

FILED
02-25-2020
Clerk of Circuit Court
Cindy R. Hamre Incha
2020CF000080

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT JEFFERSON COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No. 20CF

JANELLE J. GERICKE,
254 East John Street,
Jefferson, WI 53549,
DOB: 07/12/1990, W/F,
Height: 5 ft., 5 in., Weight: 120 lb.,
Eyes: Brown, Hair: Blonde,

Defendant.

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Special Agent Dorinda Freymiller, of the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation, first being duly sworn, states the following:

COUNT 1: BURGLARY:

On or about February 24, 2020, in the City of Jefferson, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, the defendant did intentionally enter a dwelling without the consent of a person in lawful possession of the place, and with intent to steal personal property, in violation of Wis. Stat. §§ 943.10(1m)(a), and 939.50(3)(f), a Class F Felony; and upon conviction may be fined not more than \$25,000, or imprisoned not more than 12 years and 6 months, or both.

COUNT 2: FELONY BAIL JUMPING:

On or about February 24, 2020, in the City of Jefferson, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, the defendant, having been charged with a felony in Jefferson County Circuit Court Case No. 19CF487 and having been released from custody under Wis. Stat. ch. 969, did intentionally fail to comply

with the terms of her bond, specifically by committing a new crime, contrary to Wis. Stat. §§ 946.49(1)(b), and 939.50(3)(h), a Class H Felony; and upon conviction may be fined not more than \$10,000, or imprisoned not more than 6 years, or both.

PROBABLE CAUSE

On December 30, 2019, the defendant appeared before Circuit Court Commissioner Bennett J. Brantmeier in Jefferson County Circuit Court Case No. 19CF487, in which the defendant was charged with Burglary in violation of Wis. Stat. § 943.10(1m)(a), a Class F Felony. Commissioner Brantmeier admitted the defendant to a \$10,000 signature bond and imposed the nonmonetary conditions of release under Wis. Stat. ch. 969 that the defendant have no contact with any victims or witnesses referenced in the criminal complaint or their residences and that she not commit any crimes. The defendant signed this bond acknowledging the conditions, and this bond was in full force and effect on the date of the offense described herein.

On February 24, 2020, at 8:35 a.m., City of Jefferson Police Officer Jeff Schultz and Lieutenant Alan Richter were dispatched to a single-family residence located in the City of Jefferson, Jefferson County, Wisconsin, for a reported burglary. When the officers arrived at the residence, they met with the homeowner, Victim 1, who reported that he had gotten a notification on his phone from his home security system that someone was at his residence trying to get in. By the time Victim 1 returned home, no one was there. When Victim 1 reviewed video footage from his home security system, he observed a white female wearing black calf-height boots, black leggings, a dark gray/black "Carhartt" style jacket, glasses, a dark knit hat with pink on the bottom, and no hair visible coming out the bottom of the hat.

Victim 1 stated that he believed the female subject to be Janelle Gericke, the above-named defendant. Victim 1 said he is personally familiar with the defendant and knows that she was previously employed as a Jefferson County Deputy Sheriff.

Victim 1 at first did not believe anything was missing from his home. He said that from the video it appeared the female was only in his home for 10 minutes. However, shortly after officers left his home, he called the Jefferson Police Department back to report that he was in fact missing some prescription hydrocodone pills that had been in a drawer in his bathroom. Victim 1 stated that only the empty pill bottles were left. Victim 1 indicated he did not give the defendant permission to enter his residence or to remove anything from it.

Lieutenant Richter watched Victim 1's surveillance video footage, which involves two different camera angles. In the footage from one camera angle, he saw a white female suspect walk up to the detached garage on the property from the east, which borders a farm field behind the house. In the footage from the second camera angle, he saw the female suspect walk up to the attached garage of the house where there is a service door. The female was wearing black yoga pants, black boots, a grey Carhartt hoodie, and a winter stocking cap with a logo. The female had dark hair which appeared to be tied up in the stocking cap. At the time the female walked up the driveway, there was pink clothing showing near the back of her waistline. Lieutenant Richter recognized this female was of the same approximate size, height, weight, and physical features as the defendant, whom he knows from past professional contacts.

Jefferson Police Department Detective Eric Weiss reports that at approximately 12:08 p.m., on February 24, 2020, he and Lieutenant Richter went to the defendant's home to speak with her. After knocking on the door several times, the defendant came to the door and invited both Detective Weiss and Lieutenant Richter into her home. Detective Weiss asked the defendant

where she was from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. earlier that day, and the defendant stated that she was at home with her young child. The defendant denied having gone anywhere that morning. Detective Weiss noted that the defendant was dressed in black leggings, a pink athletic top, and had her hair up in a bun. Detective Weiss observed a pair of calf-height boots similar to those he observed the female subject wearing in Victim 1's security system footage. Detective Weiss also observed a pink knit hat in the kitchen, which the defendant stated that she commonly wears. Detective Weiss asked the defendant if she had any "Carhartt" hoodies or jackets; the defendant stated that she did and provided Detective Weiss with a gray and white striped one and a dark gray one.

Complainant has reviewed the home security system footage from Victim 1's home and observed the following: the surveillance footage shows a white female with black calf-height boots, black leggings, a dark gray/black "Carhartt" style jacket/hoodie with a pink shirt underneath, glasses, a dark knit hat with pink around the bottom. It appeared the female was possibly wearing multiple layered hats. The female's hair appears to be pulled up as the knit hat is pointed up and there is only a small amount of brown hair sticking out from the back. At approximately 8:29 a.m., the female walks up to a side door of the garage at the residence, checks the door handle with her right hand, then uses her left hand to open the door with a flat white/light-colored object. The surveillance footage shows the female exiting the residence through the same door at approximately 8:38 a.m. The female then walks back towards the driveway and out of camera view.

Your complainant is familiar with the defendant through your complainant's investigation in Jefferson County Case No. 19CF487. Based on this familiarity, your complainant believes the female seen in the surveillance video to be the defendant.

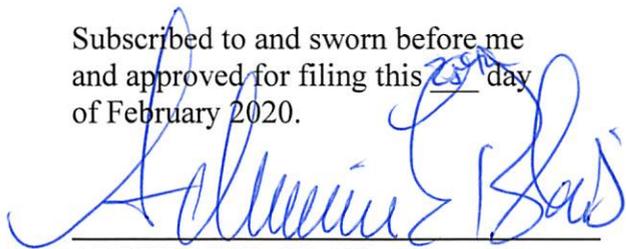
In addition to her own investigation, your complainant bases her knowledge of this complaint on: the official law enforcement agency reports of the City of Jefferson Police Department prepared by Detective Eric Weiss, which reports were prepared in the normal course of law enforcement duties; statements by Victim 1, who is an eyewitness to the facts related to law enforcement; statements by the defendant, which were made contrary to her penal interests; and the official records of the Circuit Court for Jefferson County and the Wisconsin Circuit Court Automated Program, which records are maintained in the normal course of business.

Based on the foregoing, the complainant believes this complaint to be true and correct. This complaint contains a summary of facts necessary to establish probable cause. It does not contain all of the facts that are known to the complainant that may be relevant to this investigation.

Dated this 25th day of February 2020.


SPECIAL AGENT DORINDA FREYMILLER
Wisconsin Department of Justice
Division of Criminal Investigation
Complainant

Subscribed to and sworn before me
and approved for filing this 25th day
of February 2020.



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