

**STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

The Complainant states that the following facts establish probable cause:

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On or about January 6, 2019, at approximately 3:05 p.m., the body of a deceased male, later identified as Joshua Robert Lavalley, date of birth: 01/07/1985, was discovered on the Mesabi Trail near Kerr location in St. Louis County, Minnesota. Lavalley was laying on his back with fresh and frozen blood covering the area of his face. Approximately seven to eight feet away from Lavalley, Law Enforcement located a .22 caliber shell casing with an "A" stamp. The Midwest Medical Examiner's Office discovered that Lavalley had two gunshot wounds to his face and ruled his death a homicide.

Law Enforcement spoke with Lavalley's roommate, who indicated that he loaned his vehicle to Lavalley for the weekend. The vehicle was identified as a maroon 2001 Chevy Impala. On January 7, 2019, Law Enforcement located the Chevy Impala in the City of Hibbing. At the time, the Chevy Impala was occupied by a male, identified as Anthony Emerson Howson, date of birth: 06/20/1998. Law Enforcement made contact with Howson who provided Lavalley's financial card. Howson told Law Enforcement that he, along with [REDACTED], date of birth: 10/09/2001, and Deshon Israel Bonnell, date of birth: 10/18/2000, were with Lavalley over the weekend. Howson stated that Lavalley had attempted unwanted sexual contact with [REDACTED]. This angered Howson, Bonnell, and [REDACTED], and they began ridiculing Lavalley and held him against his will. Howson, Bonnell, and [REDACTED] took Lavalley to the area where Lavalley's body was found. Howson then stayed in the vehicle as Bonnell, [REDACTED], and Lavalley walked into the woods. While in the vehicle, Howson heard two shots from a firearm. Bonnell and [REDACTED] then returned without Lavalley. At that time, Bonnell was in possession of a handgun.

Law Enforcement located [REDACTED] at her parent's residence. [REDACTED] told Law Enforcement that Lavalley made a sexual pass at her. [REDACTED] then told her boyfriend, Bonnell, which made Bonnell mad. [REDACTED], Bonnell, and Howson had a conversation during which Bonnell stated he was going to kill Lavalley. The three then took away Lavalley's personal belongings and made him sit in a chair facing the wall. At approximately 3:00 a.m. on January 6, 2019, Howson, Bonnell, and [REDACTED] took Lavalley to the described area of Kerr location. Bonnell and [REDACTED] forced Lavalley to walk blindfolded into the woods. [REDACTED] stated that Bonnell then shot Lavalley and the two of them walked back to the vehicle.

Law Enforcement then spoke with Bonnell's mother who discovered that her .22 caliber pistol was missing. She did have some .22 caliber ammunition with an "A" stamp, matching the shell casing located on scene.

A search was conducted at [REDACTED]'s residence and a .22 caliber Ruger Mark I pistol was located under a mattress.