

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MONROE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FILED

MAY 27 2009

Avon Keith
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
of the 20th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

THE SEARCH WARRANT,

-VS-

2854 ROBERT DRIVE, COLUMBIA, IL 62236
BAILS OF STRAW, TWINE LOCATED INSIDE/OUTSIDE,

Plaintiff.

No. 2009-MR-

ORDER

The above entitled Search Warrant and all documents and orders contained in this file, having been previously sealed by Order of the Court, are hereby ordered opened and released.

DATE:

5/27/09

[Signature]

JUDGE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MONROE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

FILED

MAY 14 2009

Avon Heitz
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
MONROE COUNTY ILLINOIS

THE SEARCH WARRANT,

-VS-

2854 ROBERT DRIVE, COLUMBIA, IL 62236
BAILS OF STRAW, TWINE LOCATED INSIDE/OUTSIDE,

Plaintiff.

No. 2009-MR-

ORDER

All items seized in the above Search Warrant are hereby remanded to the custody of the Columbia Police Department.

On motion of the State Complaint for search Warrant, Search Warrant, and Return are hereby ordered sealed until further order of the court.

DATE:

5/14/09

[Signature]

JUDGE

SEARCH WARRANT INVENTORY
(ARTICLES SIEZED)

I, Sergeant Jason Donjon, being first duly sworn, upon oath depose and say that pursuant to the authority contained in the within search warrant, I along with the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis and Illinois State Police, did on May 8, 2009, seize and take possession of the following instruments, articles, or things:

Four Bales of hay/straw located behind the house (2854 Robert Dr. Columbia IL 62236). Hay/straw bales labeled evidence items ISP 600, 601, 602 and 603.

FILED

MAY 14 2009

Jason J. Reitz
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
MONROE COUNTY ILLINOIS

Signed and sworn to before me May 14th, 2009

Dana R. Hutchings
Notary Public

[Signature]
Signature



STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MONROE COUNTY

FILED

The People of the State of Illinois

vs.

Christopher E. Coleman

Defendant

MAY 14 2009

Arvon J. Reitz
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
MONROE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

SEARCH WARRANT

TO ALL PEACE OFFICERS OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS or Columbia Police Department:

ON THIS DAY Karla Heine, COMPLAINANT, HAS SUBSCRIBED and sworn to a complaint for search warrant before me. Upon examination of the complaint I find that it states facts sufficient to show probable cause and I therefore command that the residence of Christopher E. Coleman, being a white 2 story frame house with vinyl siding and attached garage located at 2854 Robert Drive, Columbia, Illinois, and any trash containers located near the street at the front of said residence, be searched and the following instruments, articles and things which have been used in the commission of, or which constitute evidence of, the offense of Murder be seized therefrom: Bails of straw located on the outside of the residence, including any twine on or around the bails of straw, any remnants of twine or straw located inside or outside of the residence.

I further command that a return of anything so seized shall be made without unnecessary delay before me or before any court of competent jurisdiction.

Brian Babka
Judge **BABKA**

Date of Issuance: May 8, 2009

Time of Issuance: 3:10 P.M.

RETURNED NOT EXECUTED

I did not execute this warrant within 96 hours from the time of issuance and it is hereby returned to the court as void and not executed.

Officer

Date Returned: _____

Time Returned: _____

STATE OF ILLINOIS
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MONROE COUNTY

COMPLAINT FOR SEARCH WARRANT

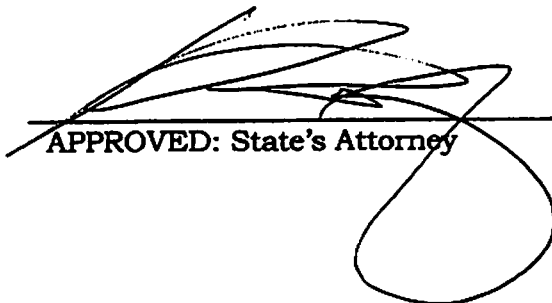
Karla Heine complainant now appears before the undersigned judge of the Circuit Court of said County and requests the issuance of a search warrant to search the residence of Christopher E. Coleman, being a white 2 story frame house with vinyl siding and attached garage located at 2854 Robert Drive, Columbia, Illinois, and any trash containers located near the street at the front of said residence, and seize the following instruments, articles and things which have been used in the commission of, or which constitute evidence of, the offense of Murder: Bails of straw located on the outside of the residence, including any twine on or around the bails of straw, any remnants of twine or straw located inside or outside of the residence.

Complainant says that he has probable cause to believe, based upon the following facts, that the above listed things to be seized are now located upon the residence set forth above:

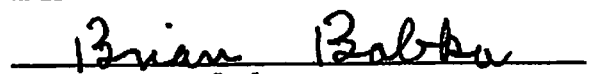
See Attached.

WHEREFORE, the People request this Honorable Court to issue a Search Warrant to search the above described premises and seize therefrom the above evidence.


Complainant


APPROVED: State's Attorney

Subscribed and sworn before me on
May 8, 2009


Judge BABKA

I, Detective Karla Heine DSN 45, have been a law enforcement officer in the state of Illinois since 1995. I am currently a Detective at the Columbia, Illinois Police Department. During this time, I have conducted and assisted in the investigation of state and federal offenses, including sex offenses, internet crimes against children, bank robberies, and murders.

On 05/05/09 at about 0648 hours, Sergeant Jason Donjon DSN 42, drove to 2854 Robert Drive in Columbia, Illinois, reference check the welfare. The complainant, Christopher E. Coleman called home but did not receive an answer. Due to recent threatening letters, Christopher received he wanted the police to check on his wife and kids.

Christopher is employed as a bodyguard for Joyce Meyer, a world renowned minister. On 01/02/09 Christopher reported receiving a threatening letter in his mailbox. The letter read, "██████████, Deny your God publically or else! No more opportunities. Time is running out for you and your family! Have a goodtime in India ██████████" On 04/27/09 Christopher reported receiving another anonymous letter which read, "██████████. I am giving you the last warning! You have not listened to me and you have not changed your ways. I have warned you to stop traveling and to stop carrying on with this fake religious life of stealing people's money. You think you are so special to do what you do protecting or think you are protecting her. She is a bitch and not worth you doing it. Stop today or else. I know your schedule! You can't hide from me ever. I'm always watching. I know when you leave in the morning and I know when you stay home. I saw you leave this morning. I will be watching. You better stop traveling and doing what you are doing. THIS IS MY LAST WARNING! YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN!"

At about 0652 hours, Sergeant Donjon arrived on scene and met with Detective Sergeant Justin Barlow DSN 85, who stood on the front porch. Detective Sergeant Barlow rang the doorbell, but did not receive an answer. Sergeant Donjon walked to the rear of the residence and saw the basement rear window standing open. Sergeant Donjon saw the screen to the window leaning against a patio chair and laying on the grass. Sergeant Donjon notified dispatch and Detective Sergeant Barlow about the window. Detective Sergeant Barlow met Sergeant Donjon at the rear of the residence. Officer Steve Patton DSN 50 was notified to come to the residence.

Detective Sergeant Barlow and Sergeant Donjon removed the department issued Glock .40 Caliber pistols from their holsters and entered the basement through the open window. Sergeant Donjon announced, "Columbia Police!" several times but did not receive an answer. Detective Sergeant Barlow and Sergeant Donjon searched the basement but did not find anything out of the ordinary.

Detective Sergeant Barlow and Sergeant Donjon tactically went up the basement stairs to the first story of the house. They saw red spray paint sprayed all over the walls on the first story. Sergeant Donjon heard the garage door open. Detective Sergeant Barlow opened the interior garage/house door and yelled at Christopher to stay outside.

Officer Patton entered the house and began searching along with Detective Sergeant Barlow and Sergeant Donjon.

After searching the first story and finding no one, the officers tactically went up the stairs to the second story of the house. They saw more red spray paint on the wall, going up the stairs. A white female, later identified as Sheri Coleman, was found lying on her stomach on the bed in the master bedroom. Her hair laid over her face. She did not have any clothes on. She did not move. Sergeant Donjon called for an ambulance. Sergeant Donjon knelt down next to Sheri and pulled her hair away from her face. He attempted to get a pulse from her neck but did not find one. He attempted to roll her over in order to see her eyes and check for breathing. He noticed when he lifted her shoulder, her neck and head moved also. It appeared rigormortis had begun to set in. The skin on her chest and head area appeared purple.

A young boy, later identified as Garrett Coleman, was found lying in the rear upstairs bedroom. His face appeared purple. Sergeant Donjon checked for a pulse but found none. A younger boy, later identified as Gavin Coleman, was found lying in his bed. Sergeant Donjon checked for a pulse on the younger boy but found none. His face appeared slightly purple.

Detective Sergeant Barlow, Officer Patton and Sergeant Donjon completed a more complete search of the upstairs but did not find anyone. While the officers searched the residence, they heard Christopher yelling from inside the house, "What's going on? What's going on?" Officer Patton, Detective Sergeant Barlow and Sergeant Donjon met with Christopher in the kitchen area. Detective Sergeant Barlow and Officer Patton consoled Christopher and walked him to the front driveway. Christopher sat down on the driveway and started crying.

Sergeant Donjon called the dispatcher and told him to call the department Chaplain. I walked to my squad car and retrieved gloves. He secured the rear window and house as a crime scene.

A short time later the Columbia Ambulance arrived. Sergeant Donjon assisted Detective Sergeant Barlow in checking the house one more time to make sure the scene was safe. The paramedics checked Sheri, Garrett and Gavin and believed them all to be deceased. The paramedics left the house. Detective Sergeant Barlow and Sergeant Donjon left the house. Detective Sergeant Barlow and Officer Patton secured the front of the house, until more help arrived. Sergeant Donjon returned to the rear yard, where I secured the rear of the residence.

A short time later Police Chief Joseph Edwards DSN 25 and Officer Patton placed crime scene tape around the entire house, including the rear yard. Sergeant Donjon remained in the back yard, securing the rear window. At about 1030 hours, Officer Josh Bayer DSN 90, arrived in the back yard to relieve Sergeant Donjon.

Investigators from the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis were activated. Christopher E. Coleman was interviewed by investigators. Christopher E. Coleman told investigators that he left his residence at 2854 Robert Drive, Columbia, Illinois at 0545 hours to work out at Gold's Gym at 151 Concord Plaza, St. Louis, Missouri. His children were wife, Sheri, and children were sleeping when he left the residence.

Investigators from the Major Case Squad conducted a search of the area from 2854 Robert Drive, Columbia, Illinois, to the Jefferson Barracks Bridge. During the search, an investigator found orange bailing twine on the side road by the westbound lane of Interstate 255 west of the Jefferson Barracks Bridge. One end of the twine was tied in a knot with a loop. The loop resembled a noose with the other end of the string going through the knot.

There are four bails of straw stacked up against the back of the house located at 2854 Robert Drive. The bails of straw are bound with orange twine.