

State of Minnesota  
County of Rice

District Court  
3rd Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0660041546  
Court File No. 66-CR-17-2958

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**State of Minnesota,**  
Plaintiff,

**COMPLAINT**  
Order of Detention

vs.

**STEPHEN WAYNE CLENDENIN DOB: 07/15/1984**

312 5th Ave NW  
Faribault, MN 55021

Defendant.

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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: Arson-1st Degree-Dwelling**

Minnesota Statute: 609.561.1

Maximum Sentence: 20 years or \$20,000 fine, or both

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 11/27/2017

Control #(ICR#): 17007175

Charge Description: On or about November 27, 2017, in the County of Rice, Minnesota, Stephen Wayne Clendenin did by means of fire or explosives, intentionally destroy or damage a building used as a dwelling or appurtenant to or connected with a dwelling,

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The Complainant states that the following facts establish probable cause:

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Complainant and/or Signing Officer designated below, declares under penalty of perjury, that he/she has reviewed police reports relating to the above-named Defendant and the allegations contained herein, and/or has spoken with peace officers having knowledge of the incident, and based upon that information, believes the following to be true and correct.

On November 27, 2017, at 3:20 a.m. Faribault Police Officers responded to a fire call at 415 Western Avenue # 170 in the City of Faribault. There was a trailer on fire, the Faribault Fire Department was also on scene and put the fire out. Firefighters pointed out a gold-colored Zippo lighter on the steps and it was taken into evidence. The State Fire Marshal was contacted to investigate the fire.

After talking to several parties connected to the trailer, officers made contact with Stephen Wayne Clendenin, (DOB 7-15-1984). Clendenin had made threats against the owner of the trailer, and officers were told that Clendenin was the new boyfriend of the owner's wife. The owner, D.B. and his wife, D.A. were currently separated. Clendenin was reported to own a gold Zippo lighter.

Officers obtained surveillance video and screenshots from the Holiday Station at approximately 2:00 a.m. on November 27th. Clendenin was seen on the video walking to and from the Holiday store. Clendenin paid for \$1.17 in gas with cash and was seen on the video walking away from the Holiday carrying a small white container which was consistent with a half gallon milk container. A Kemps milk container had also been found at the trailer.

Based on this information officers interviewed Clendenin. After Miranda, Clendenin stated that he was dating D.A. now. Clendenin denied lighting the fire but when confronted with the video from Holiday admitted it was him and said he was really drunk, that he probably should have used a gas can and he did not know why he used a milk container. He said he used a gold Zippo lighter with his Grandfather's initials on it to light the fire. Clendenin said he opened the container with the gas, dumped on the steps and lit the fuel with the Zippo.

D.B. stated that he lived there but had been staying with relatives in Morristown at the time of the fire. **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:** Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 609.49., intentional failure to appear for duly scheduled court appearances may result in additional criminal charges, and in addition to any arrest warrant that may otherwise be issued by the Court.

## 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**

Neal Pederson  
Captain  
25 NW 4th Street  
Faribault, MN 55021  
Badge: 3202

Electronically Signed:  
12/01/2017 09:34 AM  
Rice County, Minnesota

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

**Prosecuting Attorney**

John Fossum  
Rice County Attorney  
218 NW 3rd Street  
Faribault, MN 55021  
(507) 332-6103

Electronically Signed:  
12/01/2017 09:29 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 on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM before the above-named court at 218 NW 3rd Street, Faribault, MN 55021 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: December 1, 2017.

**Judicial Officer**

John T Cajacob

Electronically Signed: 12/01/2017 11:05 AM

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

**COUNTY OF RICE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**State of Minnesota**

Plaintiff

vs.

**Stephen Wayne Clendenin**

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:

## DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

**Name:** Stephen Wayne Clendenin  
**DOB:** 07/15/1984  
**Address:** 312 5th Ave NW  
Faribault, MN 55021

**Alias Names/DOB:**  
**SID:**  
**Height:**  
**Weight:** 185lbs.  
**Eye Color:**  
**Hair Color:**  
**Gender:**  
**Race:**  
**Fingerprints Required per Statute:** Yes  
**Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record:** No  
**Handgun Permit:** No  
**Driver's License #:** V252204032109 (MN)  
**Alcohol Concentration:**

## STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

<b>Cnt Nbr</b>	<b>Statute Type</b>	<b>Offense Date(s)</b>	<b>Statute Nbrs and Descriptions</b>	<b>Offense Level</b>	<b>MOC</b>	<b>GOC</b>	<b>Controlling Agencies</b>	<b>Case Numbers</b>
1	Charge	11/27/2017	609.561.1 Arson-1st Degree-Dwelling	Felony	F111A		MN0660100	17007175