

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CALDWELL COUNTY, MISSOURI
ASSOCIATE DIVISION**

STATE OF MISSOURI,	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	Case No. 22CL-CR00211
vs.	)	
	)	Division II
HAROLD EDWARDS JR.	)	
SSN: -9338	)	
DOB: 08/18/1994	)	
8370 North Donelly	)	
Kansas City, MO 64158	)	
Defendant.	)	PA File No. 025017578

**AMENDED
COMPLAINT**

Comes now, the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, being duly sworn upon oath and upon information and belief, and states that there is probable cause to believe that the accused committed the following crime:

COUNT: I

ARSON - 2ND DEGREE

CLASS D FELONY

The defendant, in violation of Section 569.050, RSMo, committed the class D felony of arson in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.002 and 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about May 10, 2022, in the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly damaged an inhabitable structure consisting of a single family residence owned by L.F. and located at 5050 South West State Route D., Polo, and defendant did so by starting a fire.

Charge Code Number: 569.050-001Y20202099.0

COUNT: II

ARSON - 2ND DEGREE

CLASS D FELONY

The defendant, in violation of Section 569.050, RSMo, committed the class D felony of arson in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.002 and 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about May 10, 2022, in the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly damaged an inhabitable structure consisting of a single family residence owned by L.C. and located at 2929 South West State Route D, Polo, Mo, and defendant did so by starting a fire.

Charge Code Number: 569.050-001Y20202099.0

COUNT: III
ARSON - 2ND DEGREE
CLASS D FELONY

The defendant, in violation of Section 569.050, RSMo, committed the class D felony of arson in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.002 and 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about May 10, 2022, in the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly damaged an inhabitable structure consisting of a single family residence owned by J.B. and located at 1525 North West State Route D, Kingston, and defendant did so by starting a fire.

Charge Code Number: 569.050-001Y20202099.0

COUNT: IV
BURGLARY - 2ND DEGREE
CLASS D FELONY

The defendant, in violation of Section 569.170, RSMo, committed the class D felony of burglary in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.011 and 558.002, RSMo, in that on or about on or about May 10, 2022, in the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly entered unlawfully in an inhabitable structure, located at 5050 South West State Route D, Polo and owned by L.F., for the purpose of committing arson therein.

Charge Code Number: 569.170-001Y20202299.0

COUNT: V
BURGLARY - 2ND DEGREE
CLASS D FELONY

The defendant, in violation of Section 569.170, RSMo, committed the class D felony of burglary in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.011 and 558.002, RSMo, in that on or about on or about May 10, 2022, in the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly entered unlawfully in an inhabitable structure, located at 2929 South West State Route D, Polo and owned by L.C., for the purpose of committing arson therein.

Charge Code Number: 569.170-001Y20202299.0

COUNT: VI
BURGLARY - 2ND DEGREE
CLASS D FELONY

The defendant, in violation of Section 569.170, RSMo, committed the class D felony of burglary in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.011 and 558.002, RSMo, in that on or about on or about May 10, 2022, in the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly entered unlawfully in an inhabitable structure, located at 1525 North West State Route D, Kingston, and owned by J.B., for the purpose of committing arson therein.

Charge Code Number: 569.170-001Y20202299.0

COUNT: VII
PROPERTY DAMAGE 1ST DEGREE
CLASS E FELONY

The defendant, in violation of Section 569.100, RSMo, committed the class E felony of property damage in the first degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.002 and 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about May 10, 2022, in the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly damaged a single family residence, located at 5050 South West State Route D, Polo, which property was owned by L.F., by setting the house on fire, and the damages to such property exceeded seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Charge Code Number: 569.100-001Y20202999.0

COUNT: VIII
PROPERTY DAMAGE 1ST DEGREE
CLASS E FELONY

The defendant, in violation of Section 569.100, RSMo, committed the class E felony of property damage in the first degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.002 and 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about May 10, 2022, in the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly damaged a single family residence, located at 2929 South West State Route D, Polo, which property was owned by L.C., by setting the house on fire, and the damages to such property exceeded seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Charge Code Number: 569.100-001Y20202999.0

COUNT: IX
PROPERTY DAMAGE 1ST DEGREE
CLASS E FELONY

The defendant, in violation of Section 569.100, RSMo, committed the class E felony of property damage in the first degree, punishable upon conviction under Sections 558.002 and 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about May 10, 2022, in the County of Caldwell, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly damaged a single family residence, located at 1525 North West, State Route D, Kingston, which property was owned by J.B., by setting the house on fire, and the damages to such property exceeded seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Charge Code Number: 569.100-001Y20202999.0

The facts that form the basis for this information and belief are contained on the attached statement of facts concerning this matter, which statement are made a part hereof and are submitted herewith as a basis upon which this court may find the existence of probable cause for the issuance of the warrant.

/s/ Brady C. Kopek

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WITNESSES:

Detective Sgt. Kirkendoll, Caldwell County Sheriff's Department

L.F.

L.C.

J.B.

22CL-CR00211

**CALDWELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

Case # 2022-0228

Suspect: Edwards, Harold Jr.

DOB: 08/18/1984 SSN: -9338

Address: 8370 N. Donnelly, Kansas City, Missouri 64158

Victim: F , L B.

DOB:

Address: , Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671

Victim: C , L M.

Address: , Cameron, Missouri 64429

Victim: B , J A

DOB: 10/05/1948

Address: , Cameron, Caldwell County, Missouri 64429

Location of Occurrence:

1. Crime Scene #1 - 5050 SW Ste. Rte. D, Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671
2. Crime Scene #2 - 2929 SW. Ste. Rte. D, Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671
3. Crime Scene #3 - 1525 NW Ste. Rte. D, Kingston, Caldwell County, Missouri 64650

I, Sgt. Det. Kirkendoll, upon my oath, and under penalties of perjury, state as follows.

1. I have probable cause to believe Harold Edwards Jr. committed one or more criminal offense(s):

Crime Scene #1

A. BURGLARY 1ST DEGREE - RSMo. 569.160-001Y20202202.0 Felony B

B. ARSON - 2ND DEGREE - RSMo. 569.050-001Y20202006.0 Felony D

C. BURGLARY - 2ND DEGREE - RSMo. 569.170-001Y20202202.0 Felony D

D. PROPERTY DAMAGE 1ST DEGREE - RSMo. 569.100-001Y20202902.0 Felony E

Crime Scene #2

A. ARSON - 2ND DEGREE - RSMo. 569.050-001Y20202006.0 Felony D

B. BURGLARY - 2ND DEGREE - RSMo. 569.170-001Y20202202.0 Felony D

C. PROPERTY DAMAGE 1ST DEGREE - RSMo. 569.100-001Y20202902.0 Felony E

Crime Scene #3

A. ARSON - 2ND DEGREE - RSMo. 569.050-001Y20202006.0 Felony D

B. BURGLARY - 2ND DEGREE - RSMo. 569.170-001Y20202202.0 Felony D

C. PROPERTY DAMAGE 1ST DEGREE - RSMo. 569.100-001Y20202902.0 Felony E

2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows: On 05/10/2022 at approximately 8:32 AM, Caldwell County Missouri Sheriff's Deputies responded to 5050 SW State Rte D, Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671 (crime scene #1) in reference to a structure fire. It was later found L. Fi. a 96 y/o elderly female, identified as the sole occupant and owner of the residence, did not escape the residence before the fire destroyed the whole structure. It should be known, two more fires, one at 2990 SW Ste. Rte. D, Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671 (crime scene #2) at approximately 9:40 AM and 1525 NW Ste. Rte. D, Kingston, Caldwell County, Missouri 64650 (crime scene #3) at approximately 10:40 AM, broke out while first responders were battling the fire at crime scene #1.

Crime Scene #1 - On 05/10/2022 at approximately 8:32 AM, the Caldwell County Missouri Sheriff's Department was notified of this structure fire at 5050 SW Ste. Rte. D, Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671 by neighbors. While the witnesses were attempting to check on the sole occupant, Mrs. L. Fi. a 96 y/o elderly female, neighbors stated, at approximately 8:30 AM, a black male between the ages of 20 and 30 yrs. old, short hair, athletic build, clean cut, operating a black Ford Escape with dark tinted windows, stopped in the middle of SW Ste. Rte. D Hwy., traveling north, almost directly in front of Mrs. Fi. residence, asking them if everyone was ok. Neighbors advised the black male there was still an occupant in the residence who could not evacuate. Neighbors stated the black male subject drove away from the scene traveling northbound on Ste. Rte. D. A neighbor advised the black male returned a short time later, where he spoke face to face with this black male about the fire.

First responders arrived on scene but could not extinguish the fire. Investigators from the Missouri State Fire Marshal's Department investigated the scene, calling the scene an Arson Crime Scene. The total amount of loss was \$50,000.00 for Crime Scene #1 according to the Caldwell County Mutual Insurance Company.

Crime Scene #2 - While on Crime Scene #1, Caldwell County Missouri Sheriff's Department was notified of a second fire at 2990 SW Ste. Rte. D, Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671. This structure fire was called in by employees of the Platte-Clay Electric Company who observed smoke coming from the residence. A Platte-Clay Electric Employee advised when they

parked their work vehicle on the west side of the burning structure, they parked beside a black Ford Escape with dark tinted windows. The Platte-Clay Employee advised he and his co-worker proceeded into the scene where they were able to photograph flames inside the residence while standing outside a sliding glass door. The Platte-Clay Electric Employee advised when they returned to their work vehicle, the black Ford Escape was gone. The Platte-Clay Employee advised this was a time lapse of approximately 7 minutes. First responders advised this scene was too unsafe to fight the fire and the structure was a total loss. After Missouri State Fire Marshal Investigators processed this crime scene, it was labeled an Arson crime scene. Total loss of this structure was estimated by the owner at \$500,000.00. While first responders were battling Crime Scene #1 and Crime Scene #2, a third fire was reported by a Missouri State Highway Patrolman at 1525 NW Ste. Rte. D, Kingston, Caldwell County, Missouri 64650, approximately 2 miles north of Crime Scene #2 on Ste. Rte. D Hwy.

Crime Scene #3 - At approximately 10:40 AM on 05/10/2022, Missouri State Highway Patrolman, Trooper Muck was responding to all crime scenes when he observed Crime Scene #3 to have smoke coming from inside the residence. First responders did respond to this scene and were able to put the fire out. After Missouri State Fire Marshal's investigated this scene, it was called an Arson Crime Scene as well. The structure was found to have upstairs and down stairs drapes set on fire which did not ignite the entire structure. This was classified as an Arson as well. Total loss on this structure was \$70,000.00 according to the Caldwell County Mutual Insurance Company.

Through my investigation, I was able to identify a suspect vehicle through video surveillance from the Mirable School located at 2954 SW State Hwy D, Polo, MO 64671. After research on the vehicle, I found it to be a black 2019 Ford Escape with dark tinted windows seen by Platte-Clay Electric Employees. This vehicle was observed on video surveillance to travel back and forth between crime scenes on 05/10/2022 between the times of 6:20 AM and 10:00 AM. A time line made from the video surveillance shows the vehicle in between Ste. Rte. HH, Kingston, MO and Hwy 116, Polo, MO on Ste. Rte. D between the times of 6:30 AM on 05/10/2022 to approximately 10:30 AM on 05/10/2022.

On 05/26/2022, I received an anonymous tip via telephone at the Caldwell County Missouri Sheriff's Department in reference to the three fires. This subject advised Harold Edwards Jr., a person known to him, black male subject, to be the one who set all three fires. The subject stated Mr. Edwards does operate and own a black 2019 Ford Escape. This was confirmed through Missouri Department of Revenue. The subject stated Mr. Edwards confessed to starting the three fires in Caldwell County on 05/10/2022. While speaking to this individual, I was able to obtain Mr. Edwards' cell phone number.

After the cell phone number was obtained, I prepared and served a search warrant to AT&T Mobility Inc., identified as Mr. Edwards' mobile carrier where I found Mr. Edwards to be the owner and user of this cell phone number. The information obtained from this search warrant revealed historical placement information through dates, times in Greenwich Mean Time, latitude and longitude measurements, showing where Mr. Edwards had been on 05/10/2022. After researching the data provided by the search warrant, Mr. Edwards was found to be at

Crime Scene #1 from approximately 7:18 AM on 05/10/2022 to 8:36 AM. This is consistent with witnesses speaking with Mr. Edwards on Ste. Rte. D in front of Crime Scene #1.

After reviewing more data, I was able to place Mr. Edwards at Crime Scene #2 from approximately 9:34 AM on 05/10/2022 to 9:41 AM, which is consistent with the Platte-Clay Electric Employees observing the structure on fire and observing Mr. Edwards' vehicle parked on the west side of Crime Scene #2. This was also consistent with the search warrant historical placement data.

After reviewing more data, I was able to place Mr. Edwards at Crime Scene #3 between the times of 9:42 AM and approximately 10:00 AM on 05/10/2022. This is consistent with the surveillance video showing Mr. Edwards' vehicle traveling north and south on Ste. Rte. D and the video surveillance capturing Mr. Edwards' vehicle.

Through my investigation, I believe Mr. Edwards traveled to 5050 SW Ste. Rte. D, Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671 at approximately 7:18 AM on 05/10/2022. In the time between 7:18 AM and 8:30 AM, I believe Mr. Edwards entered the residence of Mrs. F starting the fire in the structure, causing the structure to burn completely to the ground. I believe Mr. Edwards was observed by witnesses and was spoke to by a witness face to face near 5189 Ste. Rte. D, Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671. Historical data from the search warrant confirms Mr. Edwards at these times at this location.

I believe Mr. Edwards to travel north on Ste. Rte. D to 2929 Ste. Rte. D, Polo, Caldwell County, Missouri 64671 where he entered the structure and started the fire, causing the structure to burn to the ground. I believe he did this to cover up the first crime scene. I believe Mr. Edwards to have parked his black 2019 Ford Escape with dark tinted windows on the west side of the structure at the time. I believe two employees from Platte-Clay Electric to have witnessed the vehicle there. Historical data from the search warrant confirms Mr. Edwards at these times at this location.

I believe Mr. Edwards to have traveled north from there on Ste. Rte. D to 1525 NW Ste. Rte. D, Kingston, Caldwell County, Missouri 64650 and enter the structure, setting the upstairs and downstairs drapes on fire. I believe Mr. Edwards to have done this to cover up evidence from the first fire. Historical data from the search warrant confirms Mr. Edwards at these times at this location.

3. A. I believe the defendant will not appear in court in response to a criminal summons because:

B. I believe the defendant poses:

1. A danger to the crime victim because Mr. Edwards did travel to Caldwell County intentionally set fires to three residences to persons unknown to him.

2. A danger to the community or to any other.

The above information is true and correct and to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sgt. 
Affiant