



Office of the Washington County Attorney

Kevin Magnuson, County Attorney

Press Release

Contact: Laura Perkins, Public Information Manager

Phone: 651-430-7994

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 22, 2023

Oakdale man found guilty of ten felony charges in fatal Woodbury graduation party shootout

STILLWATER, MN --- A Washington County jury convicted an Oakdale man Friday afternoon of ten felony charges in connection to a fatal shootout at a Woodbury graduation party.

A jury of nine men and three women found 20-year-old Xavier Le'Drew Hudson guilty of all ten charged offenses, including aiding and abetting murder in the second degree, in the shootout that killed 14-year-old Demaris Hobbs Ekdahl on June 5, 2021. According to the criminal complaint, Hudson was part of a group that allegedly confronted Demaris, his brother Davion, and others with guns at a graduation party on the 6100 block of Edgewood Road around 10:30 p.m on June 5.

Following the confrontation, Demaris, Davion, and their friends left the party and called their stepfather Keith Dawson. Dawson met his stepsons and their friends in Maplewood and encouraged them to return to the party with him to confront the group. Dawson drove his SUV, while the others followed closely behind in a car. When they arrived, Dawson fired several shots before driving away. The car occupied by Demaris and others continued to follow behind as 40 gunshots were fired in their direction by Hudson's group. One of those bullets passed through the back of the car and struck Demaris. He was later pronounced dead at Regions Hospital from blood loss due to the gunshot wound.

Dawson pled guilty to drive-by shooting in January of this year and is currently serving a seven-year prison sentence. Two people, including Hudson, faced charges in the return fire that hit and killed Demaris. Enrique Davila remains in custody at the Washington County Jail ahead of his jury trial slated for December 11th, 2023. Jaden Townsend pled guilty in June 2022 to aiding and abetting second-degree assault and received a three-year prison sentence.

After a nine-day trial, the jury began deliberations on Thursday afternoon and reached a guilty verdict just after 1 p.m. Friday.

"While no outcome can ever fully heal the wounds of such a heartbreaking incident, today's verdict brings some measure of justice to the grieving family of Demaris," said Washington County Attorney Kevin Magnuson. "I am grateful to our prosecution team and to our law enforcement partners for their tireless dedication to this case, sending a strong message that senseless gun violence will not go unpunished."

Hudson remains in custody at the Washington County Jail awaiting a sentencing date yet to be determined. Assistant Washington County Attorneys Scott Haldeman and Justin Collins prosecuted this case.

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State of Minnesota
County of Washington

District Court
10th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No.
Court File No.

CR-2021-1604
82-CR-21-3460

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

XAVIER LE'DREW HUDSON DOB: 08/12/2003

1337 Gentry Avenue N
Oakdale, MN 55128

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Warrant

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: Aiding and Abetting, Dangerous Weapon – Firearm – Prior Violent Crime Murder - 2nd Degree - Without Intent - While Committing a Felony

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

Maximum Sentence: 40 years

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 06/05/2021

Control #(ICR#): 21015245

Charge Description: without intent to effect the death of any person, cause the death of D.E.-H. while committing or attempting to commit the felony of 2nd degree assault

COUNT II

Charge: Aiding and Abetting, Dangerous Weapon – Firearm – Prior Violent Crime Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon

Minnesota Statute: 609.222.1, with reference to: 609.05.1, 609.11.5(b)

Maximum Sentence: 7 years and \$14,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 06/05/2021

Control #(ICR#): 21015245

Charge Description: assault another, to-wit: Victim #1, with a dangerous weapon, to wit: firearm

COUNT III

Charge: Aiding and Abetting, Dangerous Weapon – Firearm – Prior Violent Crime Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon

Minnesota Statute: 609.222.1, with reference to: 609.05.1, 609.11.5(b)

Maximum Sentence: 7 years and \$14,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 06/05/2021

Control #(ICR#): 21015245

Charge Description: assault another, to-wit: Victim #2, with a dangerous weapon, to wit: firearm

COUNT IV

Charge: Aiding and Abetting, Dangerous Weapon – Firearm – Prior Violent Crime Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon

Minnesota Statute: 609.222.1, with reference to: 609.05.1, 609.11.5(b)

Maximum Sentence: 7 years and \$14,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 06/05/2021

Control #(ICR#): 21015245

Charge Description: assault another, to-wit: Victim #3, with a dangerous weapon, to wit: firearm

COUNT V

Charge: Aiding and Abetting, Dangerous Weapon – Firearm – Prior Violent Crime Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon

Minnesota Statute: 609.222.1, with reference to: 609.05.1, 609.11.5(b)

Maximum Sentence: 7 years and \$14,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 06/05/2021

Control #(ICR#): 21015245

Charge Description: assault another, to-wit: Victim #4, with a dangerous weapon, to wit: firearm

COUNT VI

Charge: Dangerous Weapon – Firearm – Prior Violent Crime Possess Ammo/Any Firearm - Conviction or Adjudicated Delinquent for Crime of Violence

Minnesota Statute: 624.713.1(2), with reference to: 609.11.5(b)

Maximum Sentence: 15 years and \$30,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 06/05/2021

Control #(ICR#): 21015245

Charge Description: possess a firearm, having been convicted, or adjudicated delinquent or convicted as an extended jurisdiction juvenile for committing, in this state or elsewhere, a crime of violence, to wit: adjudicated delinquent of underage possession of a firearm on 10/8/2020

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The Complainant states that the following facts establish probable cause:

On June 5, 2021, officers responded to a shooting in the 6100 block of Edgewood Road, Woodbury, Washington County, Minnesota. Dispatch reported several people screaming at the scene. Initial reports were that a driver of a white SUV fired shots into a dark SUV. The occupants of the dark SUV fired back which resulted in a fatal wound to a 14-year-old male passenger of a secondary car. Upon arrival, officers observed 20-30 people standing inside and outside of a detached garage. Approximately 40 shell casings were located in the front yard of the home just south of where the party was located. The shell casings were 9mm rounds with three different head stamps. Initial scene investigation found bullet holes in several homes and vehicles south of the incident location.

Officers spoke with Witness 1, who stated she was standing in the driveway when she saw a white Chevy Tahoe turn onto Edgewood Avenue from Woodvine Avenue. The Tahoe was moving slowly and honking its horn. Witness 1 stated the Tahoe pulled up next to a dark SUV parked on the west side of Edgewood Road, just south of the residence. Witness 1 saw two males she knew as XAVIER LE'DREW HUDSON, date of birth: 8/12/2003 (HUDSON), and JADEN TOWNSEND, date of birth: 1/3/2002 (TOWNSEND), standing next to the dark SUV. Witness 1 stated she saw the driver of the Tahoe lean over and shoot a gun through the open window of the front passenger door. Witness 1 believed the driver shot 3-4 rounds. Witness 1 stated she next saw gunfire being returned from the dark SUV towards the Tahoe. Witness 1 believed she heard 15-20 shots.

Officers located a white Chevy Tahoe driving north on Century Avenue, close to where the shooting occurred. Officers initiated lights and sirens to stop the Tahoe, but it refused to pull over. The vehicle pursuit ended at Regions Hospital. Four males were inside the car. The driver of the car was identified as Keith Dawson (DAWSON). The Tahoe had visible shell casings inside, with shell casings falling out of the car during arrest procedures. Three of the four males were uninjured. 14-year-old victim D.E. was sitting in the rear middle seat of the car and had received significant injuries. Officers learned that medical staff pronounced D.E. dead at approximately 11:12 p.m.

Officers learned that a 2019 Kia Forte was also involved in the shooting. The Forte was located at a residence in Maplewood. Officers went to the Maplewood address and interviewed Victim 2, and Victim 3, who were in the Forte during the shooting. Victim 2 stated he was with Victim 3, Victim 4, Victim 5, and victim D.E. for most of the day. A friend called Victim 3 and invited the group to a graduation party in Woodbury. The group arrived at the Edgewood address between 10 and 10:30 p.m. and planned to stay for 10-15 minutes. Victim 2 stated he saw HUDSON and TOWNSEND at the party. Victim 2 is familiar with both HUDSON and TOWNSEND. Victim 2 stated HUDSON and TOWNSEND were with a Hispanic male that he did not know. The Hispanic male had a tattoo on his forehead area, as well as a tattoo of a skull on the back of his hand. Victim 2 stated he looked on Facebook and identified the Hispanic male as ENRIQUE LUCIO DAVILA, dob 9/15/1997 (DAVILA).

Victim 2 stated the group wanted to leave the party. As they walked away from the car, TOWNSEND and DAVILA approached. Victim 2 stated DAVILA pulled out a handgun from his waistband, partially covered it with his shirt, and poked the gun into his ribs. DAVILA told Victim 2, "Don't try anything." TOWNSEND then approached Victim 2 and slapped him across the face. Victim 2 stated he did not see TOWNSEND with a gun.

Victim 2 told officers that HUDSON was standing next to TOWNSEND and DAVILA. Victim 2 saw a black

handgun in HUDSON's pocket. The gun had a magazine that extended about one inch further than a normal magazine. Victim 2 stated he did not know the purpose of DAVILA pulling a gun on him other than to harass or start a fight.

Victim 2 stated that D.E. called their stepfather, DAWSON, during the incident. D.E. and the other Victims met DAWSON by the Merit Chevrolet dealership, located close to the location of the party. DAWSON told the group that they needed to go back to the party so HUDSON and TOWNSEND would stop messing with them. Victim 2, D.E., Victim 3, Victim 4, and Victim 5 followed Defendant in the Forte back to the Edgewood Address. DAWSON drove alone in the Tahoe.

When they arrived back at the Edgewood address, Victim 2 stated Defendant drove slowly by a dark Dodge Durango, while they closely followed. HUDSON, TOWNSEND, and DAVILA were standing outside of the Durango. Victim 2 stated DAWSON fired his gun towards the Durango. Victim 2 stated he tried to get out of the area fast, but as he fled, D.E. told him he had been shot. Victim 2 stated gunfire was returned from the area where the Durango was parked. Victim 2 stated "sparks were coming from both sides." Victim 2 drew a picture of the area and where the shots were coming from. The picture is consistent with where approximately 40 shell casings were found by officers. Victim 2 stated he thought he heard two to three guns. As they fled the area, Victim 2 stated they caught up and passed a Dodge Durango on Century Avenue. Victim 2 stated the Durango started chasing them, but they eventually got away. Victim 2 stated he believed TOWNSEND was driving the Durango. Victim 2 saw others in the car was not sure who or how many people were inside. Victim 2 positively identified DAVILA in a photo lineup.

Officers interviewed Victim 3, who stated she saw DAVILA pull a gun on Victim 2. Victim 3 described the gun as black with a green dot laser sight. Victim 3 stated she was in the Forte that followed DAWSON in the white Tahoe. When they arrived back at the party, she saw HUDSON, TOWNSEND, and DAVILA standing by the Durango. TOWNSEND was standing near the front driver's side, HUDSON was standing next to the back passenger side, and DAVILA was near the front passenger side. After DAWSON shot from the Tahoe, Victim 3 ducked and couldn't see who was specifically shooting. Victim 3, stated she saw flashes of gunfire coming from where HUDSON, TOWNSEND, and DAVILA were standing. Victim 3 stated she did not specifically see HUDSON or TOWNSEND with a gun but said they are known to carry guns. Victim 3 said after they transferred D.E. to the Tahoe, and they fled in the Forte on Century Avenue and came across the Dodge Durango. Victim 3 stated TOWNSEND was driving the Durango and DAVILA was in the front passenger seat. Victim 3 positively identified DAVILA in a photo lineup.

Officers interviewed Victim 4, who stated that at the party, he saw HUDSON, TOWNSEND, and DAVILA with guns. HUDSON and TOWNSEND had guns tucked in their pants. Victim 4 told officers he saw DAVILA holding a black handgun with a green laser sight. Victim 4 stated that after DAWSON fired at the Durango, he saw shots coming from the right side of the street. Victim 4 believed more than one gun was being shot. Victim 4 had his head down and could not see who was shooting. Victim 4 positively identified DAVILA in a photo lineup.

Officers again spoke with Witness 1, who stated she was standing by the edge of the driveway at the Edgewood address near the street during the shooting. Witness 1 said she is familiar with HUDSON and TOWNSEND. Witness 1 stated she saw a white Tahoe stop in front of a green Dodge Durango parked on the west side of Edgewood Road, just south of the graduation party. HUDSON and TOWNSEND were at the Durango when a white SUV stopped by the Durango and fired a gun. Witness 1 said she heard three to four shots before the group at the Durango fired back 15-20 shots. Witness 1 stated she did not see who specifically fired back first but knew HUDSON and TOWNSEND were at the Durango.

Officers familiar with HUDSON went to his residence. A green Dodge Durango was parked in the driveway. Officers made contact with people inside the residence who stated HUDSON and TOWNSEND

were not in the home. Officers found a duffel bag inside the garage that contained two 9mm handguns with extended 30 round magazines and a small compact rifle. One of the handguns was a black Glock with a 30 round extended magazine. The magazine contained nine rounds of 9mm ammo with different head stamps. The other gun was a multi-colored black/brown Glock with a green laser sight. The sight was turned on when the officers seized the gun. The magazine contained five rounds of 9mm ammo with different head stamps. Forensic testing on the guns is pending.

Officers conducted a preliminary assessment of the Tahoe, Forte, and Durango. A full vehicle assessment from the BCA is forthcoming. On the Durango, officers observed 2 bullet holes that entered the driver's side front door. A fragment of a bullet was resting on the lower weather stripping of the front driver's door. Another bullet was lodged in the "B" pillar of the driver's side door.

On the Tahoe, officers observed two bullet holes from the exterior of the car and one bullet hole that appeared to have been shot from inside the Tahoe. The front passenger window was also shattered.

On the Forte, officers observed two rounds close together on the passenger side of the back bumper. Another bullet hole was located at the top of the rear window on the passenger side, which likely shattered the rear window. Another bullet hole was located on the rear license plate. This bullet traveled through the trunk and through the back seat cushion where victim D.E. was sitting.

On June 6, 2021, the Ramsey County Medical Examiner conducted an autopsy on victim D.E. The examiner stated that D.E. received a single entrance gunshot wound to the right dorsal torso. A single penetrating wound perforated D.E.'s right lung, heart, and aorta, before exiting the left thoracic cavity. A projectile was recovered from the outer aspect of D.E.'s left upper arm. The medical examiner determined the cause of death to be exsanguination due to gunshot wound, with the manner of death being homicide.

HUDSON, TOWNSEND, and DAVILA are out of custody and their whereabouts are unknown. A warrant is requested due to the nature of the offense and for public safety.

HUDSON was adjudicated delinquent of felony possession of ammunition, pistol, or assault weapon by a person under the age 18 on October 8, 2020, which is a designated crime of violence making him ineligible to possess a firearm.

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

Scott Melander
Sergeant
2100 Radio Drive
Woodbury, MN 55125
Badge: 56

Electronically Signed:
10/04/2021 03:33 PM
Washington County, Minnesota

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Tricia A. Loehr
Assistant Washington County
Attorney
PO Box 6
15015 62nd Street North
Stillwater, MN 55082
(651) 430-6115

Electronically Signed:
10/04/2021 03:31 PM

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: \$1,000,000.00

Conditions of Release: None except bail

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: October 4, 2021.

Judicial Officer

John C Hoffman
Judge of District Court

Electronically Signed: 10/04/2021 04:51 PM

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

**COUNTY OF WASHINGTON
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

Xavier Le'drew Hudson

Defendant

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

Signature of Authorized Service Agent:

DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

Name: Xavier Le'drew Hudson
DOB: 08/12/2003
Address: 1337 Gentry Avenue N
Oakdale, MN 55128

Alias Names/DOB:

SID:

Height:

Weight:

Eye Color:

Hair Color:

Gender: MALE

Race:

Fingerprints Required per Statute: Yes

Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record: No

Driver's License #:

Alcohol Concentration:

STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

Cnt Nbr	Statute Type	Offense Date(s)	Statute Nbrs and Descriptions	Offense Level	MOC	GOC	Controlling Agencies	Case Numbers
1	Charge	6/5/2021	609.19.2(1) Murder - 2nd Degree - Without Intent - While Committing a Felony	Felony	H2815	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.11.5(b) Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm-Felon Convicted Crime of Violence	Felony	H2815	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.05.1 Liability for Crimes of Another-Intentional	No-Level	H2815	N	MN0821100	21015245
2	Charge	6/5/2021	609.222.1 Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon	Felony	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.11.5(b) Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm-Felon Convicted Crime of Violence	Felony	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.05.1 Liability for Crimes of Another-Intentional	No-Level	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
3	Charge	6/5/2021	609.222.1 Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon	Felony	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.11.5(b) Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm-Felon Convicted Crime of Violence	Felony	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.05.1 Liability for Crimes of Another-Intentional	No-Level	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
4	Charge	6/5/2021	609.222.1 Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon	Felony	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.11.5(b) Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm-Felon Convicted Crime of Violence	Felony	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.05.1 Liability for Crimes of Another-Intentional	No-Level	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
5	Charge	6/5/2021	609.222.1 Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon	Felony	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.11.5(b) Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm-Felon Convicted Crime of Violence	Felony	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.05.1 Liability for Crimes of Another-Intentional	No-Level	A2425	N	MN0821100	21015245
6	Charge	6/5/2021	624.713.1(2) Possess Ammo/Any Firearm - Conviction or Adjudicated Delinquent for Crime of Violence	Felony	W1643	N	MN0821100	21015245
	Modifier	6/5/2021	609.11.5(b) Minimum Sentences of Imprisonment-Firearm-Felon Convicted Crime of Violence	Felony	W1643	N	MN0821100	21015245