that he or she may request expungement under s. 165.77 (4).

#### **PROBABLE CAUSE:**

According to the official police reports of Chief Matthew Bargenquast of the City of Princeton Police Department, on Monday, March 13, 2017, at about 12:55 am, Bargenquast responded to a report of a house fire at 103 South Farmer Street in the City of Princeton, Green Lake County, Wisconsin. When approaching the location of the house while traveling eastbound on West Main Street in Princeton, Bargenquast could observe heavy smoke and flames coming from the upstairs of the residence located on the southwest corner of West Main Street and Farmer Street. The fire department had the fire scene secured and was actively engaging the fire. Bargenquast reports that at about 1:30 am he noticed that the fire and smoke continued to intensify and spread through the upstairs of the residence. Fire departments from Ripon, Markesan, Neshkoro, and Montello assisted the Princeton Fire Department.

Bargenquast reports that he had driven by the residence at 103 South Farmer Street at about 10:30 pm on March 12, 2017, and noticed a green Dodge Dakota pickup truck parked on the east side of the driveway for 103 South Farmer Street. Bargenquast did not notice a fire at the residence when he drove by at about 10:30 pm. The green Dodge Dakota pickup truck was not present in the driveway when Bargenquast arrived in the early morning of March 13.

Bargenquast reports that, because of a conversation with a Grace Reiter-Rudolph on or around December 28, 2016, he knew the occupants of 103 South Farmer Street as Grace Reiter-Rudolph and Antonio Contreras. Reiter-Rudolph explained that she lived with her boyfriend and that they were renters at 103 South Farmer Street. Reiter-Rudolph had stopped by the police department and stated that she was concerned about her residence being unoccupied while she was away as an over-the-road semi driver. Reiter-Rudolph provided Bargenquast identifying information for her boyfriend as Antonio Contreras and described him as very short, Hispanic, and very skinny. Bargenquast reports that, after getting the description of Contreras from Reiter-Rudolph, Bargenquast had a good idea of who Antonio Contreras was. Bargenquast has observed Contreras drive a green Dodge Dakota pickup truck with Wisconsin license plate LF8532 in the city of Princeton. Bargenquast has also seen Contreras outside the residence at 103 South Farmer Street on multiple occasions starting small fires in the area between the residence and the garage.

Bargenquast reports that on March 13, 2017, he contacted Jerry Newton, the owner of the property at 103 South Farmer Street. Newton confirmed that the renters were Antonio Contreras and Grace Reiter-Rudolph.

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Bargenquast reports that at about 6:31 am on March 13, 2017, Princeton Fire Chief Ernie Pulvermacher stated that the fire was substantially contained. At about 8:40 am, Fire Chief Pulvermacher indicated that the fire department completed its role and turned over the fire scene to Police Chief Bargenquast.

Bargenquast reports that on March 13, 2017, Special Agent Eric Beine of the Arson Bureau of the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation, obtained a special-inspection warrant to determine the cause, origin, and circumstances of the fire. At about 12 pm, Bargenquast received information that special agents from the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation, had found a burned and deceased body in the house at 103 South Farmer Street. When Bargenquast entered the house, he walked into the living room area, located in the northeast corner of the residence, and observed that the room above the living room had mostly collapsed. Special agents could see that the body was in a fold of the floor that had partially collapsed onto the first floor. The head portion of the body was located on the second floor and the bottom portion of the body was hanging in a fold partially hanging from the second floor. The special agents stated that they could see what looked to be a ribcage and possible intestines from the deceased human. The agents also pointed out that there were icicles, which were red in color and consistent with blood, below the area where the remains were found.

Bargenquast reports that on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, he again spoke with Jerry Newton about his property, which had suffered extensive damage. Newton indicated that he did not give anyone permission to light his house on fire.

Bargenquast reports that on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, an autopsy of the body recovered from 103 South Farmer Street was done by Dr. Robert Corliss of the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics in Madison. Green Lake County Sheriff's Detective Chad Holdorf attended the autopsy and relayed information to Chief Bargenquast. The preliminary autopsy findings revealed that the victim had at least three small-caliber gunshot wounds to the head. Two bullets were found in the head area and they seemed to be of a small-caliber bullet. Dr. Corliss believed that the victim was alive at the time of the gunshots. Dr. Corliss noted the absence of soot in the airway of the victim, suggesting that the subject was not breathing during the fire.

Bargenquast reports that on Wednesday, March 15, 2017, at about 4:45 pm, patrol deputies in St. Johns County, Florida, located the green Dodge Dakota pickup truck belonging to Antonio Contreras in a parking lot. A short time later, deputies and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms located Contreras walking on a nearby beach and took Contreras into custody. The Dodge Dakota truck was taken into evidence. A .22 caliber rifle was observed in plain sight in the pickup truck.

According to a portion of a sworn affidavit prepared by Special Agent Brian Liethen of the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI), on March 17 and 18, 2017, Liethen and DCI Special Agent Jeff Wisch interrogated Antonio Contreras at the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office in Florida. Contreras admitted that on March 12, 2017, he had smoked methamphetamine and consumed several beers in a wooded area of Princeton. Contreras admitted he returned home to 103 S. Farmer Street in Princeton and got into a verbal and physical argument with Grace M. Reiter-Rudolph. Contreras reported the argument ended when Grace M. Reiter-Rudolph went upstairs and locked herself in their bedroom. Contreras admitted he assembled a .22 caliber rifle, went upstairs, broke through the bedroom door and shot Grace M. Reiter-Rudolph at least four times in the head. Contreras admitted he watched Grace M. Reiter-Rudolph take her last breaths and presumably die. Contreras admitted he applied an ignitable liquid to the bloody items in the bedroom as well as Grace M. Reiter-Rudolph's body and started a fire with a lighter to destroy evidence. Contreras admitted he loaded personal property into his truck and fled to Florida.

Bargenquast reports that on Thursday, March 30, 2017, Green Lake County Coroner Amanda Thoma identified the deceased body found in the house at 103 South Farmer Street on March 13, 2017, to be that of Grace M. Reiter-Rudolph.

Wisconsin Circuit Court Access online records indicate that in Marquette County Case 09-CF-133, Antonio Contreras was found guilty of burglary-building or dwelling, a felony. The records indicate that on May 12, 2010, Contreras entered a no-contest plea to the charge, and on December 22, 2010, the court ordered

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Contreras to 7 years and 6 months of probation. The felony conviction for burglary remains of record and unreversed.

Based on the foregoing, the complainant believes this complaint to be true and correct.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 04/11/17

Electronically Signed By:

Electronically Signed By:

ANDREW J CHRISTENSON

District Attorney

State Bar #: 1066196

Mark P. Putzke

Complainant