

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, ARKANSAS

COPY

STATE OF ARKANSAS

PLAINTIFF

VS:

Jeremiah Bliss-Leija

DEFENDANT

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Comes now Officer C. Boren, and under oath doth state: That the defendant is charged with:

**MAKING A TERRORIST THREAT, 5-54-203, CLASS A FELONY
TERRORISTIC THREATENING 1ST DEGREE, 5-13-301, CLASS D FELONY
DOMESTIC ASSAULT, 5-26-309, CLASS C MISDEMEANOR**

On November 17, 2016, at approximately 1345, I, Officer C. Boren, spoke to, [REDACTED], in the lobby of the Berryville Police Department. [REDACTED] stated that on November 16, at approximately 2000 to 2100, she and her husband, Jeremiah Bliss-Leija, were arguing. [REDACTED] stated that they have been having problems for a quite sometime now. When [REDACTED] informed Jeremiah that she wanted to get a divorce, he threatened her. [REDACTED] paraphrased the threat that Jeremiah made to her, "he was going to buy an automatic rifle, go to Cafe Amore' and kill all of those [REDACTED], slit her throat, and die an honorable death by bringing jihad to Berryville." [REDACTED] stated that Jeremiah had recently been charged with assault in Eureka Springs. Several months ago Jeremiah assaulted a homosexual in Eureka Springs by pepper spraying him. [REDACTED] went on to state that Jeremiah is very vocal about his hatred toward homosexuals; calling them dogs that deserve to be killed. [REDACTED] advised that she was scared of Jeremiah and did not wish to return home. [REDACTED] stated that Jeremiah was currently home, [REDACTED], with their four children. [REDACTED] informed me that Jeremiah keeps a handgun in their residence. He regularly relocates the weapon and she is unaware of its location. I reviewed the Berryville Police Department Domestic Violence Lethality-Screen with [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was given Laura's Card and the appropriate information needed for her assistance. [REDACTED] filled out a witness statement in reference to the incident.

At approximately 1420, I arrived at [REDACTED] in search of Jeremiah. Jeremiah was located and placed under arrest. [REDACTED] returned to the residence to care for the children.

Jeremiah agreed to an interview at the Berryville Police Department. The interview began at 1538 in the interview room of the Police Department. Jeremiah waived his right and voluntarily spoke with me. Jeremiah stated that [REDACTED] exaggerated his comments in reference to her and toward homosexuals. He expressed that their differences stem from his religious beliefs. Jeremiah stated that he did not say that he would cut [REDACTED] throat. He did however state that he told [REDACTED] that according to his religion she shouldn't even be alive. He stated that he tells [REDACTED] this all of the time; stating that she has done horrible things according to his religion. Jeremiah advised that ~~she has~~ begun associating with homosexuals, and that is not permitted according to the Torah. Jeremiah advised that he does not like [REDACTED] working at [REDACTED] because it is owned and operated by homosexuals. He is angered by the fact that homosexuals are brought around his children. Jeremiah advised that [REDACTED] has no respect. Jeremiah has expressed numerous times that he does not want his children around homosexuals. In reference to [REDACTED]'s statements that Jeremiah made about killing homosexuals, he advised that she exaggerated them. He advised that [REDACTED] misconstrued the wording of the Torah to fit her agenda. Jeremiah stated that according to the Torah homosexuality is an abomination and that homosexuals deserved to be stoned to death. Jeremiah advised that he agrees with the stoning of homosexuals. Jeremiah advised that according to the Torah homosexuals deserve capital punishment, to be put to death; he stated this is the statement that he made to [REDACTED] the prior evening. Jeremiah advised that he is not scared and will not hide his religious beliefs, just because they are not popular. He stated that he did not say that he would die an honorable death. Jeremiah advised that he does have a pending court date in reference to the assault of a homosexual in Eureka Springs. He stated that he did not know the man was a homosexual, until after he assaulted him. When confronted again about the statements he had made in reference to [REDACTED] death and the killing of homosexuals, Jeremiah advised that [REDACTED] often misunderstands what he says. Jeremiah stated that [REDACTED] has been unfaithful and that according to the Torah she needs to be put to death. He stated that her unfaithfulness has hurt him. During this part of the interview Jeremiah became upset and teary eyed. He stated that [REDACTED] does deserve death but he did not threaten her. When asked if [REDACTED] was endangered, Jeremiah advised that she was not in danger. Jeremiah stated that [REDACTED] misconstrued his statements, during an intense argument. Jeremiah advised that his statement in regard to the death of homosexuals could be interpreted that he does want to kill homosexuals. Jeremiah advised that he did not make any effort to correct [REDACTED] misinterpretation of his statements. Jeremiah stated that it could be interpreted that he is a terrorist; stating that he was detained by TSA over night while on a flight to Israel. He believes that [REDACTED] knows of this detention and that she may think him to be a terrorist. Jeremiah stated that he spends a lot of time in online groups and he estimates that 60% of these groups are "Arab groups". He believes that these facts along with his religious beliefs, it could be construed that he is a terrorist. Jeremiah stated that [REDACTED] is his wife and she is stupid. He

did state that he owns a .25 caliber handgun and if he were to purchase a rifle it would be from a local pawnshop.

Jeremiah displayed verbal and physical signs of deception during the interview. He would often avoid directly answering asked questions by referring to the wording of his faith.

Jeremiah's mother is German and his father is Mexican. He was born in Orange County California. But it should be noted that Jeremiah speaks with a Arabic accent, this accent would come and go during the interview.



Affidavit of Probable Cause for: Jeremiah Bliss-Leija (W,M, [REDACTED])

I swear that the allegations contained herein are the truth, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

1. OFF L. Boren 2. _____ 3. _____

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 17th DAY OF NOV 2016

Theresa Madle (TITLE-CIRCUIT JUDGE (CLERK/NOTARY))

EXPIRATION DATE 2/10/2025

I hereby find that the sworn affidavit demonstrates probable cause for the arrest of the above named individual for the above stated offenses.

Circuit Judge
Carroll County, Arkansas