

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CRIMINAL DIVISION

COMPLAINT

DCTN: 2113005054
 Lockup No: 59
 Case No: 5013 CR 0000599

District of Columbia ss:

Defendant's Name: Jerome C. Lewis 379843 13021440
 (First) (MI) (Last) (PDID) (CCNO)

Also Known As: _____
 (First) (Middle) (Last)

Address: 33rd Street, S.E., Washington DC

Jerome C. Lewis, within the District of Columbia, with the intent to kill another and to inflict serious bodily injury on another and with a conscious disregard of an extreme risk of death or serious bodily injury to another, caused the death of SMJ by setting fire on or about February 17, 2013, thereby causing injuries from which SMJ died on or about February 19, 2013. (Second Degree Murder, in violation of 22 D.C. Code, Section 2103 (2001 ed.))

Co-Defendants:

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22 day of February, 2013
 Affiant's Name: [Signature]
 (Judge) (Deputy Clerk): [Signature]

2013 FEB 22
 CRIMINAL DIVISION

WARRANT

To The United States Marshal or any other authorized federal officer or the Chief of Police of the District of Columbia:

WHEREAS the foregoing complaint and affidavit supporting the allegations thereof have been submitted, and there appearing probable cause and reasonable grounds for the issuance of an arrest warrant for Jerome C. Lewis

YOU ARE THEREFORE COMMANDED TO BRING THE DEFENDANT BEFORE SAID COURT OR OTHER PERSON ENUMERATED IN 18 U.S.C. 3041 forthwith to answer said charge.

Issued 2/22/13 [Signature]
 Judge - Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Title 16: ☐ Rule 105: ☐ Judge: _____

Sex: Male	DOB: 02/06/1967	CCN: 13021440	PDID: 379843
Papering Officer: Det. Gray <u>TEO</u>			Badge No.: <u>1265</u>

OFFICER MUST EXECUTE RETURN

Officer's Name: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date / Time: <u>February 22, 2013</u> <u>1312</u>
AUSA Signature: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fel. I <input type="checkbox"/> AFTC <input type="checkbox"/> Fel. II

1100537159

Superior Court of the District of Columbia
CRIMINAL DIVISION

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF AN ARREST WARRANT

USW NO.:

DEFENDANT'S NAME: JEROME C. LEWIS				NICKNAME:			ALIASES:		CCN: 13021440	PDID: 379843
SEX: MALE	RACE: BLACK	DOB: 2/6/1967	HGT: 6'1	WGT: 185	EYES: BROWN	HAIR: BALD	COMPL: MEDIUM	SCARS, MARKS, TATTOOS NONE VISIBLE		
DEFENDANT'S HOME ADDRESS: [REDACTED] 33 RD STREET SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON, DC.							TELEPHONE NUMBER: UNKNOWN			
DEFENDANT'S BUSINESS ADDRESS: UNKNOWN							TELEPHONE NUMBER: UNKNOWN			
COMPLAINANT'S NAME: SMJ							TELEPHONE NUMBER: NONE			
LOCATION OF OFFENSE: [REDACTED] 33 RD STREET SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON, DC							DATE OF OFFENSE: 02/17/2013	TIME OF OFFENSE: 0313 HOURS		

CAUTION AND MEDICAL CONDITIONS (CMC)

Select a valid CMC code below for wanted person when using the caution indicator.

☐ 00 = Armed and Dangerous ☐ 55 = Alcoholic ☒ 05 = Violent Tendencies ☐ 60 = Allergies ☐ 10 = Martial Arts Expert
☐ 65 = Epilepsy ☐ 15 = Explosive Expertise ☐ 70 = Suicidal ☐ 20 = Known to abuse drugs ☐ 80 = Medication Required
☐ 25 = Escape Risk ☐ 85 = Hemophiliac ☐ 30 = Sexually Violent Predator ☐ 90 = Diabetic ☐ 50 = Heart Condition
☐ 01 = Other

GIVE BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF WHAT HAPPENED:

On Sunday, February 17, 2013, at approximately 0313 hours, the D.C. Fire Department received a radio run from the Office of Unified Command for the reported house fire at [REDACTED] 33rd Street, Southeast Washington D.C. As they arrived on the scene they encountered heavy fire conditions from the south side of the residence. Members of the DC Fire Department Engine attacked the fire from the first floor and rear basement areas of the residence. As they were attacking the fire, members of the DC Fire Department initiated a search of the house and discovered an unconscious minor child SMJ in a second floor bedroom. SMJ was removed from the home and immediately transported to a local hospital. SMJ suffered from smoke inhalation and thermal burns. SMJ was admitted in critical condition with the assistance of a ventilator. After the fire was extinguished, a review of the damage revealed fire damage in the basement and the rear of the first floor of the residence. Members of the District of Columbia Arson Task Force conducted a Fire Origin and Cause investigation. Investigators determined the fire originated in the basement apartment. The fire spread from the basement and involved rooms on the first floor. Smoke spread throughout the house due to the fire originating in the basement apartment. The fire cause is currently classified as undetermined and is pending further investigation.

On Tuesday, February 19, 2013, SMJ, hereinafter the decedent, was pronounced dead. The decedent's remains were transported to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner for the District of Columbia. On Wednesday, February 20, 2013, an autopsy was performed on the remains of the decedent. On Friday, February 22, 2013, the cause of death was ruled complications from burns and smoke inhalation and the manner of death was ruled a homicide.

On February 17, 2013, at approx. 0313 hours, the first responding officer, a member of the Metropolitan Police Department Sixth District was working the Mayor's security detail in the area of Alabama Avenue and Erie Street Southeast. The officer's location was a security booth across the alley from [REDACTED] 33rd Street, Southeast. The officer observed smoke on one of the security monitors and walked to the rear of [REDACTED] 33rd Street to investigate. The officer heard a male voice and heard movement. The officer called out to the voice and asked if the person was alright. The male voice responded that he was alright. The officer left the area very briefly to retrieve a flashlight. Upon returning to the rear of [REDACTED] 33rd Street, SE, the officer shone his flashlight and observed a male wearing an orange shirt, who was later identified as Jerome Lewis, DOB: 2/6/1967, and PDID: 379-843 and hereinafter the defendant, standing in the rear of the location and observed flames inside the basement area of the residence. The officer also observed W-1 and W-2 standing in the rear of the location. W-1 and W-2 appeared to be frantic and searching to find ways to enter the home. The officer who was accompanied by the defendant, W-1, and W-2 went to the front of the residence where the officer observed W-3 holding a 2-year-old child. W-3 told the defendant you set the house on fire. The defendant then walked up to W-3 and said I'm going to kill you. The officer pulled the defendant away from W-3. Subsequently, additional members of the Sixth District arrived to assist.

Another member of the Metropolitan Police Department Sixth District arrived on the scene and observed the first responding officer, the defendant, and others coming from the rear of the location. According to this officer, most of the subjects were excited and yelling there is a child upstairs. However, the defendant was standing alone to the side and his demeanor was calm. Members of the Sixth District went to the front door of the residence in an effort to breach it. As they did so, the defendant while making random statements climbed up on the roof of the porch and broke a glass window, attempting to enter the residence. The defendant stated "There is a kid in there. I'm a kill that bitch for this and I'm a kill you for this. I live here. I'm not coming down. I'm not crazy," or words to that effect. The officer stated that W-1 pointed

to the defendant and stated "Get him. He is crazy he lives in my basement he started the fire. He is hearing voices," or words to that effect. The officer ordered the defendant to get off the roof to which he complied. The defendant then took a fighting posture towards the officer. The officer attempted to place the defendant in handcuffs, but the defendant actively resisted. Eventually, the officer was able to place the defendant into custody. As the officer escorted the defendant to his vehicle, the defendant began yelling, "I am going to kill you bitch." As the defendant walked in close proximity to W-1, he lifted up his right leg and attempted to kick W-1. The officer was able to pull the defendant away from W-1 before he could kick W-1. The defendant identified himself as Jerome Calvary Lewis, DOB: 02/06/1967, Address: [REDACTED] 33rd Street SE. In a search incident to arrest, a book of used matches was recovered from the defendant's pants pocket.

The defendant was transported to the Homicide Branch where he was advised of his rights which he waived. The defendant stated that he stays in the basement area of the house by himself and that other family members stay in the upstairs portion of the residence. When asked how the fire started, D-1 stated that he was smoking a cigarette and was under a lot of stress. D-1 stated that he has been up for 2 to 3 days and added that his mother had passed 2 years ago and now he does everything by himself. He described a cycle of him being up without any sleep for about 2 days at a time hearing voices then crashing. He stated that he had experienced this cycle about 4-6 times in the past.

At the time of the fire he had been up for two days. Prior to the fire, he tossed items out of his basement apartment into the backyard, to include a television, sink, computer and stove. Your affiant did observe these items in the rear of the residence. While tossing these items out of the apartment, he cut his hand. The defendant stated that when he ripped out the stand-alone sink water was going everywhere. The defendant left the basement apartment leaving the water running. He went to a gas station where he purchased a pack of cigarettes. He returned to the residence and cut the water off. He stated that lately he would turn on the water in his basement apartment to drown the voices. The defendant further stated that after turning off the water he was smoking a cigarette. He stated that he typically uses an ash tray when smoking. He stated that he does not litter, so 99.9 % of the time he puts cigarette butts in his pocket. This night he said he threw the cigarette on to the mattress. The defendant stated that he saw the cigarette on the mattress burning. As he observed the cigarette burning the voices were just talking and talking. Then he noticed flames on top of the mattress and said to himself "let me get this thing up," or words to that effect. He grabbed the mattress and tried to take it outside but the mattress went up in flames. He left the basement apartment exiting through a door. He stated that he had difficulty exiting because of the stove, microwave, and other items he had thrown out earlier. While describing how he had to get past the stove that he had thrown out earlier, the defendant began laughing.

The defendant stated that when he got outside he coughed for a couple of minutes. The defendant stated that he looked at an upstairs window and observed W-1 and another person coming out the residence. The defendant stated that he grabbed a ladder. Then, he stated that the two people came out of the window. (The defendant did not indicate if the ladder was used to assist the two people.) The defendant asked, "where is the baby?" Then, the defendant jumped up on the porch and used his elbow to bang out the window. He stated that the police told him to get down after he had banged out the window. The defendant made another reference to the ladder, stating that he grabbed the ladder and he looked up and saw someone coming out the front door of the residence.

In addition to the defendant, the investigation revealed that there were six other occupants, including SMJ and another minor child, inside the residence at the time of the fire. During the processing of the scene, a stove, a television, and other items were found in the back yard of [REDACTED] 33rd Street, SE, Washington, DC. In addition, your affiant noticed that a ladder was leaning against the rear fence of this location.

Your affiant interviewed W-1 who has known Jerome for more than a year. According to W-1, Jerome who lives in the basement apartment did not assist W-1 and W-2 in anyway in escaping the residence, to include warning them that there was a fire or smoke. W-1 stated that after exiting the burning home, IT saw Jerome standing with his hands in front of him and looking inside the basement area. W-1 stated that as IT ran to the front of the residence IT looked back and saw Jerome standing near the shed where the ladder is typically stored.

During the investigation, your affiant interviewed W-3, who has known Jerome for more than a year. According to W-3, in the months preceding the fire, W-3 heard Jerome in his basement apartment screaming and making noises similar to chanting. W-3 also stated that at the beginning of 2013, IT was standing in the rear of the residence remarking about the landscaping. Jerome stated "Ain't nothing nice. Me, my ancestors, and forefathers can make this house disappear piece by piece by piece and brick by brick," or words to that effect. On February 16, 2013, W-3 heard Jerome in his basement apartment again screaming and making unintelligible sounds. The same day, W-3 heard breaking or crashing sounds

coming from the basement apartment. W-3 looked in the backyard of the residence and noticed that a television and an U.S. military burial flag, among other items had been thrown out the house. According to W-3, IT was not assisted in escaping the residence by Jerome. Moreover, Jerome never alerted W-3 to the fire or smoke.

Based on the foregoing your affiant respectfully requests that a Superior Court of the District of Columbia arrest warrant be issued for Jerome C. Lewis, DOB: 2/6/1967, PDID: 379843.

AFFIANT'S SIGNATURE:

x *[Signature]*

TO: WARRANT CLERK

PLEASE ISSUE A WARRANT FOR:

JEROME C. LEWIS

Charge With: Second Degree Murder

[Signature]
ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
NCIC Approved

Form CD(17)-1050

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME THIS _____

2nd DAY OF Feb. 20 13

[Signature]
(JUDGE) DEPUTY CLERK) SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Revision Date: 11-29-06