

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

Dated: 9/24/2023

Report Number: KC23065423

I, Detective [REDACTED] Kansas City Police, a sworn Law Enforcement Officer for the State of Missouri, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, and that the facts contained herein are true, states as follows:

1. I have probable cause to believe that on 9/24/2023, at [REDACTED] NE 119th Terrace in Kansas City, Clay County, Missouri, Steven Lester Woods, White (race), Male, [REDACTED] 1978 (DOB), committed one or more criminal offense(s).

Murder I

Armed Criminal Action

Assault I

Armed Criminal Action

Unlawful Use of a Weapon

2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

On 09/24/2023, at 0105 hours, Officers of the Kansas City Missouri Police Department were dispatched to [REDACTED] NE 119th Terrace, Kansas City, Clay County, Missouri on a reported sound of shots. While en-route, the call was updated to a shooting.

Upon arrival, Officers located a female, Victim #2, outside the residence, who was yelling she needed help for her son who was inside the residence. As Officers approached the open garage door to make entry, an unknown male, later learned to be the suspect, came out of the residence, hands up and advised Victim #1 had come at him with a knife. The suspect, identified as Steven Woods W/M [REDACTED]-1978, was taken into custody. Victim #2 was transported to a hospital with serious, but non-life-threatening injuries.

Officers located Victim #1 in the northeast hallway with apparent blood on and around him. Next to Victim #1 on the floor, Officers observed a folding knife. Medic [REDACTED] confirmed the victim deceased at 0131 hours. The scene was processed for items of evidentiary value which included multiple 9mm spent shell casings, (1) spent shotgun shell, (4) live shotgun shell rounds, (2) handguns, (1) shotgun and the front door which contained apparent damage consistent with that caused by a shotgun. There was apparent blood on the carpet, on the walls in the hallway and in the master bedroom. Also observed, was heavy damage to the bathroom door and the bedroom door belonging to Victim #3.

Victim #2 advised the following: She and WOODS are married and have a history of verbal abuse in their marriage. Victim #2 said on 09/23/2023, she and WOODS were at a pool party most of the day where they consumed alcohol. Victim #2 drove them home and while doing so, observed WOODS to be texting with another woman. Victim #2 confronted WOODS about this in the car and upon arriving home, WOODS told Victim #2 multiple times to get out of the house. Victim #2 entered the bedroom to get some of her belongings when she saw WOODS' cell phone was unlocked. Victim #2 picked

up WOODS' cell phone and took it to the hallway bathroom where she locked the door. WOODS broke the bathroom door in half to get into the bathroom. WOODS grabbed her and repeatedly threw her into the bathtub yelling for her to get out of the house. WOODS was able to take his cell phone back from Victim #2. Victim #2 advised she called family on her cellphone and requested them to notify 911. Victim #2 advised Victim #1 arrived along with two of his friends (Witness #1 and Witness #2). Victim #1 confronted WOODS, verbally, while instructing Victim #2 and Victim #3 to gather their belongings so they could leave with Witness #1 and Witness #2. Victim #2 advised WOODS was inside their master bedroom with the door closed and said WOODS and Victim #1 were not engaged in a physical altercation. Victim #2 also said she did not see Victim #1 armed with a weapon. Victim #2, said Victim #1 was pounding on the master bedroom door. Victim #2 said she and Victim #1 were standing next to one another outside Victim #3's bedroom when WOODS opened the bedroom door and began shooting Victim #1. Victim #2 said she was also struck by gunfire. Victim #2 laid on top of Victim #1 after they were shot in an attempt to protect Victim #1 from being shot again by WOODS. WOODS kept pushing Victim #2 off of Victim #1. Victim #2 then ran out of the residence and then went back to the front door in an attempt to check on Victim #1, when she heard a loud blast. Victim #2 was unaware she had been struck by a shotgun round which had exited the front door. Victim #2 also sustained gunshot wounds to both thighs, injuries to her right eye and injuries to her neck. Victim #2 said she saw a knife on the floor when she was lying on top of Victim #1 after he had been shot.

On 09/24/2023, Detectives conducted an interview with Witness #1 who stated that he was with Victim #1, Witness #2, and Witness #3 at a house party. They left the party to get something to eat. While doing that, Victim #1 received a call from Victim #3. Victim #3 told Victim #1 that WOODS had attacked Victim #2, after it was discovered WOODS was cheating on Victim #2. Witness #1 said Victim #3 asked Victim #1 to come get her. Witness #1 drove the four of them to Victim #2's house. Witness #1 pulled directly in the driveway when he arrived. Before getting out, he told Witness #3 to stay in the car, because he was unsure of what was going to happen. Witness #1 said Victim #1 used a garage code to enter the house. Victim #1, Witness #2, and he made their way into the house. Upon entering, Witness #1 heard yelling and observed WOODS retreat to his bedroom. Witness #1 then went to help Victim #3 get out of the house. Victim #3's bedroom is directly across the hallway from WOODS' bedroom. Witness #1 observed Victim #1 go to WOODS' bedroom door and jiggle the door handle. Witness #1 could hear WOODS yelling from behind the door "I'm going to shoot you motherfucker, I'm going to shoot you, I'm gonna shoot." WOODS then opened the bedroom door and shot Victim #1 five to six times. Witness #1, exited the sliding glass back door, but was unable to escape. Witness #1 re-entered the residence to exit the front door and while doing so, Witness #1 observed WOODS, armed with a firearm, tracking him as he ran out of the residence. Witness #1 then observed Victim #2 exit then residence from the garage and then approach the front door. Witness #1 saw another gunshot exit the front door where Victim #2 was standing. Witness #1 confirmed on scene with police, WOODS

was the person he saw shoot Victim #1.

On 09/24/2023, Detectives conducted an interview with Witness #2 whose statement coincided with Witness #1 regarding their whereabouts when receiving the call from Victim #3 about Victim #2 being abused by WOODS. Witness #2 made entry into the home with Witness #1 and Victim #1 in an attempt to retrieve Victim #3 and her belongings. Witness #2 stated he then observed a door in the hall open slightly and then he heard five to seven gunshots. Witness #2 did not see who was shooting and did not see the weapon. Witness #2 saw Victim #1 fall to the ground. Witness #2 then ran from the residence and hid behind Witness #1's vehicle. Shortly thereafter, Victim #2 came running out of the residence and asked them to go back inside and get Victim #1. Witness #2 stated they approached the front door of the residence. He advised Victim #2 was standing on the front porch when he heard a loud bang which he believed was a shotgun. He observed Victim #2 had been shot in the shoulder. Witness #2 said that neither he, Victim #1, Witness #1, Victim #2 nor Victim #3 were armed with any weapon.

On 09/24/2023, Detectives interviewed Witness #3, whose statement coincided with Witness #1 and Witness #2 regarding their whereabouts when receiving the call from Victim #3 about Victim #2 being abused by WOODS. Victim #1 was mad and after ending the call with Victim #3, and advised they needed to drive to the house. When they arrived, Victim #1, Witness #1 and Witness #2 all got out of the vehicle. Witness #3 did not enter the residence, but could hear a woman yelling. He then heard multiple gunshots. Witness #1 came running from the house and told him to run. He ran through the neighborhood to get away, and eventually came back to the scene where he provided a statement.

On 09/24/2023, Detectives interviewed Victim #3 who provided the following information: Victim #2 and WOODS arrived home from a party. They were fighting because Victim #2 had discovered WOODS was cheating on her. Victim #2 locked herself in the bathroom and took WOODS' phone with her. WOODS then broke down the door and hit Victim #2. She described that WOODS pushed Victim #2 down into the bathtub approximately 5 times and struck her until WOODS was able to retrieve his phone from her. Victim #3 tried to intervene, but WOODS then came at Victim #3. Victim #3 barricaded herself in her room at which time WOODS broke through her door and punched her TV. Victim #3 stated she called Victim #1 because she was in fear for her life and she needed him to come protect her and Victim #2. Victim #3 said when Victim #1 arrived, WOODS ran into his room and shut the door. Victim #1 was yelling for Victim #2 and Victim #3 to leave with him. Victim #3 heard Victim #1 ask, "Are you going to shoot me like you shot my dad?" At which time, WOODS opened the bedroom door and began firing at Victim #1. Victim #3 then exited the house through the garage. Victim #3 observed Victim #2 exit the garage, but then observed her to go to the front door and begin knocking. Victim #3 then saw a gunshot come through the door, striking Victim #2. Victim #3 said she never saw Victim #1 armed with a weapon.

Both Victim #2 and Victim #3, independent of one another, were shown a single picture of the knife recovered from the crime scene. Both said Victim #1 did not own a knife like that nor had they ever seen him with the knife. Victim #3 said she believed WOODS had a similar knife in his office space located in the basement, while Victim #2 said WOODS had a similar knife he kept in his vehicle.

On 09/24/2023, Detective interviewed WOODS at 1125 Locust, Police Headquarters. WOODS was read his Miranda Rights and acknowledged that he understood them. WOODS provided the following information: He and Victim #2 have been married since 2018, but in a relationship for eleven years. He has known Victim #1 and Victim #3 since they were young children. WOODS said he and Victim #2 have been struggling in their marriage and admitted to being involved with another woman, currently. WOODS said he was texting the woman in front of Victim #2 while they were on their way home from a pool party. WOODS said upon arriving home, he went to bed and fell asleep while scrolling through social media. He awoke to Victim #2 taking his cell phone from him. WOODS said he followed Victim #2 where she retreated to the hallway bathroom and locked the door. WOODS said he "kicked in" the door in order to retrieve his cell phone from her. WOODS said he may have shoved Victim #2 in order to gain control over his phone, but he denied physically harming Victim #2. Victim #3 then began shouting at WOODS that she was going to call the police at which time WOODS told Victim #3 to leave his house with Victim #2. WOODS said he then welcomed Victim #3 calling the police. WOODS said he locked himself in his bedroom and waited for Police to arrive. WOODS said within a couple of minutes, Victim #1 arrived, yelling "I don't give a fuck." WOODS said he was unable to put into context what Victim #1 was referring to. WOODS said he heard Victim #1 say, "I'm going to kill that mother fucker" at which time WOODS retrieved his firearm from his nightstand. WOODS said he exited his bedroom and told Victim #1 to leave his home. WOODS said he was in the hallway between his bedroom and Victim #3's bedroom and described Victim #1 as being about 4 feet away from him, and was standing directly in front of the hallway bathroom door. WOODS said Victim #1 raised a knife, perpendicular to his body, but did not advance on WOODS nor did Victim #1 say anything to WOODS. WOODS stated he did not recognize the knife and never had any physical contact with the knife. WOODS was armed with his handgun at his side, and as Victim #1 raised the blade, WOODS shot him "center mass" five times. WOODS said Victim #2 then fell on top of Victim #1. WOODS physically moved Victim #2 off of Victim #1 so he could check for a pulse. WOODS said Victim #2 then ran out. WOODS retreated to his bedroom where he obtained a 12-gauge shotgun and "posted up" at the top of the front steps, and aimed his shotgun toward the front door. WOODS described laying on his belly as he watched the RING cameras. WOODS said he was afraid Victim #1's family would arrive before police, so he wanted to be able to defend himself against them. WOODS explained in 2015, (later learned to be 2016 through police reports) WOODS shot the father of Victim #1 and Victim #3 in an incident that was later deemed self-defense. WOODS added that while being posted up, he had an "accidental discharge" because he was fumbling with the safety. Once he

could see police had arrived on scene via the RING camera, WOODS surrendered.

The crime scene revealed a total of (10), 9mm, spent shell casings; (3) were located inside the master bedroom, (4) were located in the hallway, just outside the master bedroom door, and (3) additional spent shell casings were located near the hallway bathroom door. Two spent projectiles were located underneath the victim. The victim appeared to have multiple gunshot wounds.

An outcry witness, not present at the incident, was called by Victim #3 when the altercation began between WOODS and Victim #2. The outcry witness began recording the phone call they were having with Victim #3. In that recording, played for Victim #3, Victim #3 identifies the voices captured. Victim #3 is captured asking if she can bring her dogs with her and then provides her address so that others in the home of the outcry witness can relay the information to 911 call taker. A loud verbal disturbance is captured and then a loud bang. Victim #3 is captured saying, "Don't touch my door" to which WOODS yells, "This is my fucking door." WOODS is captured telling Victim #3 to leave at which time Victim #3 yells, "I don't want to live with you." The recording captures the voice of Victim #1 as he arrives at the home. Victim #1 can be heard saying "You're leaving" and the words, "I don't give a fuck." Victim #1 is captured saying, "Fucking pussy, standing behind that door. Are you going to shoot me like you did my dad?" A muffled and inaudible voice is heard at which time Victim #1 can be heard saying, "Shoot me. Shoot me. Shoot me." Immediately following, six gunshots are captured.

Detective [REDACTED] Kansas
City Police, [REDACTED]

Officer's Name and Serial Number

[REDACTED]

Officer's Signature