

State of Minnesota
County of Rice

District Court
3rd Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0660040609
Court File No. 66-CR-17-1756

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

COMPLAINT
Summons

vs.

TAARIQ MUHAMMAD VANEGAS DOB: 11/30/1997

2302 W. Boston Street, Apt. 3A
Seattle, WA 98199

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: Criminal Sex Conduct-3rd Degree-Victim Mental Impair/Helpless

Minnesota Statute: 609.344.1(d)

Maximum Sentence: 15 Years and/or \$30,000 fine

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 04/28/2017

Control #(ICR#): 17000586

Charge Description: On or about April 28, 2017, in the County of Rice, Minnesota, Taariq Muhammad Vanegas did engage in sexual penetration with another person, knowing or having reason to know that the victim was mentally impaired, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The Complainant states that the following facts establish probable cause:

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 May 3, 2017 at approximately 11 a.m., Northfield Police Investigator Brian Kramer learned of a sexual assault report that had been made. Investigator Kramer made arrangements to meet with the alleged victim, A.P., a student at Carleton College at 2:30 p.m. the following day. Investigator Kramer was informed that Carleton College had served a College No-Contact Order on the suspect, Taariq Muhammad Vanegas, dob 11/30/1997, herein the defendant.

Investigator Kramer met with A.P., L.H. and a Hope Center advocate at Carleton College. A.P. stated that two Tuesdays prior, she received an email from the pseudo name of "Rich Otter." The email was an invitation to an event on April 28, 2017. The email read:

"From: Rich Otter

Date: Sun. Apr 23, 2017 at 9:40 p.m.

Subject: A Sincere Invitation to The Night That Never Happened

To:

If you are not alone, please close this email immediately.

To Whom it May Concer:

You have been selected from among Carleton's finest to take part in a tradition of excellence. You would be forever in regret not to take advantage of this esteemed opportunity.

Your presence is requested in the pagoda at the Japanese Garden behind Watson, at 2:00 a.m. this Thursday Night/Friday Morning, April 27th/28th, 2017 AD.

The answers to your questions, and all of the eternal glory that this campus has to offer, await you there.

Do not tell your roommate; do not tell your significant other; do not speak of this to ANYONE.

You are strongly advised not to drink alcohol prior to this event.

Be neither early nor late, dress in black, dress warmly and dress for the outdoors.

Do Not Live In Fear,

Your future brethren and sistren"

A.P. though that the event sounded fun and decided to go. During the days after the email, A.P. received anonymous notes in her mailbox, reading "Do not live in fear," and she also had two seniors come up to her in person and tell her, "Do not live in fear" and then walk away. A.P. identified who the two seniors were.

On April 28, 2017 at 2:00 a.m., A.P. arrived at the Japanese Pagoda, located in Northfield in Rice County. There were approximately 12 other students present, along with a box of alcohol and a note that said something about how they were about to be going on an adventure and to drink the box of alcohol.

A.P. felt comfortable with the event as she knew a lot of people involved and knew a lot of Carleton traditions included alcohol. A masked student arrived and told the crowd that there would be a "shit ton" of alcohol during the night and if anyone did not want to be involved, then they needed to leave in five seconds. A.P. stated that no one left.

Over the next few hours, A.P. and the other students were provided with and encouraged to drink various alcoholic beverages, including jello shots, beer, hard alcohol, and bags of wine; going to several locations and performing various tasks before being initiated into a group called "DTX."

A.P. stated that she remembered most of the night leading up to a final bonfire, and then she blacked out. A.P. next remembered falling down and getting a bruise on her leg. A.P. then recalled that the Defendant picked her up and told her it would be okay and to walk straight. A.P. blacked out again. The next thing A.P. could remember was being in a bed with the Defendant's body over her and he was telling her she was "so cute." A.P. remember the Defendant being naked.

A.P. stated that she blacked out again and then vaguely remembered being in a room with two students that she didn't know and being very drunk. A.P. recalled Carleton Security telling the students to give her some pants. A.P. wasn't able to remember the students faces because she was too drunk.

After blacking out again, A.P. remembered being on a stretcher and a doctor talking to her. A.P. recalled an IV being put in, but could only describe these events as flashes of memory. A.P. stated that she woke up again at approximately 10:30 to 10:45 a.m., now in her bed on campus and still drunk. A.P. stated that she got up and dressed. A.P. went outside and met two of her friends who asked her if she was okay because they heard from A.P.'s roommate that she had been in the hospital. The comment about the hospital made sense to A.P. as she believed that she had talked to a doctor but did not remember a hospital.

A.P. stated that at approximately 11:46 a.m. on April 28, 2017, she received a text message from the Defendant, stating that he had her OneCard (Carleton Student ID) and other belongings. A.P. replied to the text message to arrange a time to pick it up and told her his room number: Davis Hall, Room 112, which is in Northfield and located in Rice County. The Defendant responded, asking when she would be coming over, and told A.P. that her "stuff" was on a chair in Davis 111.

At approximately 7:37 p.m., A.P. asked the Defendant if they had sex because she didn't remember anything. The Defendant responded via text that "And I mean I definitely remember we had sex." A.P. asked the Defendant if he used a condom and the Defendant said he did. The Defendant asked A.P. if she remembered throwing up on his floor, which A.P. did not remember. A.P. went to retrieve her things and started to "freak out" because she had no memory of having sex with the Defendant.

A.P. then went to Carleton Security and asked about her hospitalization earlier in the day. Security informed A.P. that there had been a call from two male students who told them that A.P. (who was unknown to the male students) had wandered into their room wearing only a t-shirt, laid down on a bed and went to sleep. A.P. viewed a security video of her going into Davis Hall with the Defendant at approximately 5 a.m. At approximately 5:55 a.m., the video showed the Defendant leaving Davis Hall in workout clothes and, a few minutes later, A.P. could be seen stumbling and wandering around in a white t-shirt. A.P. did not remember this. A.P. described herself as being "too intoxicated" throughout most of the day with spotty memory of other actions she engaged in.

At approximately 11:30 p.m. on April 28, 2017, A.P. spoke with a Hope Center advocate who suggested that she go to the Northfield Emergency Department (ED), where she was given a Sexual Assault examination (SANE). After returning to her dorm, A.P. stated that she basically slept all day Saturday. A few days later, the Defendant sent A.P. another text, apparently unaware of the school's no contact order.

Investigator Kramer collected the surveillance video, the SANE kit, medical records, clothing from A.P. and digital files from A.P.'s phone.

A.P.'s first trip to the ED on April 28, 2017 for treatment for alcohol poisoning provided results from a blood draw, showing that at approximately 7:30 a.m., A.P.'s blood alcohol was still at a .24. Investigator Kramer viewed the surveillance video, which showed A.P. stumbling, struggling to walk, and what appeared to be the Defendant holding A.P. up to keep her from falling over.

Over the next two weeks, Investigator Kramer continuously attempted to contact the Defendant to request an interview. Once Investigator Kramer reached the Defendant, the Defendant told Investigator Kramer to speak with his attorney, Jonathan Reppe. On May 19, 2017, the Defendant and Mr. Reppe came into the police department for an interview.

The Defendant described the earlier events of April 28, 2017 similarly to A.P. The Defendant stated that he did not know A.P. before that date and had to get her phone number from a mutual acquaintance afterward to contact A.P. about getting her belongings. The Defendant described his alcohol consumption as "managed" because he had to be at the gym at 6:00 a.m. The Defendant stated that he considered himself to be under control the entire evening/early morning and remained responsible to make it to the gym.

The Defendant characterized A.P. as the one to initiate the romantic/sexual encounter and shared a high level of detail regarding how he met A.P. later during the event, at which time he described A.P. as "stumbling." When asked what the Defendant thought of A.P.'s condition, he responded that they were both drunk but that A.P. seemed to be able to keep herself upright.

The Defendant went into various details about his actions and those of A.P. during their sexual encounter, including how their clothing was removed and sexual positions that they engaged in and locations within his dorm room. The Defendant said that he considered A.P. receptive to the kissing and that A.P. agreed to have sex with him. The Defendant also stated that the night could be considered a drunken encounter between two intoxicated people. The Defendant left A.P. at approximately 5:55 a.m. to make it to his workout on time at 6:00 a.m. Both the Defendant and Mr. Reppe stated that they were not contesting the fact that the Defendant had sexual intercourse with A.P., and the Defendant provided a DNA sample before leaving the Northfield Police Department.

On May 26, 2017, Investigator Kramer met with the two male students whose room A.P. had stumbled into on April 28, 2017. S. P.-W. stated that shares Davis 115 with M.T. S.P.-W. stated that he woke up to A.P.

crouching next to his bed, which startled him. S.P.-W. stated that A.P. asked to lie down repeatedly and laid down on M.T.'s bed as M.T. was in the bathroom at the time. S.P.-W. stated that A.P. seemed disoriented, had slurred speech, she was wobbly, and smelled of alcohol, in addition to being apparently naked from the waist down and wearing only a baggy, light-colored t-shirt.

M.T. stated that, as he was in the bathroom, he heard a strange female voice say, "Oh sorry." After finishing in the bathroom, M.T. returned and asked S.P.-W. what the noises were all about. At that time, S.P.-W. gestured toward M.T.'s bed at which time he saw blonde hair coming from under the covers on his bed. M.T. asked A.P. what she was doing, and A.P. seemed disoriented, said she was sorry and went back to sleep. M.T. told A.P. that she couldn't sleep in his bed and that they needed to get her where she needed to be.

M.T. stated that A.P. was standing by his bed, wobbling on her feet, wanting to go back to sleep, and unable to focus on her speech or vision. M.T. stated that A.P.'s face was red and her speech was slurred. M.T. also described that A.P. was unable to tell them where she lived and gave them several different locations, all of which turned out to be wrong. While they were waiting for campus security, A.P. attempted to get into a different dorm room. M.T.'s impression of A.P. was that she was clearly disoriented, intoxicated, had poor judgment, and displayed abnormal behavior.

Investigator Kramer spoke to the two male students from the dorm room that A.P. had wandered into at approximately 6:00 a.m. on April 28, 2017.

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

Paul Haider
Sergeant
1615 Riverview Drive
Northfield, MN 55057
Badge: 6406

Electronically Signed:
07/17/2017 12:17 PM
Rice County, MN

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

Prosecuting Attorney

Kristine H Word
Assistant County Attorney
218 NW 3rd Street
Faribault, MN 55021
(507) 332-6103

Electronically Signed:
07/17/2017 10:16 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 **August 17, 2017 at 10:00 AM** 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: July 17, 2017.

Judicial Officer Thomas M Neuville
Judge of District Court

Electronically Signed: 07/17/2017 01:40 PM

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

**COUNTY OF RICE
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

Taariq Muhammad Vanegas

Defendant

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

Signature of Authorized Service Agent:

DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

Name: Taariq Muhammad Vanegas
DOB: 11/30/1997
Address: 2302 W. Boston Street, Apt. 3A
Seattle, WA 98199

Alias Names/DOB:
SID:
Height:
Weight: 250lbs.
Eye Color:
Hair Color:
Gender:
Race:
Fingerprints Required per Statute: Yes
Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record: No
Handgun Permit: No
Driver's License #: VANEGTM030QT (WA)
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	4/28/2017	609.344.1(d) Criminal Sex Conduct-3rd Degree-Victim Mental Impair/Helpless	Felony	L5177		MN0660200	17000586