Electronically Filed - DOUGLAS - February 02, 2024 - 10:19 AM

Douglas County Sheriffs Office

P.O. Box 907, Ava, MO 65608

Probable Cause Statement

Report Date	Type of Incident	Complaint No.	Case Status
1/22/2024 10:08 AM	HARASSMENT - 1ST DEGREE	24-02938	TO PA FOR REVIEW

Warrant App Information **Type of Warrant** **SUSPECT**

Name (Last, First Middle Suffix)	Race	Sex	Age	Juvenile	Moniker
ABORN, JAMES LEE	W	M	72	N	

Applied Date / Time	Officer ID / Name
1/31/2024 1:32	299 Deputy A. Box

Issued By	Authority Of	Issued Date / Time

Primary Address

Address	City	State	Zip Code	Country
RR 7 BOX 7109-6	AVA	MO	65608	USA

Applied Charges

Applied Charges

Charge / Cause Number	Local Code	Jurisdiction	State Statute	State Charge Code / Type/Class	Bond Type	Category	Bond Amount
HARASSMENT - 1ST DEGREE			565090	565090003Y201753 / F E		FELPEC	$0.00

Amended Charges

Amended Charges

Charge / Cause Number	Local Code	Jurisdiction	State Statute	State Charge Code / Type/Class	Bond Type	Category	Bond Amount

PC Statement

I, Deputy Aaron Box, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state that the facts contained herein are true.

1. I have probable cause to believe that on or about January 22, 2024, James Lee Aborn committed one or more of the following offenses(s).

A. Animal Abuse - RSMo-578.012– James Lee Aborn intentionally or purposely killed domesticated dog while not in immediate danger of harm to himself.

B. Harassment 1st Degree – RSMo-565.090- James Lee Aborn, without good cause engaged in an act with the purpose to cause emotional distress to another person. It should be noted that the person did suffer from emotional distress.

C. Harassment 1st Degree – RSMo-565.090- James Lee Aborn, without good cause engaged in an act with the purpose to cause emotional distress to another person. It should be noted that the person did suffer from emotional distress.

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299 Deputy A. Box	

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D. Harassment 1st Degree – RSMo-565.090- James Lee Aborn, without good cause engaged in an act with the purpose to cause emotional distress to another person. It should be noted that the person did suffer from emotional distress.

E. Sexual Misconduct 1st Degree-RSMo-566.093- James Lee Aborn, stated that his genitals were exposed, and directed a female individual to observe him. This act was done under circumstances that a reasonable person would believe to cause alarm to a female victim, and alarm was caused.

F. Unlawful Use of a Firearm Subsection 9-RSMo-571.030-James Lee Aborn, fired a weapon from within his residence through an exterior window.

2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

3. On January 22, 2024 at approximately 1008 hours, [redacted] contacted the Douglas County Sheriff's Office Dispatch to report that she had discovered her dog deceased, under her porch. [redacted] stated that she had let the dog outside of her residence and when she attempted to the bring the animal back in, she discovered blood on her porch and found the dog deceased due to what appeared to be a gunshot wound. [redacted] advised the Douglas County Sheriff's Office Dispatch that she believed her neighbor, James Lee Aborn, had shot her dog.

4. At approximately 1218 hours, Deputy Joseph Dering and I, Deputy Aaron Box arrived at [redacted] residence of RT 7 Box 7105 Ava, Missouri. It should be noted that law enforcement's arrival was delayed due to weather conditions. Upon arrival, I made contact with [redacted] and her boyfriend, [redacted] The couple's neighbor, [redacted] was also present. It should be noted that [redacted] had recently filed a report with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, in reference to her belief that James Lee Aborn had shot and killed multiple cats belonging to her. [redacted] report was filed on January 11th, 2024.

5. [redacted] advised that she was woken on the current day of January 22, 2024 at approximately 0900 to the sound of gunfire from the direction of James Lee Aborn's residence. [redacted] stated that she exited her residence to investigate due to the previous issues between her and Aborn. According to [redacted] she did not observe any animals around the area at this time. However, a short time later she received a text message from [redacted] stating the she had

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discovered her deceased dog. [redacted] advised that she also believed that Aborn had killed the animal due to previous statements that he had made directly to herself. According to [redacted] Aborn has made several remarks to her about killing animals and disposing of the bodies.

6. [redacted] advised that she let her two dogs (Ember and Halo) out of her residence, and that approximately 20-25 minutes later only one dog (Ember) had returned. [redacted] then exited the residence where he discovered the second dog (Halo) underneath the porch. According to [redacted] the animal was already deceased at the time of its discovery. At this time, I documented photographs of the animal who possessed an entry and exit wound on both sides of its body, which did appear to be consistent with a gunshot wound.

7. It should be noted that a blood trail was followed from the location of the deceased animal in a southern linear direction where it then became too faint to continue following. However, the blood trail did appear to lead in a direction of travel towards Aborn's property, which is visible from the Lansdown property.

8. At this time, Deputy Joseph Dering and myself traveled to the Aborn property where contact was made with James Lee Aborn, and his wife [redacted] I explained to the couple that their neighbor's dog had been discovered deceased from an apparent gunshot wound. Both individuals denied involvement in the dog's death. However, James Lee Aborn did advise that he had fired a weapon and witnessed the dog traveling through his property at the same time, early in the morning. James then directed me to a bedroom in the residence where he opened a window and explained that he shoots his firearms at a tree stump from the interior of his residence.

9. According to Aborn, as he was reloading his firearm after shooting, he then observed the dog travel nearby the stump. It should be noted that James did advise that the dog appeared to be injured and that it was traveling in the direction that the blood trail was discovered.

10. Aborn did state that he has witnessed the animal on his and other neighbor's property on multiple occasions, but that the animal had never acted in an aggressive manor towards him or others. Aborn also expressed his concern about his neighbor, [redacted] cats on his property. Aborn advise that, "I try to keep them scared off." [redacted]

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11. I then exited the Aborn residence and investigated the area near the stump that Aborn acknowledged shooting earlier in the morning hours. After walking from the stump back to the [redacted] residence no further blood or evidence was located.

12. Once I returned to the [redacted] residence, a third individual had arrived and also provided a statement. The individual, [redacted] also provided a statement that she has heard James Lee Aborn firing his weapons on multiple occasions. All individuals who provided statements advised that they are fearful that James Lee Aborn is becoming increasingly negligent with his firearms, and that they are beginning to fear for their children's safety.

13. It should be noted that on January 11th, 2024 the Douglas County Sheriff's Office responded to a call for service regarding a similar incident. Below is a narrative completed by Deputy Jesse Three-Eagles:

On January 11, 2024, the Douglas County Sheriff's Office was dispatched to a call at RR 7 Box 7104 for animal abuse at approximately 1631 hours. Deputy Shawn Wilson and Deputy Sam Evans arrived on scene at approximately 2240 hours and spoke to the reporting party [redacted] [redacted] had stated she has called Douglas County Sheriff's Office once before for the same incident, and was told that next time she called that she could fill out a statement and Douglas County Sheriff's Office would send it to the prosecutor.

A complaint statement form was given to [redacted] who stated "Lee Aborn told [redacted] and her husband (name unknown), "he shoots squirrels to lure the cats to go over from [redacted] home and Lee shoots them. He is drunk when he is doing this." [redacted] also writes in the statement "he was calling the cats tonight, the 11th of January 2024"

[redacted] stated that she has cats that she takes care of and that she has observed Lee Aborn calling her cats over onto his property and then he will shoot them. [redacted] further stated that Lee has lured a puppy dog over to his property and was shooting at the puppy from his front porch. [redacted] stated that she heard guns shots this evening, January 11th, 2024, prior to Deputies arriving on scene.

No evidence of any disposed cats were located.

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A complaint statement was given and received and will be sent to the prosecutor.

Nothing further at this time,
Deputy. J. Three-Eagles #295

14. On January 23, 2024 at approximately 2024 hours, [redacted] once again contacted the Douglas County Sheriff's Office Dispatch advising that her neighbor James Lee Aborn was firing a weapon and walking around his property. Lieutenant Taylor Wallace and Deputy Jesse-Eagles responded to the area to investigate. Upon arrival the made contact with [redacted] who advised that her husband was inside the residence. No further action was taken at this time.

15. On January 25th, 2024 [redacted] emailed a video of an incident that she documented of Lee Aborn. The video was taken after dark which resulted in poor visibility. However, after reviewing the documentation you can hear a voice which resembles Aborn stating, " here kitty kitty kitty" the voice makes this statements on five separate occasions throughout the video. It should be noted that during my previous interaction with James Lee Aborn he advised that he does not currently own any outside animals. According to [redacted] she believes that Aborn was attempting to lure her cats onto his property to kill them.

16. On January 29th, 2024 [redacted] again contacted the Douglas County Sheriff's Office Dispatch to report another incident with her neighbor, James Lee Aborn. According to [redacted] Aborn yelled at her form his property and called her a "bitch" and made remarks about her "private parts." [redacted] also stated that Aborn advised that he was urinating, and that he directed her to film him and watch him while he urinated.

17. It should be noted that [redacted] advised that her husband has made recent contact with Aborn and asked him why he has killed their cats. According to [redacted] Aborn made the following statement, "because I don't like them."

18. I requested [redacted] to forward the most recent documentation, so that it can be added into

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the initial report. It should be noted that when [redacted] eported the incident on January 29th, 2023 she advised that Aborn was calling her by name when making the statements.

19. On January 30th, 2023 I obtained two additional videos from [redacted] The videos were documented on January 29th, 2023 at approximately 2300 hours. Once again, the videos were documented after dark, which caused poor visibility. However, during the first 6 minute 52 second video James Lee Aborn can be heard making the following statements (portions of the video are un-intelligible, but the following statements are detailed as I understood them): "here kitty kitty kitty, come to papa," "I gotta piss, you wanna watch this too," "you probably like this big ole dick don't ya." For the majority of the video James Lee Aborn can be heard laughing and yelling making statements about being recorded.

20. During the second 4 minute and 57 second video, Aborn made the following statements (portions of the video are un-intelligible, but the following statements are detailed as I understood them): "here kitty kitty kitty kitty," "poor little kitty," "idiots from California." Like the first video Aborn can be heard laughing throughout. It should be noted that throughout the videos supplied by [redacted] she does not appear to provoke Aborn, or make any statements towards him.

21. Due to the increasing number of complaints filed against Aborn by is neighbors, I believe the situation is becoming increasingly hostile. It is also my belief that a reasonable person would interpret James Lee Aborn as the primary aggressor by the information provided in this affidavit.

22. I strongly suspect that if no enforcement action is taken, James Lee Aborn is capable of causing injury, or death to the individuals residing near his residence.

23. I also believe that James Lee Aborn's past criminal arrest for like offenses should be considered in this affidavit. James Lee Aborn's past criminal arrest are listed as follows:

24. On December 19th, 2013 James Lee Aborn was arrested for Harassment.

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25. On July 17th, 2017 James Lee Aborn was arrested for Murder 2nd Degree.

26. On July 17th, 2017 James Lee Aborn was arrested for Armed Criminal Action.

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