



RICE COUNTY
320 Third Street N.W.
Faribault, MN 55021

MEDIA RELEASE

Date of Release: September 10, 2018

Date to Remove from Website: December 15, 2018

Murder Charges Filed

Judana Williams, 23, of Faribault was charged today with 2nd Degree Intentional Murder in the death of Michael Bongers 53, of Faribault. Williams was sentenced on August 28 for a violation of Domestic Abuse No Contact Order against Bongers.

The two had a stormy relationship and police were called to Bongers residence on September 7. Bongers died at the hospital from a stab wound to the chest, he was also stabbed in the arm and cut in the back.

Williams was arraigned by Judge John Cajacob who set bail at \$250,000 without conditions and \$100,000 with conditions. A copy of the criminal complaint is attached.

CONTACTS:

John Fossum, Rice County Attorney (507) 332-6103

Sara Folsted, Rice County Administrator (507) 332-6121

State of Minnesota
County of Rice

District Court
3rd Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0660043258
Court File No. 66-CR-18-2146

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

JUDANA CATHERINE WILLIAMS DOB: 09/14/1993

111 Central Ave, #211
Faribault, MN 55021

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Order of Detention

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: Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated

Minnesota Statute: 609.19.1(1)

Maximum Sentence: 40 years

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 09/07/2018

Control #(ICR#): 18003724

Charge Description: On or about September 7, 2018, in the County of Rice, Minnesota, Judana Catherine Williams did cause the death of Michael Gerard Bongers with intent to effect the death of Michael Gerard Bongers.

COUNT II

Charge: Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon

Minnesota Statute: 609.222.1

Maximum Sentence: 7 years and/or \$14,000 fine

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 09/07/2018

Control #(ICR#): 18003724

Charge Description: On or about September 7, 2018, in the County of Rice, Minnesota, Judana Catherine Williams did assault another with a dangerous weapon consisting of a knife.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The Complainant states that the following facts establish probable cause:

Complainant and/or Signing Officer designated below, declares under penalty of perjury, that he/she has reviewed police reports relating to the above-named Defendant and the allegations contained herein, and/or has spoken with peace officers having knowledge of the incident, and based upon that information, believes the following to be true and correct.

Shortly after 9:00 a.m. on September 7, 2018, Faribault Police responded to a 911 hangup call at the Sunrise Trailer Park in the 1100 block of Willow Street in the City of Faribault, County of Rice, State of Minnesota. On arrival they found a male, Michael Bongers in medical distress and a female, Judana Catherine Williams (DOB 9/14/1993).

Williams was screaming when the first officer arrived. The officer saw blood on the floor and Williams directed the officer to Bongers who was lying on his back on the floor, just inside the front door of the trailer. Bongers was breathing but not responsive to the officer. Williams was applying pressure to Bongers chest and the officer saw a large kitchen knife with a wooden handle and a long blade near Bongers, the blade had blood on it.

Williams said there was a weapon on the floor, but she didn't have anything to do with it. Williams said that "he ran up on me." The officer noticed an irritation in her throat and nostrils consistent with the use of pepper spray. Ambulance crews arrived and took Bongers to District One Hospital.

Based on the blood trail, it appeared the Bongers was stabbed in the bedroom in the north end of the trailer and made it out to the bathroom, and then the kitchen floor where he was when officers arrived. Officer Carstensen was asked to obtain a change of clothing for Williams as her clothing would be processed as evidence. Officer Carstensen opened Williams' unlocked car and found a small can of black pepper spray on top of the clothes.

Williams was interviewed and said that she and Bongers had been a couple for about three years. Bongers had gotten off work around 6:00 or 7:00 that morning. Bongers had brought some drugs. Bongers had gone to his bedroom and was using drugs and asked her if she wanted some and the two of them used cocaine. Bongers asked Williams to go to Owatonna to get more drugs, she refused and she said Bongers got mad. The two argued and he grabbed her and threw her into the closet. Williams said Bongers hit her and she grabbed her pepper spray and tried to spray him with it. Williams said that Bongers ran towards her and she stabbed him with the knife. Williams said she then tried to provide first aid and get Bongers to the hospital eventually she called 911.

The preliminary autopsy indicates that in addition to the stab wound in his chest, Bongers had a puncture wound on his left forearm and a cut on his back left shoulder consistent with a knife wound. These wounds appear to be consistent with a theory that Bongers was protecting himself from Williams and the knife and that there was more than the one blow with the knife that she described. Williams was convicted in Court File 66-CR-17-3173 for violating a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order obtained by Bongers. Williams was sentenced on that file on August 29, 2018.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 609.49., intentional failure to appear for duly scheduled court appearances may result in additional criminal charges, and in addition to any arrest warrant that may otherwise be issued by the Court.

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

Jason Severson
Captain
25 NW 4th Street
Faribault, MN 55021
Badge: 3203

Electronically Signed:
09/10/2018 11:06 AM
rice County, Minnesota

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

Prosecuting Attorney

John Fossum
Rice County Attorney
218 NW 3rd Street
Faribault, MN 55021
(507) 332-6103

Electronically Signed:
09/10/2018 10:33 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 on _____, _____ at _____ AM/PM before the above-named court at 218 NW 3rd Street, Faribault, MN 55021 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: \$
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: September 10, 2018.

Judicial Officer

Christine A Long
Judge

Electronically Signed: 09/10/2018 11:18 AM

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

**COUNTY OF RICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

Judana Catherine Williams

Defendant

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RETURN OF SERVICE
I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Order of Detention upon the Defendant herein named.

Signature of Authorized Service Agent:

DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

Name: Judana Catherine Williams
DOB: 09/14/1993
Address: 111 Central Ave, #211
Faribault, MN 55021

Alias Names/DOB:

SID: MN14HD2101

Height:

Weight: 103lbs.

Eye Color:

Hair Color:

Gender: FEMALE

Race:

Fingerprints Required per Statute: Yes

Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record: Yes

Driver's License #: W013230376304 (MN)

Alcohol Concentration:

STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

Cnt Nbr	Statute Type	Offense Date(s)	Statute Nbrs and Descriptions	Offense Level	MOC	GOC	Controlling Agencies	Case Numbers
1	Charge	9/7/2018	609.19.1(1) Murder - 2nd Degree - With Intent-Not Premeditated	Felony	H2832		MN0660100	18003724
2	Charge	9/7/2018	609.222.1 Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon	Felony	A2332		MN0660100	18003724