

IN THE DISTRICT COURT WITHIN AND FOR LOGAN COUNTY
STATE OF OKLAHOMA



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STATE OF OKLAHOMA
LOGAN COUNTY SS:
FILED FOR RECORD ON

2021 OCT 25 PM 3:29

CHERYL SMITH
COURT CLERK

NAME: DANIEL JOSEPH TRIPLETT
SSN: -6877
DOB: 12/ /1954

DEFENDANT(S)

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

COUNTY OF LOGAN

AGENCY NAME: O.S.B.I

BY DEPUTY

AGENCY CASE NO: OSBI2021-954

COURT CASE NO: CF-2021-242

AFFIDAVIT

The undersigned, of lawful age, being first duly sworn, upon oath, deposes and states as follows: OSBI Special Investigator Kevin Woodward, and has read certain official investigative reports and statements of witnesses and/or interviewed witnesses and/or communicated with other peace officers regarding the above-named defendant(s) and from these statements, reports, and your affiant's own observation and knowledge, it appears as follows:

Daniel Joseph Triplett was arrested at approximately 1831 hours, on October 21, 2021 at 6101 S Sooner Road, Guthrie, Oklahoma for the offense(s) of:

21 O.S. 701.7 Murder in the First Degree

21 O.S. 1161.1 Desecration of a Human Corpse

Because:

On 09/28/2021, the Guthrie Police Department received a report of missing person Brent Mack (B/M, DOB: 10/ /1970). The reporting party was Brent's daughter, Raychelle Wilson (B/F, DOB: 05/ /1989). Raychelle stated that no one has seen or heard from Brent since 09/20/2021. Raychelle stated that she reached out to Brent's boss Dan Triplett via Facebook Messenger and asked about Brent. Raychelle stated that Dan told her that he fired Brent on 09/20/2021 and dropped him off in front of the Laundromat in the 100 block of W. Cleveland. Dan told Raychelle that he gave Brent \$1000 cash as a severance. Raychelle said Dan later deleted the messages he sent to her, but she provided Guthrie Police Department Investigator Schmit with screenshots of the messages from before they were deleted.

A bag with Brent's work clothes was found by Nancy Chappel Simpson in the back yard of their residence which is on the corner of 1st and Cleveland. Investigator Schmit spoke with Vance and Nancy Simpson about the bag. Nancy said that she went out of town on 09/22/2021 and that she had noticed the bag there at least two days prior, putting the bag abandoned there on 09/20/2021. Vance showed Investigator Schmit where the bag was found on the west side of their residence, thrown over the small fence they have there.

Raychelle provided Investigator Schmit with a call log from Brent's phone because she has access to the log in information. Brent makes several outgoing phone calls from his phone every day and the outgoing phone calls stop abruptly on 09/20/2021. The last call made from Brent's phone was to his girlfriend in Texas.

On 09/29/2021, Investigator Schmit spoke to Brent's girlfriend, Lashon Hersey (B/F, DOB: 04/ /1972). Lashon stated that she met Brent online and has spoken to him every day for approximately four months. Lashon said on 09/20/2021 she spoke to Brent that morning and he told her he was being picked up to go to work. Later in the morning, Brent told her he was on a job site and didn't have good cell service. The last text message Lashon received from Brent was on 09/20/2021 at 1256 hours, that said "Okay babe I'll call you later." Lashon had not heard from Brent since that text message.

Surveillance video from the Laundromat and from the Guthrie Public Library across the street show Dan Triplett's vehicle drive by at approximately 1946 hours, but does not show him stop, and does not show Brent being dropped off where Dan said he dropped Brent off.

Lt. Bruning spoke to Dan over the phone and Dan told Lt. Bruning that Brent had worked for him off and on for several years. He stated that he wanted to cut ties with Brent because of his violent demeanor. Dan stated he gave Brent \$1,000 as a severance pay. Dan claimed that Brent exited the truck and told him he was going to Texas to get married. Lt. Bruning asked if Brent was upset about being fired and Dan told him he wasn't upset. Dan also told Lt. Bruning that Brent had a green army style duffel bag when he exited the truck. Lt. Bruning asked what the location of the job was on September 20, 2021 and Dan stated W. County Road 69, Crescent, Oklahoma.

On September 30, 2021, Lt. Bruning and Agent Woodward went to W. County Road 69, Crescent, Oklahoma and found a barn home being built with fresh septic tank and lateral lines that had been installed. Agent Woodward was able to locate a property owner by the name of Clint McHendry. Agent Woodward spoke to Clint who stated he had showed up at his residence when the septic tank and lateral lines were being installed. Clint did not remember the date the septic tank was installed, but would text it later. Agent Woodward received a text message from Clint stating that tank and septic lines had been installed on September 7, 2021. Agent Woodward later spoke to the builder of the barn home at W. County Road 69, Crescent, who confirmed that he hired Dan to install the septic tank and that the work was done on September 7, 2021. He stated he had a text message from Dan on September 10, 2021, stating that job had been completed on September 8, 2021. The job taking two days.

On October 13, 2021, Agent Woodward made contact with Dan who agreed to come to the Guthrie Police Department to talk about missing person Brent Mack. Lt. Mark Bruning and Agent Woodward interviewed Dan in Woodward's Office. Dan stated that he stopped in the area where Brent's bag was found, but said that he stopped there to check the lights on his truck. Dan was adamant that he and Brent had last worked at W. County Road 69, Crescent, Oklahoma. Agent Woodward described the metal barn home to Dan to confirm the location. Dan confirmed the metal barn home and that was the last job he worked with Brent. Lt. Bruning asked Dan about locations where he dropped Mack off and Dan changed the location several times. Dan was shown a copy of the video footage showing him driving by the Holiday Laundry and not stopping. When confronted with the inconsistencies in the story Dan became very red faced and appeared to be angry. Dan was asked about other jobs and locations and Dan stated he couldn't remember. Lt. Bruning asked him if he had records of the jobs he had done and he stated he was unsure, that his wife kept the records.

On October 14, 2021, OSBI agents and Investigators with the Guthrie Police Department served a document search warrant at the home of Dan Triplett at 6101 S. Sooner Road, Guthrie, Oklahoma in Logan County. The warrant included vehicles and outbuildings on the property. A search of the residence yielded documents where Dan has to report each job to DEQ (Department of Environmental

Quality). Also located were several checks just before and after the date Brent Mack had gone missing. The 1996 Ford white truck that Dan drives while working and that pulls his trailer and backhoe bearing Oklahoma Tag V45793, was located on the property. Inside the truck there was a statement book that showed jobs Dan had done. Statement # 161176 was dated September 20, 2021 and showed the name Rosella Edmonson with an address of _____ W County Road 69, Mulhall, Oklahoma. It showed that \$3,400 cash had been paid and showed the name Dan Triplett at the bottom. The statement located showed that Dan Triplett wasn't working at _____ W. County Road 69 in Crescent but that he was at _____ E. County Road 69 in Mulhall.

On October 14, 2021, OSBI Agents and Guthrie Police LT. Mark Bruning went to _____ County Road 69, Mulhall, Oklahoma. Agent Woodward and Lt. Bruning made contact with the residence just to the west of the location. Agent Woodward obtained Rosella Edmondson's (W/F, DOB: 03/ /1996) phone number and contacted her by phone to get permission to go on her property. Rosella's brother, Jedidiah Edmonson (WM, DOB 09/ /1997), showed OSBI Agents and Lt. Bruning the place Dan put the septic tank on Rosella's property. Jedidiah Edmondson said that Dan was the only one on the property when his sister paid Dan. Dan told Jedidiah he would have a worker to help him the next day to finish up.

On October 15, 2021, Agent Woodward collected security footage from a surveillance camera showing the job site at _____ County Road 69. In the footage, it is apparent that two people arrive at the job site on 09/20/2021 in Dan's vehicle, but only one person is seen leaving.

While watching the surveillance footage of Brent Mack and Dan Triplett working on the job site. It is apparent that Brent disappears from the view of the camera down into a hole that is being dug by Dan for the placement of a septic tank. Brent is never seen again in the camera footage after going down into that hole. The video shows what appears to be a normal work day. You can see plastic pipe being loaded and moved from a trailer to the dug lateral lines. You can see Dan running the backhoe moving gravel. At one point, it appears to be a lunch break that lasts approximate 20 minutes. You can see a person who we believe to be Brent get into the passenger side of the truck and sit. The backhoe is pulled up in front of the truck and it appears both men are in the truck. After what's believed to be a lunch break you see both subjects go back to work moving pipes. You can see the subject in the white shirt believed to be Brent down in the shallow part of the hole working as Dan runs the backhoe. The video doesn't show any type of physical altercation between the two men. The video doesn't show Brent sitting or walking around while Dan is working.

On October 21, 2021, Guthrie Police Investigators, OSBI Agents, and the Oklahoma Medical Examiner Investigators responded to _____ County Road 69 to remove the septic tank where Brent was last seen with Dan. Oklahoma State Medical Examiner Anthropologists Angela Berg and Carlos Zambrano along with OU Archaeologist (Retired) began to measure the location of the septic tank. The dirt was exhumed down to the concrete lid. Further excavation of the location three sides of the dirt were removed from the concrete tank. Once the sides were exposed the tank was hoisted from the ground. As dirt was slowly removed from the bottom of the tank, Berg and Zambrano began to probe the dirt area. At one point they believed they felt a body. They pulled the probe from the ground and the tip of the probe had an odor consist with decomposition. The dirt was slowly removed from the hole using scoops and buckets. They located a spot that was deeper than the rest of the hole and was deeper than the location of the septic tank. At approximately 1340 hours, Berg confirmed that a body was located in the ground. Further dirt removal uncovered a decomposing body. Medical Examiners Berg and Zambrano pulled the body from the lower grave area. Once the body was turned over they located a wallet in the pants pocket of the body. The wallet contained an Oklahoma ID card showing the name and picture of Brent Mack 10/16/1970. The body was wearing work boots and still had work

gloves on the hands. The body was packaged by the medical examiners and transport was contacted. The body was transported to Oklahoma Medical Examiner's Office for positive identification and to attempt to find a cause of death.

On October 22, 2021 Agent Woodward was notified that the Medical Examiners officer had located what's believed to be a projectile in the chest cavity with an entry wound in the upper left back.

THE OFFENSE(S) OCCURRED IN LOGAN COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

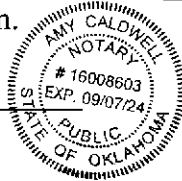
WHEREFORE, Affiant prays this Honorable Court to find probable cause to detain the arrestee(s) pending further proceedings.

[Signature]
AFFIANT'S SIGNATURE

Kevin Woodward
PRINT NAME OF AFFIANT & DEPARTMENT

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 22nd DAY OF October, 2020, at 4:15 o'clock P.m.

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 9-7-24



[Signature]
NOTARY PUBLIC

PROBABLE CAUSE IS SHOWN IN AFFIDAVIT

Based upon the information contained in the Affidavit above I find that there **IS** probable cause for detaining the above named arrestee(s) pending further proceedings.

Dated this 22 day of October, 2020, at 11:46 o'clock P.m.
2021

[Signature]
JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT
LOGAN COUNTY, OKLAHOMA -B- Telephone

PROBABLE CAUSE IS NOT SHOWN IN THE AFFIDAVIT

Based upon the information contained in the Affidavit above I find that there **IS NOT** probable cause for detaining the above-named arrestee(s).

Dated this _____, day of _____, 2020, at _____ o'clock _____.m.

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT
LOGAN COUNTY, OKLAHOMA