

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFE INVESTIGATION REPORT (DPS-302-E) (REVISED 2/3/06)

Redacted Report #: 2300474839 - 00457028 Report Type: Initial Report: 

Prosecutors Report: 

Supplement: 

Re-open: 

Assist: 

Closing: Attachments: Statements: 

Teletype: 
Photos: 
Sketchmap: 
Evidence: 
Othr. **BADGE NO** INCIDENT DATE TIME PRIMARY OFFICER INCIDENT DATE TIME CFS NO 15:29 12/02/2023 VINCENT, DAVID J. 0957 12/02/2023 2300474839 TYPE OF EXCEPTIONAL CLEARANCE CASE STATUS INVESTIGATING OFFICER BADGE NO Not Applicable Active 0957 VINCENT, DAVID J. APARTMENT NO TOWN CD INCIDENT ADDRESS

T116

#### JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF WINDHAM

00005 Heritage Rd Putnam 06260

The undersigned, an officer of the Connecticut State Police Department, having been duly sworn, deposes and says: That I am the officer who prepared this police report. That the information contained therein was secured as a result of: (1) my personal observation and knowledge, or (2) information relayed to me by other members of my police department or of another organized police, or (3) information secured by myself or another member of an organized police department from the person or persons named or identified therein, as indicated in this attached report. That this report is an accurate statement of the information so received by me.

DATE/TIME OF ARREST: 12/04/23 at 2120 hours.

LOCATION OF CRIME: Business in the Town of Putnam, CT

ARRESTED: Leonard Mwithiga (DOB 11/06/71)

CHARGES: C.G.S. 53a-49/53a-54b; Criminal Attempt at Murder with Special Circumstances and

53a-48/53a-54a; Conspiracy to Commit Murder

BOND: \$5,000,000 cash/surety

CIRCUMSTANCES OF ARREST: On December 2, 2023, Trooper Panza (#760) obtained a signed written statement from Eastern District Major Crime Confidential Informant (EDMC CI). In the statement, EDMC CI stated he picked up Leonard Mwithiga (DOB 11/06/1971) multiple times as an

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INVESTIGATOR SIGNATURE:	INVESTIGATOR I.D.#:	REPORT DATE:	
/DET DAVID J VINCENT/	0957	12/05/2023 10:27 am	N
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"Uber" driver from September 9, 2023 to December 1, 2023. Mwithiga is from Kenya and went back and forth between Kenya and the United States multiple times during this timeframe. EDMC CI stated that eventually, Mwithiga would set up rides via personal text, outside of the "Uber" platform. EDMC CI began to record conversations that Mwithiga would have with him during the rides regarding his wife. On October 26, 2023, Mwithiga mentioned that his divorce has been difficult and that he was considering harming his wife. On November 3, 2023, Mwithiga asked EDMC CI to drive to a residence in Thompson, CT to look for his wife and kids. During this trip, Mwithiga asked EDMC CI if he knew anyone who could "hit" his wife, that he wanted someone to "finish her." On December 1, 2023 at around 1600 hours, Mwithiga asked EDMC CI to meet at the Motel 6 in Putnam. Mwithiga got into EDMC CI's vehicle and told EDMC CI that his wife was "evil" and that he had to "fight evil with evil". Mwithiga asked EDMC CI to hire a "hitman" to kill his wife. Mwithiga told EDMC CI that he was also okay if his wife was injected with something to make her very sick, "Like a cancer".

On December 3, 2023 at approximately 1603 hours, a follow-up interview with EDMC CI was conducted by Detective Hoyt (#994) and I. EDMC CI clarified in this statement that Mwithiga was coming to the United States to find his children. EDMC CI stated during September of 2023, he drove Mwithiga to Thompson High School on multiple occasions to try and see his children. Mwithiga also had EDMC CI drive him to a residence in Thompson, CT, and follow a school bus to see if his children got off the bus, and to Killingly High School where they watched children getting on the buses. Mwithiga returned to Kenya for a period of time in October, then contacted EDMC CI on October 26, 2023. Mwithiga asked EDMC CI if he knew someone that could "hit" his wife, that he wanted to "put that woman down." Mwithiga stated he wanted EDMC CI to arrange for a "hitman" because there is nothing connecting the two of them. EDMC CI decided that he would record his conversations with Mwithiga. On November 3, 2023, EDMC CI drove Mwithiga past a residence approximately 10 minutes away from Troop D where Mwithiga took a photograph of the house. On December 1, 2023, EDMC CI met with Mwithiga at the Motel 6 in Putnam CT and had a conversation in his vehicle. During this conversation, Mwithiga told EDMC CI that he saw his son and daughter at school. Mwithiga asked EDMC CI to find someone who can put "some injection" in his wife's food or water that would kill her slowly. Mwithiga gave EDMC CI \$100.00 to "pay him for his time." After EDMC CI left, he messaged Mwithiga on "WhatsApp" and asked Mwithiga how much he would pay to find someone. Mwithiga told EDMC CI they could negotiate.

EDMC CI provided detectives with the three (3) audio recordings and one video recording he obtained of his conversations with Mwithiga. Detectives listened to the recordings, in which Mwithiga discussed

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with EDMC CI his legal proceedings with Victim #1. Mwithiga called Victim #1 crazy, mentally unstable and emotional and that she has turned the children against him. Mwithiga stated that he was "very, very mad, I need someone who is a killer". Mwithiga discussed with EDMC CI various ways to kill his wife, including drugs or poison. Mwithiga stated that he wants EDMC CI to find someone to kill his wife because police cannot connect EDMC CI to Mwithiga.

On December 3, 2023 at approximately 1945 hours, Detective Long (#1110) and I went to a United Services Shelter to meet with Victim #1 (DOB During the interview, Victim #1 stated that she had a relationship with Mwithiga for approximately twenty-two years in Kenya and that they have two children in common, (DOB and (DOB Victim #1 fled from Kenya with her children on 09/20/22 because Mwithiga was verbally and physically abusive. Victim #1 stated that she began to fear for her life on November 1, 2021 after a verbal argument with Mwithiga escalated to him threatening to kill Victim #1 and the children. Victim #1 attempted to leave the country with her children, but was stopped by police at the airport because Mwithiga had filed a police report. Victim #1 was then committed to a mental health facility by the police at the direction of her husband for being "mentally disturbed". Once Victim #1 was released from the hospital, Mwithiga apologized for sending her to the hospital and they reconciled. Mwithiga continued to be physically abusive, hitting both Victim #1 and son and at one point, threatening Victim #1 and daughter with a knife. Victim #1 stated that she began to hide the knives at home so Mwithiga couldn't't use them against her. In August of 2022, Victim #1 learned that Mwithiga had initiated court proceedings on November 8, 2021, stating that Victim #1 was mentally disturbed and a risk to herself and to their children.

Victim #1 and the children moved out of her house in Kenya on August 17, 2022 and into her sister's house which was guarded by private security guards. During this time, a security guard at the house advised that Mwithiga had come to the residence in an attempt to take son. Victim #1 reported the incident to both the Central Police Station and to the Chief of Criminal Relations of Kenya, but no action was taken. Victim #1 and the children then moved to her cousin's house outside of Nairobi. While there, Mwithiga's cousin, Rosemary Nthembi Mbeluto, told Victim #1 that her and the childrens' lives were in danger. That Mwithiga was making a plan to hurt Victim #1, to pay someone to hurt Victim #1 or to get her arrested and that he was tracking Victim #1's phone and listening to her conversations. Victim #1 contacted multiple agencies for assistance, including the Federation of Women's Lawyers, the Ombudsmen for Human Rights and Amnesty International, and didn't get a response. Victim #1 stated that she copied Mwithiga and the CEO and Chairman of Mwithiga's company on her emails to show she wasn't hiding anything and that she needed help. Victim #1

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believed that because of Mwithiga's stature and influence in Kenya, no one would believe or help her. Victim #1 hired an attorney and requested that she and her attorney meet with Mwithiga and his attorney to come to common ground, but she felt that her attorney was purposefully making excuses to not meet with them. Victim #1 stated that she was so scared of her "own movements."

On September 20, 2022, Victim #1 obtained airplane tickets for herself and her children to fly to New York. Victim #1 stated that she cut off all ties upon arriving; she stopped using her email and LinkedIn accounts and had no contacts upon arrival. Victim #1's sister was able to use a Kenyan social media platform to post that Victim #1 and her children were stranded at the airport and needed help. From this network, Victim #1 and her children were able to stay in various stranger's houses until they eventually ended up in Thompson, CT. Once in Thompson, Connecticut, she got her children enrolled into public school and enrolled with United Services for therapy and other assistance. When the woman in Thompson could no longer support the family, Victim #1 and her children ended up in a United Services Shelter in August of 2023.

In September of 2023, Victim #1 was advised by a court advocate that Mwithiga had filed a court case against her to bring the children back to Kenya. Victim #1 also learned that Mwithiga had hired two private investigators to follow son. Shortly after, Victim #1 was advised by her son's school district that Mwithiga had been observed at the school.

On September 22, 2023, Victim #1 went to court, in which Mwithiga appeared virtually. The court determined that Victim #1, children, and Mwithiga all undergo a psychological evaluation. This evaluation took place on December 1, 2023. Victim #1 had not seen Mwithiga since she left Kenya until she went to her court hearing. As far as Victim #1 knew, Mwithiga had not seen her or children since they left Kenya until they went to the psychological evaluation. Victim #1 stated that she was afraid of Mwithiga, and that she believed Mwithiga would harm her or the children if he found them. Victim #1 stated that there is currently a pending court case regarding the custody of their children and that the next hearing was scheduled for 12/06/23.

On December 4, 2023 at approximately 1700 hours, an undercover individual (BSI State Police Sergeant) had the EDMC CI drive him to the Motel 6 where Mwithiga was staying. The undercover was equipped with audio and video surveillance. The undercover had the EDMC CI leave during the interaction, and the undercover sat in the EDMC CI's vehicle with Mwithiga where they spoke for approximately an hour and a half.

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During the conversation, Mwithiga ultimately agreed with the undercover posing as a "hitman" to kill his wife, Victim #1 and gave him \$300.00, in the form of three (3) one hundred dollar bills, in "good faith" and \$100.00, in the form of one (1) one hundred dollar bill, for EDMC CI. It was agreed between Mwithiga and the undercover (hitman) that he was going to take Victim #1 on a date, at which time the 'hitman" was going to snort a line of cocaine while Victim #1 was to snort a "hot batch" which would be pure fentanyl but the Victim would believe to be cocaine. The undercover advised Mwithiga that there are always drug overdoses in this area with similar circumstances. Mwithiga asked the undercover to conduct surveillance on Victim #1. Mwithiga asked the undercover to research a slow death for Victim #1, but ultimately he agreed that the hitman could kill the victim in any manner. Mwithiga told the undercover that he wanted the death to occur between January 28, 2024 and February 3, 2024 when Mwithiga would be in Kenya so that Mwithiga would not be a suspect. Mwithiga and the undercover (hitman) that once Victim #1 was killed, the "hitman" would send the obituary to Mwithiga, or he would get a call from the U.S. reporting the death to him. Once the death was confirmed, Mwithiga would have an individual in Kenya send Mwithiga \$4000.00 through Western Union, which Mwithiga would give to the EDMC CI. The EDMC CI would then give the money to the "hitman" so Mwithiga wouldn't be connected to the money exchange. After the meeting concluded, Mwithiga sent to EDMC CI a photograph of Victim #1 via text message through the "Whatsapp" application and what he believed to be Victim #1's address. At approximately 2049 hours, EDMC CI forwarded this photograph and address to the undercover contact.

On 12/04/23 at approximately 2120 hours Mwithiga was placed under arrest without incident. Mwithiga was orally advised his verbal miranda rights at 2125 hours to which he acknowledged. Mwithiga was subsequently transported to Troop D, processed according to Troop D policy and procedures, and advised his written notice of rights for violation of C.G.S. 53a-49/53a-54b; Criminal Attempt at Murder with Special Circumstances and 53a-48/53a-54a; Conspiracy to Commit Murder. Mwithiga was issued a \$5,000,000 cash/surety bond and is scheduled to appear at Danielson Superior Court; G.A. 11 on 12/05/23.

CASE STATUS: Active

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