

OFFICE OF THE ANOKA COUNTY ATTORNEY

Tony Palumbo, County Attorney



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Aug. 6, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Second suspect charged in murder of 15-year-old boy

A second suspect has been charged in connection to the shooting death of a 15-year-old boy in July in Fridley.

The Anoka County Attorney's Office today charged Amos Menasa Cham, 19, with aiding and abetting second-degree murder.

Cham made his first appearance this afternoon in Anoka County District Court. Bail was set at \$500,000 and his next hearing was scheduled for Aug. 25.

Previously, the County Attorney's Office charged Isaiah Harold-Stephaun Holmes, 17, with five felonies, including second-degree murder, assault, and attempted robbery. The office is seeking to have Holmes certified to stand trial as an adult; proceedings are pending.

Cham's criminal complaint is attached for reference.

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State of Minnesota
County of Anoka

District Court
10th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. CA-2021-01453
Court File No. 02-CR-21-4422

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT
Order of Detention

vs.

AMOS MENASA CHAM DOB: 01/27/2002

6019 Main Street NE, #4
Fridley, MN 55432

Defendant.

The Complainant submits this complaint to the Court and states that there is probable cause to believe Defendant committed the following offense(s):

COUNT I

Charge: Murder in the Second Degree (While Committing a Felony)

Minnesota Statute: 609.19.2(1), with reference to: 609.11.5, 609.05.1

Maximum Sentence: not less than 36 months -40 Years

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 07/18/2021

Control #(ICR#): 21158621

Charge Description: On or about July 18, 2021, in the County of Anoka, Minnesota, AMOS MENASA CHAM, did while intentionally aiding, advising, or conspiring with another or others, cause the death of a human being, without intent to effect the death of any person, while committing or attempting to commit a felony offense (Robbery) and at the time of offense, the Defendant or an accomplice did use or possess a firearm, to wit: a 9mm handgun.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

On July 18th, 2021 at 7:04 p.m., staff at Unity Hospital notified law enforcement that a shooting victim, a juvenile 15 year old male (the victim), was brought to the Hospital. The victim had been shot in his neck and upper shoulder area. The victim suffered massive bleeding and, despite blood transfusions and other emergency treatment, had cardiac arrest. The victim was transferred to the Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC) where he underwent further life saving treatment. The victim sustained significant injury to his brain due to lack of oxygen and blood flow. The victim was declared brain dead by HCMC medical staff and passed away in the evening of July 20, 2021.

While at Unity Hospital police spoke with two males, Witness #1 and Witness #2, who brought the victim to the Hospital in a van. Witness #1 said he was driving his mother's van earlier in the day with Witness #2. They picked up the victim and he was in the rear passenger seat. Witness #1 wanted to purchase marijuana. Witness #1 communicated with a person he had previously purchased marijuana from. Witness #1 drove to the area of 61st Avenue NE and Main Street in Fridley, Anoka County. This is a location Witness #1 had previously purchased marijuana from the same contact. The contact for the drug purchase is **Amos Menasa Cham (DOB: 1/27/02)**, the defendant herein. The defendant lives on the 6xxx block of Main Street in Fridley.

Once the van arrived in the area Witness #1 saw the defendant walking towards him from the north. Witness #1 then drove in reverse to get closer to where the defendant was coming from. Once stopped, the defendant approached the driver's side window and spoke with Witness #1 about a drug purchase. After some conversation, the defendant told Witness #1 he had to speak with "his boy" and walked away from the window. At about this time Witness #1 noticed a silver passenger car slowly drive by their parked van on Main Street and then back into a parking spot within feet of the van. The passenger car was facing the parked van. Shortly thereafter the passenger side sliding door of the van was opened. A male known as "CMOE" (a known juvenile DOB: 3/6/06) was at the door and began talking with the occupants of the van. Witness #1 and #2 then said another male appeared at the sliding door. This male said "Run your shit", which Witness #1 and #2 knew to mean they were getting robbed. The same male then pulled out a gray or black shorter handgun with a drum magazine. The male with the gun told the witnesses not to drive off and not to yell. "CMOE" then left the van and returned to the car he had earlier arrived in. Witness #1 slammed on the accelerator to try and escape. The male with the gun then shot multiple times into the van from the open sliding door. As the van continued the male with the gun fired again. Witness #1 and #2 then realized another unknown male (not "CMOE" or the shooter) was inside the van and they slowed to get the male out. They also then noticed the victim was bleeding and in obvious distress. They drove directly to Unity Hospital. The male with the gun who shot into the van was Isaiah Harold-Stephaun Holmes (DOB: 12/23/2003) (Hereinafter Juvenile Holmes), a petitioned juvenile pending a certification hearing.

Police spoke with neighbors who saw and heard the incident. One witness heard multiple shots and saw a tall skinny male, later identified as the defendant, run from the apartment at 6015 Main Street NE where the shots were fired to 6019 Main Street, the defendant's residence. Another male running from the scene in the same direction as the defendant was Juvenile Holmes. Then, a short time later, a third male wearing what appeared to be a bloodied sweatshirt was seen running on Main Street, meeting up with Juvenile Holmes. This male is later identified as Izaiah D. Scott (DOB: 7/1/02) AKA "G-Block". "G-Block" is then identified as the male who was inside the van at the time of the shooting and was let out as the van fled. Juvenile Holmes is then seen riding a bike near the shooting and going to 6101 Trinity Drive NE, his residence. Juvenile Holmes put the bike in the garage and entered the home through the front door.

Police spoke with Juvenile Holmes the evening of the shooting and he said he was aware of the shooting but was at a nearby cousin's house when it happened. The cousin is identified as 16 year old JH. Juvenile

Holmes said he biked home to check on his family.

Police also spoke with this defendant. The defendant said he had earlier met up with "G-Block" as he lives near the scene. The defendant said "G-Block" was going to meet up with "CMOE" and Juvenile Holmes, also known as "ZAY". The defendant described "CMOE" arriving at the scene driving a silver car which drove past the parked van and then backed into a spot near the van. Once "CMOE" parked, the defendant said he walked away from the van and went to "CMOE's" parked car, speaking with both "CMOE" and the front seat passenger, a 19 year old male, DLM. At least two other males were in the backseat of the silver car. The defendant said "CMOE" exited his car and walked to the van. After a few moments at the van the defendant said "CMOE" ran back to the silver car and Juvenile Holmes raise the handgun and fired multiple shots, aiming with both hands. The defendant said the only person he saw with a gun was Juvenile Holmes and that he heard no threats made by the occupants of the van.

Investigation located text messages between the defendant and JH (Juvenile Holmes' cousin) the day of the shooting. JH asks the defendant "U got any stains"? "Stains" is a common reference to committing a robbery. The defendant responds "yeah" "just now". This exchange was at about 6:25 on July 18th. JH responds back saying "Where you at you ready". A few minutes later JH says "let's hit that bitch". Then, the defendant is observed on video walking towards the victim's van which is now parked at the meet location for the drug purchase on Main Street.

Significant video from neighboring buildings, and a passing squad car, captured many of these events. This includes video of the defendant meeting up with "G-Block" while walking towards the parked van minutes before the shooting. Video also shows the van backing up to get closer to the defendant. Video then shows this defendant at the driver's side window. At 6:54 p.m. video shows the silver car relocate and back into a spot near the parked van. Video shows Juvenile Holmes arriving at the scene on a bike, getting off the bike and then walking between the parked silver car that "CMOE" just arrived in and the parked van. Video then shows "G-Block", "CMOE" and Juvenile Holmes at the passenger side of the van. Video then shows "CMOE" run from the van to his silver car, get back in the driver's seat, and the van begin to move forward. At 6:58 video shows the van driving away and Juvenile Holmes holding a gun aimed at the van. 9mm casings and shattered glass are located at the scene where the van had been parked. Once the van pulls away video shows the defendant run away from the scene towards his home just down the street with Juvenile Holmes behind him.

In subsequent statements, the defendant says he knew he and "G-Block" were setting up a "stain" with the driver of the van. The defendant says he knew "G-Block" had a gun with him, and they discussed it while walking between 2nd Street and Main Street towards the parked van. The defendant said "G-Block" had pants and a sweatshirt on and the gun would not be visible. The defendant thinks "G-Block" gave Juvenile Holmes the gun once Juvenile Holmes arrived at the van on his bike.

SIGNATURES AND APPROVALS

Complainant requests that Defendant, subject to bail or conditions of release, be:
(1) arrested or that other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court; or
(2) detained, if already in custody, pending further proceedings; and that said Defendant otherwise be dealt with according to law.

Complainant declares under penalty of perjury that everything stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat. § 358.116; Minn. R. Crim. P. 2.01, subds. 1, 2.

Complainant

Christopher McCall
Detective
13301 Hanson Boulevard NW
Andover, MN 55304
Badge: 246

Electronically Signed:
08/06/2021 09:29 AM
Anoka County, MN

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

Prosecuting Attorney

Paul L. Young
Assistant County Attorney
2100 3rd Ave
Anoka, MN 55303-2265
(763) 324-5550

Electronically Signed:
08/06/2021 09:25 AM

FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE

From the above sworn facts, and any supporting affidavits or supplemental sworn testimony, I, the Issuing Officer, have determined that probable cause exists to support, subject to bail or conditions of release where applicable, Defendant's arrest or other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court, or Defendant's detention, if already in custody, pending further proceedings. Defendant is therefore charged with the above-stated offense(s).

SUMMONS

THEREFORE YOU, THE DEFENDANT, ARE SUMMONED to appear as directed in the Notice of Hearing before the above-named court to answer this complaint.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR in response to this SUMMONS, a WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST shall be issued.

WARRANT

To the Sheriff of the above-named county; or other person authorized to execute this warrant: I order, in the name of the State of Minnesota, that the Defendant be apprehended and arrested without delay and brought promptly before the court (if in session), and if not, before a Judge or Judicial Officer of such court without unnecessary delay, and in any event not later than 36 hours after the arrest or as soon as such Judge or Judicial Officer is available to be dealt with according to law.

Execute in MN Only

Execute Nationwide

Execute in Border States

ORDER OF DETENTION

Since the Defendant is already in custody, I order, subject to bail or conditions of release, that the Defendant continue to be detained pending further proceedings.

Bail: \$
Conditions of Release:

This complaint, duly subscribed and sworn to or signed under penalty of perjury, is issued by the undersigned Judicial Officer as of the following date: August 6, 2021.

Judicial Officer

Suzanne Brown

Electronically Signed: 08/06/2021 09:53 AM

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

**COUNTY OF ANOKA
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

Amos Menasa Cham

Defendant

*LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RETURN OF SERVICE
I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Order of
Detention upon the Defendant herein named.*

Signature of Authorized Service Agent: