

1 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
2 FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT BETHEL

3 STATE OF ALASKA,

4 Plaintiff,

5 vs.

6 RALPH JOHN WASKA

7 DOB: [REDACTED]

8 APSIN ID: [REDACTED]

9 DMV NO.: [REDACTED]

ATN: [REDACTED]

10 Defendant.

11 No. (Ralph John Waska)

12 INFORMATION

13
14 I certify this document and its attachments do not contain the (1) name of a victim of a sexual offense listed in AS 12.61.140 or (2)
15 residence or business address or telephone number of a victim of or witness to any offense unless it is an address identifying the place of a
crime or an address or telephone number in a transcript of a court proceeding and disclosure of the information was ordered by the court.
The following counts charge a crime involving DOMESTIC VIOLENCE as defined in AS 18.66.990: None

16 Count I - AS 11.41.110(a)(1)
17 Murder In The Second Degree
18 Ralph John Waska - 002

19 Count II - AS 11.41.110(a)(2)
20 Murder In The Second Degree
21 Ralph John Waska - 003

22 Count III - AS 11.41.120(a)(1)
23 Manslaughter
24 Ralph John Waska - 001

1 THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY CHARGES:

2 COUNT I

3 That in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about April 15, 2021,
4 at or near Kotlik, RALPH JOHN WASKA, with intent to cause serious physical injury
5 to another person or knowing that the conduct was substantially certain to cause death or
6 serious physical injury to another person, caused the death of Yago Pitka.

7 All of which is an unclassified felony offense being contrary to and in violation
8 of 11.41.110(a)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

9 COUNT II

10 That in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about April 15, 2021,
11 at or near Kotlik, RALPH JOHN WASKA knowingly engaged in conduct that resulted in
12 the death of Yago Pitka under circumstances manifesting an extreme indifference to the
13 value of human life.

14 All of which is an unclassified felony offense being contrary to and in violation
15 of AS 11.41.110(a)(2) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

16 COUNT III

17 That in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, on or about April 15, 2021,
18 at or near Kotlik, RALPH JOHN WASKA recklessly caused the death of Yago Pitka.

19 All of which is a class a felony offense being contrary to and in violation of
20 11.41.120(a)(1) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.

21
22 This Information is based upon a review of the Alaska State Trooper Report
23 AK21039112.

24 On April 15, 2021, Sheila Lowe reported to dispatch that she received a call
25 from her father, Ralph Waska (“Waska”), who was in Kotlik Alaska. Waska told her that
26 he killed someone, but he did not know who. He stated that someone had broken into his
27 residence and he had shot them. Ms. Lowe reported that Waska sounded intoxicated.

1 On April 16, 2021 Alaska State Trooper Joseph Whittom traveled to Kotlik and
2 contacted Waska. Waska told Trooper Whittom that he was drinking at Yago Pitka's
3 house around 7:00 pm on April 14. Waska said that the drinks were strong and that he
4 reached a level of 8 on an intoxication scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being sober and 10 being
5 black-out drunk. Waska said that at around 8:30 pm he and Mr. Pitka left the Pitka
6 residence and went to his house where the two men were alone. The men continued
7 drinking. Waska stated that at one point in the evening, Mr. Pitka started to threaten to
8 beat him up and was calling him names. Waska said that he and Mr. Pitka had a little
9 fight and that he told Mr. Pitka that he needed to leave after the scuffle. Waska said that
10 after he told Mr. Pitka to leave, Mr. Pitka was just hanging out by the front door. Waska
11 told Pitka to leave or that he would get his gun. When Mr. Pitka did not leave, Waska
12 retrieved his 20 gauge shotgun and loaded it with one shell of birdshot. Waska said that
13 Mr. Pitka kept getting louder and louder and threatened to beat him up. Waska described
14 Mr. Pitka turning towards him in a fighting stance and begin to walk towards him. Waska
15 said that he pointed the shotgun at Mr. Pitka's face and pulled the trigger shooting Mr.
16 Pitka in the face. Waska stated that he called his daughter about 20 minutes later to tell
17 her what happened.

18 After speaking with Waska, Trooper Whittom responded to Waska's residence.
19 In the residence, laying on the floor was the deceased body of Mr. Pitka. Mr. Pitka was
20 laying on the floor on his left side and back with his back to the front door. Mr. Pitka
21 appeared to have been shot twice. One shot appeared to hit Mr. Pitka's hand and face and
22 the other shot appeared to be to Mr. Pitka's left leg.

23 During their investigation, Troopers obtained a blood sample from Waska. On
24 May 21, 2021 the Alaska State Crime Lab completed analysis of Waska's blood. The
25 State Crime Lab's analysis revealed that Waska's blood alcohol result was 0.233
26 g/100mL.

27 On August 4, 2021, the Alaska State Troopers received the State Medical
Examiner's report on the autopsy conducted on Mr. Pitka's remains. The report found
that Mr. Pitka's cause of death was determined to be due to blunt-force injuries of the

head with penetrating shotgun wounds to the upper and lower extremities with extensive blood loss.

BAIL INFORMATION

The State of Alaska, respectfully requests that an Arrest Warrant issue in the amount of \$250,000.00 Cash Performance Bond. Per the Alaska Public Safety Information Network, the defendant has the following convictions in Alaska:

CONV COURT	CONV DATE	CONVICTING CHARGE	COURT DOCKET	POS ID	FEL	ATN
DAN	10/20/05	MEDICAL ASST FRAUD-FALSE CLAIM UND	3AN-05-5046	Y	N	107504136
MEM	05/26/05	VIOLATE PROTECTIVE ORDER	4EM-05-64	Y	N	108945981
SBE	09/13/05	BURGLARY 1- CAUSE/ATTEMPT INJURY	4BE-03-1725	Y	Y	108938052
DAN	01/09/02	FAIL TO APPEAR- ON BAIL FOR MISDEM	3AN-00-3409	Y	N	100143933
DAN	01/09/02	IMPORT ALCOHOL -DRY AREA - SMALL A	3AN-00-3409	Y	N	100143933
MSM	07/18/95	ASSAULT	95-75	Y	N	102220781
MSM	07/18/95	ASSAULT	95-60	N	N	100220794
MSM	07/18/95	DWI - ALCOHOL	M9500048		N	100221300
MSM	07/13/94	DWI - ALCOHOL	M9400187	Y	N	100220758
MSM	07/13/94	ASSAULT	94-187	Y	N	100220758
MSM	07/13/94	ASSAULT	94-187	Y	N	100220758
MSM	09/08/93	WEAPON OFFENSES	93-117	N	N	100188511
SBE	01/22/92	SEX ABUSE MINOR 2-CONTACT, VICT UN	4BE-91-119	Y	Y	
DAN	09/09/88	SHOPLIFTING	88-5837	N	N	
DNO	03/16/83	DAMAGE PROPERTY	83-XXX	Y	N	

Dated at Bethel, Alaska, this 7th day of October, 2021.

TREG R. TAYLOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

By: /s/R. Christopher Knowles
Joshua J. Bither
Assistant District Attorney
Alaska Bar No. 21030161809071