

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

Date: 05/04/2024

Report #: 2024-27152

I, Todd Winborn, a Detective with the Independence, Missouri Police Department, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state that the facts contained herein are true.

1. I have probable cause to believe that on 05/03/24 at 2030 hours, Ronnie J. Wiggs, committed one or more criminal offenses in Jackson County, Missouri.
2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 05/03/24 at 2322 hours, a uniformed officer working off Duty at a hospital in Independence, Jackson County, Missouri responded to the ICU unit reference an assault. The officer was advised the victim had been on the 6th floor. At approximately 2030 hours, a "Code Blue" was called on the victim. The victim was unresponsive and had no pulse. The victim was then moved to the 2nd floor (ICU) after her pulse was regained. The victim's husband, Ronnie Wiggs (defendant) was heard by medical staff stating, "I did it, I killed her, I choked her."

A witness advised the victim was last seen in her room at approximately 1930 hours. The witness advised the victim was alert and oriented. The witness checked on the victim at 2030 hours, and immediately initiated the "Code Blue".

Another witness pointed out suspicious injuries on the victim. The injuries observed was redness to the left and right side of the victim's neck. Also observed was fresh wound in the middle of the victim's throat. The witness advised the injuries observed would not have been caused from resuscitation efforts.

Another witness advised the victim is his mother. The witness advised the victim was admitted to Centerpoint Medical Center, to get a new port for her dialysis. The witness advised he received a call that the victim was found in her room unresponsive, without a pulse, and had no brain activity. He was told by hospital staff that they attempted to contact the defendant but was told his vehicle was inoperable. The witness advised he picked up the defendant and took him to the hospital to be with the victim. While in the hospital room, the defendant told him and a nurse that he killed his wife. The defendant advised he had choked the victim.

An Independence Police Officer working off duty at the hospital placed the defendant under arrest and he was transported to IPD Detention and placed on an investigative hold for Domestic Assault 1st degree. The victim was not pronounced deceased at the time. Investigators were advised the victim had no brain function and was going to

discontinue any life saving measures. Investigators were advised they were going to prepare for organ harvest pending the Medical Examiners response.

A Detective with the Independence Police Department interviewed the defendant. After Miranda was read, the defendant admitted that had killed the victim by choking her and covering her mouth and nose to keep her from screaming. The defendant advised he left the hospital after he had choked the victim. The defendant advised a relative picked him up and took him back to the hospital when hospital staff found the victim unresponsive. The defendant described placing both of his hands around the victim's neck with his fingers around the sides of her neck and his thumbs on her throat. The defendant advised he had attempted to kill the victim two other times while the victim was hospitalized. The defendant advised he last attempted to kill the victim while the victim was at a rehabilitation facility for her medical issues. He advised at that time he tried to choke her but could not follow through with it. The defendant advised the victim woke up and told him not to do that again. The defendant advised he was going to try to kill the victim another time, but he did not get the opportunity due to the fact the victim was hooked up to several monitors at the hospital. The defendant advised he was depressed and killed the victim because he could not take care of her anymore and he could not pay the medical bills that had been acquired.

The victim was pronounced dead at 8:28 AM on 5/4/2024.

Det. T. Winborn #1036

/S/ Det. T. Winborn #1036

Print Name

Signature