

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT-JUVENILE DIVISION

COUNTY OF RAMSEY

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

MNCIS Group No. _____

D. C. File No. _____

In the Matter of the Welfare of:

C. A. File No. 0620448724

Mekhi Camden Speed
dob 3-11-04

**PRESUMPTIVE
MOTION FOR CERTIFICATION**

TO: Ramsey County Juvenile Court and the above-named Respondent and his attorney:

The State hereby moves the Court for an order certifying the above-entitled proceedings involving Respondent to adult court for prosecution.

This Motion is based on the following information and belief:

1. A petition dated February 8, 2022, was filed with the Ramsey County Juvenile Court that charges Respondent with an offense that would result in a presumptive commitment to prison under the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines and applicable statutes;
2. Respondent was 16 or 17 years old or older at the time of the alleged offense(s); and
3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 260B.125.3, there is a presumption that retaining the proceeding in juvenile court does not serve public safety.

THEREFORE, the State hereby moves the Court for an order certifying Respondent to the appropriate authorities for prosecution as an adult offender.

JOHN J. CHOI
RAMSEY COUNTY ATTORNEY

/s/ Heidi Westby

Dated: February 8, 2022

Heidi Westby
345 Wabasha Street North, Suite 120
St. Paul, MN 55102
Telephone: (651) 266-3134
Attorney Reg. No. 241672

STATE OF MINNESOTA

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF RAMSEY

JUVENILE COURT DIVISION

MNCIS Group No. _____

D. C. File No. _____

C. A. File No. 0620448724

In the Matter of the Welfare of:

Child's name including, address, and phone number if different than parent:

Mekhi Camden Speed
(DOB: 03/11/2004)
1117 S. Marquette Ave - #1402
Minneapolis, MN 55403

FELONY

JUVENILE PETITION

Delinquency Traffic

Delinquency Felony
(age 16 and over)

Juvenile Petty Offender

Prosecutor Designated EJJ

Motion for EJJ

Presumptive Motion for Certification

Non-Presumptive Motion for Certification

Amended

Warrant Requested

The Child's parents/guardian/spouse/nearest relative, including relationship, address, and phone number:

Cheryl Chiquata Locke
Mother
1117 S. Marquette Ave - #1402
Minneapolis, MN 55403

The Petitioner, being duly sworn, makes complaint to the above-named Court and states that there is probable cause to believe that Respondent committed the following offense(s):

COUNT 1

On or about January 10, 2022, in the County of Ramsey, Minnesota, Mekhi Camden Speed, aiding and abetting and being aided and abetted by another, did cause the death of O.R.E., Jr. with intent to effect the death of O.R.E., Jr. and he or an accomplice possessed a firearm.

Said acts constituting the offense of **Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated** in violation of: §609.19.1(1); 609.11.5, 609.05.1.

COUNT 2

On or about January 10, 2022, in the County of Ramsey, Minnesota, Mekhi Camden Speed, aiding and abetting and being aided and abetted by another, did cause the death of O.R.E., Jr., without intent to effect the death of any person, while committing or attempting to commit a felony, aggravated robbery, and he or an accomplice possessed a firearm.

Said acts constituting the offense of **Murder - 2nd Degree - Without Intent - While Committing a Felony** in violation of: §609.19.2(1); 609.11.5, 609.05.1.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

At 9:32 p.m. on January 10, 2022, St. Paul officers and medics responded to an address on Prior Avenue, St. Paul, Ramsey County on a report of a male on the ground who had been shot. The male was transported to Regions Hospital. He was declared deceased at 10:04 p.m. This male was identified as Otis Rodney Elder, DOB 4/3/1983 (38).

Officers secured and processed the scene. Elder was found near a 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe. The driver's side door on the Tahoe was open and there was loose cash and suspected marijuana in the front of the vehicle. There was a large amount of blood on the driver's seat, driver's door and arm rest. There was blood spatter on the passenger seat. There was a spent shell casing on the ground near the driver's door.

Officers spoke with a witness at the scene who was upset and stated he was Elder's best friend. The witness stated he and Elder had arrived at the address where the shooting took place around 8:20 p.m. The witness stated he went inside a nearby business and Elder stayed outside in his car. The witness heard a loud gunshot and ran outside. The witness stated he did not know who would have shot Elder as Elder lived in Minneapolis with his young child and did not have a problem with anyone. This witness then told investigators that another friend of theirs saw a male standing outside of Elder's vehicle. This friend saw the male standing outside of the vehicle shoot Elder.

Officers were notified of a witness who had been talking to Elder on the phone at the time of the shooting. The man told officers that it sounded as if Elder was conducting a drug transaction and that someone was sitting in the front seat of Elder's car. The witness had heard Elder state, "you can sit in front". The witness heard what sounded like a struggle. The witness heard a male state, "If you do not give it up, pop the *****". The phone call then abruptly ended. The witness believed whoever shot Elder took Elder's phone because the witness kept trying to call the phone after and it went to voicemail.

On January 11, 2022, the Ramsey County Medical Examiner conducted an autopsy. Dr. Mills noted Elder had a gunshot wound to his right lower back/upper buttock. The gunshot resulted in hemorrhage of the bladder and pancreas and contusion of the large bowel. Dr. Mills found that the cause of Elder's death was exsanguination due to gunshot wound. The manner of Elder's death was homicide.

On January 12, 2022, an investigator spoke with a witness. This witness told officers that he had been with Elder prior to the shooting. This male stated that after he left Elder, he observed a male standing outside of the driver's side door holding a gun and it appeared this male had shot Elder while another male was sitting in the front passenger seat of Elder's vehicle. This witness advised that he was scared so he drove away in his own car. This witness then observed a silver Mercedes-Benz speed away at a high rate of speed and through a stop light without stopping.

Investigators suspected the Mercedes-Benz was a vehicle that had been used in numerous prior crimes. The silver Mercedes-Benz was distinct in that it had front end damage and a lit front emblem. It had been stolen on November 27, 2021. This Mercedes-Benz (MA 9AD213) had been (1) used in an armed robbery on December 6, 2021; (2) a suspect vehicle in an armed robbery on December 28, 2021; (3) a suspect vehicle in an attempted armed robbery on December 28, 2021; (4) involved in another gun possession report on December 28, 2021; (5) involved in a police pursuit on December 28, 2021; and (6) a suspect vehicle in a theft on January 4, 2022.

On January 21, 2022, a Minneapolis Police officer observed the stolen Mercedes-Benz (MA 9AD213) in the Leamington parking ramp in Minneapolis. St. Paul investigators recovered the vehicle. Investigators observed that the inside of the vehicle had been sprayed with a white and yellow powder that appeared to be substance from a fire extinguisher.

On January 22, 2022, investigators obtained videos of the stolen Mercedes-Benz being left at the Leamington ramp on January 11, 2022 where it had remained until it had been found on January 21, 2022. The video showed that the vehicle had been driven into the Leamington ramp four hours after Elder's murder at 12:49 a.m. on January 11, 2022. The video showed four males got out of the vehicle and took items out of the trunk. One of the males went back into the vehicle. The four males left the vehicle in the ramp. One male carried a large black duffle bag with a white logo.

On January 22, 2022, an investigator obtained a video of the murder of Otis Elder. In the video, a light-colored vehicle, later determined to be the Mercedes-Benz (MA 9AD213), parked near Elder's vehicle at 9:20 p.m. Two males exited the Mercedes-Benz and approached Elder's vehicle. One male entered the passenger side of Elder's vehicle. The other male approached the driver's side and stood outside of the driver's door where Elder was sitting. This male stepped back and a loud gunshot was heard. The male standing outside of Elder's door opened the driver's side door and picked up items from the ground and from inside of Elder's vehicle. The passenger side door opened and the other male got out of the vehicle. Both males ran towards the Mercedes-Benz. When the video was enhanced, investigators could see that the male who fired into the vehicle wore a dark jacket and light-colored hooded sweatshirt and white shoes. This male got into the passenger seat of the Mercedes-Benz. The second male got into the driver's seat of the Mercedes-Benz.

From January 10-23, 2022, investigators obtained and reviewed CCTV MNDOT camera video recordings of the Mercedes-Benz (MA 9AD213) after it left the scene of the murder on January 10, 2022. Investigators tracked the Mercedes-Benz after it sped away from the scene to the Bolero Flats, an apartment building in Minneapolis. At 9:38 p.m., the Mercedes-Benz pulled up to the Bolero Flats and parked. In response to a squad's presence, the Mercedes-Benz left but returned again at 10:16 p.m. At 10:16 p.m., the Mercedes-Benz entered a parking ramp adjacent to the Bolero Flats. Investigators obtained video of three males that exited the Mercedes-Benz and went into the Bolero Flats apartment building. Two of the males appeared to be the two males at the scene of the murder as they looked similar and wore the same clothing that could be seen on the enhanced video of the murder. The male suspected of shooting Elder still wore a dark jacket and light-colored hooded sweatshirt and white shoes. This same suspect appeared to have an item in the front pocket of his sweatshirt that he concealed as he left the Mercedes-Benz and went into the Bolero Flats. The male in the light-colored hooded sweatshirt used a key FOB to get into the Bolero Flats.

On January 24, 2022, investigators met with witnesses at the Bolero Flats. Witnesses identified the male in the video who exited the stolen Mercedes-Benz and used a key FOB to get into the Bolero Flats on January 10, 2022 after the murder as MEKHI CAMDEN SPEED, DOB 3/11/2004 (17). Staff at the Bolero Flats advised investigators that Speed was listed as an occupant with his mother for apartment 1402. Speed also had a key FOB for apartment 701 as Speed's brother lived in apartment 701. As investigators were at the building, Speed was recorded using the key FOB for apartment 701 to leave the building. Investigators were also advised that a person who returned to the Bolero Flats with Speed on January 10, 2022 was associated with apartment 1403.

On January 24, 2022, investigators spoke with a Hennepin County official. This official stated that he was familiar with Mekhi Speed because he was on probation. Speed reported his address to probation as the Bolero Flats apartment 1402. The official identified Speed in the video from the Bolero Flats after the murder.

On January 24, 2022, investigators compared the video of Mekhi Speed from the Bolero Flats to the video of the group leaving the stolen Mercedes-Benz at the Leamington parking ramp on January 11, 2022 approximately four hours after the murder. Speed was in the video at the Leamington parking ramp. He exited the front passenger seat of the Mercedes-Benz and left with the group. Speed wore a Canada Goose black jacket with fur, a black winter facemask over his face, a white or grey hooded sweatshirt, black pants and white shoes. Speed brushed a substance (suspected fire extinguisher substance) off his jacket.

As of February 2, 2022, the St. Paul and Minneapolis Police Departments had search warrants that authorized the search of three apartments at the Bolero Flats. Minneapolis and St. Paul officers also had "probable cause pick up and holds" to arrest Mekhi Speed and two of his associates for murder and aiding an offender after the fact. The search warrants authorized the search of apartments 701, 1402 and 1403.

In the early morning of February 2, 2022, officers executed the warrant at apartment 701. Mekhi Speed's brother's girlfriend was the registered occupant of apartment 701. Mekhi Speed's brother also stayed at the apartment. Police and fire had been to the apartment on numerous occasions in the past. Mekhi Speed had been present in apartment 701 as recent as January 2022 during one of the calls. According to records from the Bolero Flats, Speed had used a key FOB for apartment 701 to access and leave the Bolero Flats. Speed's brother, his girlfriend and A.L. (Speed's cousin [shot during execution of the warrant and now deceased]) were present when the warrant was executed. Investigators seized a black Canada Goose jacket with fur that appeared to be the jacket worn by Speed after leaving the stolen Mercedes-Benz at the Leamington parking ramp on January 11, 2022. Officers also recovered a bullet, a gun in A.L.'s possession and marijuana from the apartment.

In the early morning of February 2, 2022, officers executed the warrant at apartment 1402. Mekhi Speed and his mother, C.L., were listed as residents of apartment 1402. Neither were present when the warrant was executed. Investigators seized a black hat that matched the hat worn by Speed when he returned to the Bolero Flats on January 10, 2022 after the murder. Investigators seized a black duffle bag with a white logo that appeared to be the bag carried by a person with Speed when the Mercedes-Benz was left at the Leamington ramp. Investigators seized tennis shoes similar to those worn by the person carrying the black duffle bag. Investigators seized a dark blue Tommy Hilfiger jacket. This jacket appeared to be the same jacket worn by an unidentified male who was with Mekhi Speed when he returned to the Bolero Flats after the murder. Investigators suspect this unidentified male was the second person at the scene of the murder who sat in the front passenger seat of Elder's vehicle. This same unidentified male was with Speed and again wore a dark blue Tommy Hilfiger jacket when the stolen Mercedes-Benz was left at the Leamington parking ramp. Investigators also seized pants that appeared to be the same pants that this unidentified person wore when he returned to the Bolero Flats after the murder and when the stolen Mercedes-Benz was left at the Leamington parking ramp.

In the early morning of February 2, 2022, officers executed the warrant at apartment 1403. Mekhi Speed's friend was associated with apartment 1403. He was not present but another male was present when the warrant was executed. Investigators seized a large amount of marijuana from apartment 1403.

On February 6, 2022, the St. Paul Police Department Forensic Unit issued a report that stated a latent print lifted from the exterior right front door of the Mercedes-Benz was identified as having been made by the right middle finger of Mekhi Speed.

From January 24-February 6, 2022, many law enforcement officers attempted to locate Mekhi Speed. Officers surveilled his residence and other locations he was known to frequent, contacted his mother multiple times, contacted his probation officer and attempted to use other tracking information. On February 6, 2022, officers located Speed in Winona, Minnesota. When officers approached Speed, he attempted to run away. An officer grabbed Speed's jacket. Speed struggled out of his jacket but was stopped and arrested. Officers searched Speed's jacket. Speed had a loaded gun in his jacket. Speed was arrested and transported to the Ramsey County Juvenile Detention Center. Speed refused to speak with investigators. St. Paul investigators noted that Speed wore a black jacket at the time of his arrest. The jacket appeared to be the same jacket worn by the person in the videos of the shooting and returning to the Bolero Flats after the murder.

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this Petition as to form and verify that the contents are true to the best of my information and belief and that reasonable grounds exist to support the Petition.

Date: February 8, 2022

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S SIGNATURE:

/s/ Heidi Westby

Name: Heidi Westby

345 Wabasha Street North, Suite 120

St. Paul, MN 55102

651-266-3222/JG

Attorney Registration # 241672

Subscribed and sworn to before the undersigned this 8th day of February, 2022.

NAME/TITLE:

SIGNATURE:

Notary Public, Exp 1/31/22

/s/ Jill S. Gilbertson

RESPONDENT DATA / CHARGE SHEET - ATTACHMENT A

RESPONDENT NAME:	Mekhi Camden Speed	DOB:	03/11/2004
Respondent alias name(s):		Alias	
		DOB(s):	
Race:	Unavailable		
Gender:	Male		
Respondent last known address:	1117 S. Marquette Ave - #1402 Minneapolis, MN 55403		
State ID:			
Fingerprint ID:			
FBI ID:			
St. Paul PD ID:	22005247		
Offender ID:			

OTHER RESPONDENT / CASE IDENTIFIERS:			
Fingerprinted?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Photographed?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
Handgun permit?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	(Issuing Agency:)
Location of violation:			
IF DRIVING OFFENSE:			
Driver's License	Number:		Issuing State:
License Plate	Number:		Issuing State:
Accident Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> No injury/no damage	<input type="checkbox"/> Property Damage	
<i>check all that apply</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Injury	<input type="checkbox"/> Fatality	
Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC):			

CT NO	OFFENSE DATE	STATUTE TYPE	STATUTE NBR	STATUTE DESCRIPTION	OFFENSE LEVEL	MOC	GOC	AGENCY ORI CN NBR FUNCTION
1	On or about January 10, 2022	Charge	609.19.1(1)	Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated	F	H2012	X	St. Paul Police Dept. ORI - MN0620900 CN: 22005247
		Modifier	609.11.5,	Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm, Liability for Crimes of Another-Intentional				
		Modifier	609.05.1					
2	On or about January 10, 2022	Charge	609.19.2(1)	Murder - 2nd Degree - Without Intent - While Committing a Felony	F	H2312	X	St. Paul Police Dept. ORI - MN0620900 CN: 22005247
		Modifier	609.11.5,	Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm, Liability for Crimes of Another-Intentional				
		Modifier	609.05.1					