

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Plaintiff,

vs.

NATALIA ALEKSANDROVNA
HITCHCOCK
1110 Plank Trail Lane Apt 513
Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085
DOB: 04/10/1980
Sex/Race: F/W

Defendant.

DA Case No.: 2022SB000996
Assigned DA/ADA: Joel Urmanski
Agency Case No.: S22-04476
S22-04547
Court Case No.: 2022CF

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

*For Official
Use*

The undersigned of the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says on information and belief:

Count 1: FIRST DEGREE INTENTIONAL HOMICIDE

The above-named defendant on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, in the City of Sheboygan Falls, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, did cause the death of Victim 1, with intent to kill that person, contrary to sec. 940.01(1)(a), 939.50(3)(a) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, a Class A Felony, the defendant shall be sentenced to imprisonment for life.

Count 2: ATTEMPT FIRST DEGREE INTENTIONAL HOMICIDE

The above-named defendant on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, in the City of Sheboygan Falls, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, attempted to cause the death of Victim 2, with intent to kill that person, contrary to sec. 940.01(1)(a), 939.50(3)(a), 939.32 Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, a Class B Felony, the defendant may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment not to exceed sixty (60) years.

The basis of complainant's charge of such offense is: Official reports prepared by multiple members of the Sheboygan Falls Police Department and Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department, which reports indicate that on March 30, 2022, at approximately 4:55 P.M., officers from the Sheboygan Falls Police Department responded to an apartment at 1110 Plank Trail Lane, in the City of Sheboygan Falls, County of Sheboygan, State of Wisconsin, on the report of a possible stabbing. While en route to the dispatched location, dispatch advised officers that an eight year old was possibly stabbed and the female wanted to kill herself.

After arriving at the dispatched location, law enforcement made contact with an adult male, who will be identified for purposes of this criminal complaint as Witness 1. Witness 1 appeared visibly upset and told officers to, "get in here." He directed officers to the living room of the

apartment where Officer Palese observed an unconscious boy laying on his back. The boy was an eight-year old child, who will be identified for purposes of this criminal complaint as Victim 1. Victim 1 was very pale white and bluish in color. Officer Palese did not observe any bleeding or any type of wounds on Victim 1 but he did observe bruising on the boy's neck consistent with having been strangled. Officer Doxtator began performing chest compressions on Victim 1. First Responders and Orange Cross arrived and began providing treatment.

Officer Doxtator reports that a First Responder checked Victim 1 for a pulse and was unable to find one. The child later regained a pulse and was transported for medical treatment.

Detective Hatch of the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department reports that on March 31, 2022, he spoke with Dr. Petska of Children's Hospital where Victim 1 had been sent for treatment. Dr. Petska advised that she observed blood from Victim 1's nose, which was consistent with strangulation. She also reported petechiae from Victim 1's neck to hairline with the type of petechiae being classic for strangulation. Dr. Petska also noted marks on Victim 1's neck and multiple bruises, which appeared to have been from fingers or hands. Victim 1 was later declared deceased, which your complainant asserts was based on the injuries he sustained.

After entering the apartment Officer Palese asked Witness 1, "where is she," referring to the woman with a knife. Witness 1 pointed to a rear bedroom. Witness 1 went into the bedroom and moments later he and Natalia A. Hitchcock, DOB 04/10/80, emerged from the bedroom. Officer Palese observed a small kitchen knife in either Witness 1's or Hitchcock's hand. Witness 1 placed the knife on a bed in the living room. When asked if he was injured at all, Witness 1 said, "She tried to stab me." He also indicated that Hitchcock stabbed herself, but he did not think that she stabbed anyone else. Law enforcement later learned that another child had been at the residence, an 11 years old child who will be identified for purposes of this criminal complaint as Victim 2.

Detective Hatch later spoke with Witness 1. Witness 1 advised that he and Hitchcock had been married for 15 years and lived together with Victims 1 & 2, their children, at the dispatched location. He said that Hitchcock was against drugs and usually drinking, however, he recently noted that she had been drinking vodka. When asked if Hitchcock had any mental health concerns, Witness 1 said, "She does now." Witness 1 also advised Detective Hatch that Hitchcock became violent when she was angry and had rage. He also described Hitchcock has having surges of rage.

Witness 1 told Detective Hatch that Hitchcock's mother lived in Russia and that he, Witness 1, was worried about Hitchcock's mental state of mind as she watched TV with the war between Russia and Ukraine. He added that things became very serious the prior three to four days. He advised that Hitchcock asked him to stay home from work and that he did so. He added that within the last prior few days Hitchcock also wanted to buy survival gear such as a camping stove and fuel and also wanted to buy knives and guns. He said no to the knives and guns, but did go and purchase extra food as well as a camping stove and fuel with Hitchcock to make her feel safe. He advised that Hitchcock also complained that she could not book a flight to Russia to see her parents, which made her angry. He said that he felt the war between Russia and Ukraine amped up Hitchcock more than ever and that she started to drink alcohol. Witness 1 also advised that Hitchcock was worried that people were going to be coming from a bigger city to attack them.

Witness 1 went on to advise that on March 30, 2022, he woke up and had breakfast. Victim 1 and Victim 2 were on Spring Break so all four of the occupants of the apartment were home. He said that he remembered the children playing on a computer and at one point before he took a nap Hitchcock's mother called to speak with her. He said that his first memory thereafter that something was wrong was when Victim 2 woke him up from the couch yelling and saying, "[Victim 1] is dead." He advised that Victim 2 looked scared and very frightened. He got up and ran to Victim 1's room and saw Victim 1 laying on the bedroom floor at the base of a bunk bed. He said that it looked like Victim 1 was sleeping. He remembered Hitchcock saying, "I killed [Victim 1]." Witness 1 picked up Victim 1's lifeless body, walked him to the living room and placed him on a couch. He began performing CPR on Victim 1 and called 911. He advised that Victim 1 was not breathing and was completely out of it, limp and lifeless. He advised that he saw a small amount of blood coming from Victim 1's right ear and saw red marks on Victim 1's neck, but no blood.

Witness 1 told Detective Hatch that when he had been tending to Victim 1, Hitchcock had been walking around the apartment with a knife, dazed, saying she was going to kill everyone in the house. He remembered Hitchcock holding a knife approximately five to six inches long with a wooden handle and a silver blade up to her chest with the tip of the blade facing upward. He grabbed the knife out of her hand, causing a small cut on his left ring finger. He said that he did not know if Hitchcock stabbed herself. He also said that he wrestled a second knife away from her.

Officer Palese reports that he also asked Witness 1 about Hitchcock's mental health. Witness 1 advised him that Hitchcock had not been diagnosed with any mental health disorders, was not on any medications and did not take any prescription or recreational drugs. He advised that Hitchcock drank vodka, however, it was on rare occasions.

Officer Schneider of the Sheboygan Falls Police Department reports that she and another officer escorted Hitchcock from the apartment to a squad car. She observed blood seeping through Hitchcock's shirt and ultimately observed a small puncture wound to Hitchcock's chest. When asked how she sustained the wound, Hitchcock said it was self-inflicted. When asked why she stabbed herself, Hitchcock said that she tried to, "cut her heart."

Officer Schneider briefly asked Hitchcock what happened. Hitchcock said someone was controlling her mind and she had been poisoned. She kept using the phrase that she had a "brain fog." She said that she had been trying to save her sons from being abused. When asked if she had any mental health issues, Hitchcock said no. When asked what happened to her son, Hitchcock said, "I suffocate him." When asked why she suffocated her child, Hitchcock said, "I did not want him to be abused."

Officer Schneider later provided Hitchcock with her *Miranda* rights. Hitchcock indicated that she understood her rights and was willing to waive and answer questions. Hitchcock advised that on March 30, 2022, she woke up at approximately 7:00 A.M. after having gotten approximately two hours of sleep. She said that she had not been sleeping for the past five days, explaining that within the prior five days she gotten approximately eight hours of sleep. She went on to say that at approximately 4:00 P.M. she began to have a "brain fog." She said she did not have control of her thoughts and heard voices in her head. She said she also experienced back pain so she took a Tylenol bottle, poured half of the pills into a cup filled with

orange juice and that once the pills dissolved she drank the juice to fall asleep and never wake up. She advised that at the time Witness 1 had been sleeping while Victim 1 and Victim 2 continued to play video games in the living room. She said that she began to have thoughts that the Russian government was going to take her children and abuse them. She also said that she believed Witness 1 was trying to sell her and the boys to the dark web. She advised that she believed it best to take Victim 1's life because he was the youngest and most vulnerable. She said that she believed Victim 1 would not have been able to defend himself if he had gotten abused and she thought it better to kill him rather than watch him be abused. She said that she placed both hands around Victim 1's neck and squeezed as hard as she could until Victim 1 stopped breathing. She said that she observed Victim 1's face lose color and that once he lost consciousness and fell to the floor, she grabbed a kitchen knife and began to stab herself in the chest. When asked if she intentionally wanted to hurt Victim 1, Hitchcock said yes because she did not want to see him be abused.

Officer Schneider also reported that an emergency room nurse advised her that Hitchcock had a critical amount of Tylenol in her system.

Detective Hatch also interviewed Hitchcock on March 30, 2022. The interview occurred at the Sheboygan Memorial Medical Center. Hitchcock was provided her *Miranda* rights, which she indicated that she understood and was willing to waive to answer questions. She said that inside the hospital she did not have a brain fog as she did when she was in the apartment. When asked if she was stressed out by the war between Russia and Ukraine, Hitchcock said that her husband told her that, however, she was more worried that she was being sold by people on the dark web. She said she had a hard time sleeping and could not concentrate, but could not tell Detective Hatch what caused her brain fog.

Hitchcock went on to tell Detective Hatch that prior to the previous Friday, which your complainant asserts was March 25, 2022, everything had been normal but that for the prior five days she was not able to concentrate on anything. She said that she felt her kids were going to be taken away from her by social workers. She also said that people had been looking at her strange and felt that people looked at her as a Russian spy, which caused her to feel that social workers were going to take her kids from her. When asked what the social workers were going to do with if they took her kids away, Hitchcock corrected Detective Hatch by saying it was not social workers, rather she was worried that people from the dark web were going to take her kids away and do bad things to them. She also told Detective Hatch that she felt like she had no other choice but to take her life. She said that she thought to herself that if she was going to take her life she wondered what was going to happen to her kids. She expressed a worry that if she killed herself she did not want her kids to be abused and that was when she thought to herself that she was going to, "End his suffering with my hands." She said that she wanted to end Victim 1's life to end his suffering. She added that she did not want Victim 1 to be abused for years in front of the screens by a bunch of people that were going to watch him being abused.

Hitchcock told Detective Hatch that she tried to convince herself that all of it was not true and that it was just in her head. She said that her husband even stayed home from work to stay with her to support her, but she did not feel supported. She said that she decided to grab Victim 1, who had been standing by the closet in his bedroom. She said, "Then I just started suffocating him." She said that after laying Victim 1 down on the floor after the suffocation she wanted to end her life, but Victim 2 showed up in the bedroom. She advised that she already

had so much Tylenol in her system and thought she was just going to go to sleep. She said that she thought to herself that she wanted to use a knife to kill herself as she thought people were going to get her and Victim 1 and also said that Victim 2 was finally going to be safe from all of it. When asked if she planned on killing Victim 2 as well, Hitchcock said no. She said that Victim 2 was bigger than Victim 1 and that it would have been very difficult for her to have killed Victim 2.

Detective Hatch asked Hitchcock if she ever tried to do anything to Victim 2 in a bathtub and if she tried to hurt Victim 2 over the weekend. She said she, "Kinda dipped him in the water and I didn't do anything like bad to him." She said that she told the boys they needed to wake up and needed to see what was going on around them. She stated that she did not want to end Victim 2's life by dunking him underneath the bath water; she just want to scare him. She said that she dunked his head under the water to scare him so that he would understand his life was in danger. When asked why she killed Victim 1 and not Victim 2 as well, Hitchcock said that Victim 1 was so little and so innocent and she did not want him to suffer.

Sergeant Oppeneer of the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department reports that on April 1, 2022, at approximately 7 PM, he made contact with Hitchcock, who at the time was incarcerated at the Sheboygan County Jail. He informed her that Victim 1 passed away. Hitchcock paused for a moment and then said, in a calm tone, "Well, I guess I accomplished what I set out to do then." Shortly thereafter she began to cry softly and said she did it because she was concerned that her son was going to be sexually assaulted and she felt he would be better off dead.

Detective Brian Judd of the Sheboygan County Sheriff's Department reports that on March 30, 2022, he was present as Victim 2 was interviewed by a Forensic Interviewer of the Lakeshore Regional Child Advocacy Center. During the interview, Victim 2 talked about an incident that he said occurred the prior day, which would have been March 29, 2022. He said that he had been in the bathroom attached to the room his father slept. Also in the room was his brother, Victim 1, and his mother. He said that when in the bath tub his mother asked him at some point to put his head under the water to see how long he could stay under. He said that after he went under the water he felt his mother's hands on his head, pushing him down and at some point it felt like her whole body was pushing him down. He said he was able to get out from underneath her so she had not been keeping him under the water. He described the water as not having been very high and indicated that if it had been higher he probably would have drowned. He said that he eventually exited the bathroom and that his mother was near the kitchen area holding a big knife up. He said that he started screaming at her and then tried to stay away from her. He said that she put the knife away and hugged him and that the rest of their day went on as normal.

Victim 2 said during the interview that his mother did not want them to have a bad death and that she tried to kill them by giving them a peaceful death.

Regarding March 30, 2022, Victim 2 said that after looking around for his brother he eventually went into their room. His mother was on the bed with a big knife. He started looking around the room and saw his brother, Victim 1, lying on the floor on the other side of the bed. He said that his brother had a sheet over him with his feet hanging out. When he got closer to Victim 1 he saw what he described as red dots on his face and that his feet were white. He said that he started screaming very loudly with Witness 1 entering and starting CPR. He also said that his

mother ended up in the kitchen with a different knife, which she held to her neck. At some point he exited the residence, ran and hid in the garage. Once law enforcement arrived on scene he returned to the home.

Law enforcement obtained a search warrant for the residence as well as to collect a sample of Hitchcock's blood. Items collected from within the residence included four bottles of different types of Tylenol, an empty bottle of Tylenol from within a closet hamper, and several open bottles of alcohol. Your Complainant is aware that no test results have been received yet concerning the testing of Hitchcock's blood.

End of complaint.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 04/05/22

Electronically Signed By:

Joel Urmanski

District Attorney

State Bar #: 1059558

Electronically Signed By:

Sgt. E. Wielgosh

Complainant