

IN THE CIRCUIT/DISTRICT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND  
APPLICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT

I, Sergeant D. Shapiro #2750, of the Prince George's County Police Department, the Affiant, being duly sworn, request the issuance of a Search and Seizure Warrant and state as follows:

1. APPLICATION AND VIOLATIONS OF LAW

The Affiant hereby makes application to \_\_\_\_\_, a Judge of the Circuit/District Court for Prince George's County, Maryland, for a Search and Seizure Warrant on the grounds that there is probable cause, the basis of which is set forth in the following affidavit which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, to believe that there is property subject to seizure under the laws of this State and more particularly in violation of Criminal Law Article 2-201 First Degree Murder and 2-204 Second Degree Murder of the ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PLACE, PERSON, OR MOTOR VEHICLE TO BE SEARCHED:

This Application and Affidavit are made to obtain authority to search the described below:

1. Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male, with a date of birth of [REDACTED]
2. You shall locate, identify, seize, and search the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male with a date of birth of [REDACTED] transport Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas to any Prince George's County Police facility or designated area.

3. AFFIANT'S TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Your affiant, Sergeant D. Shapiro #2750, has been a law enforcement officer with the Prince George's County Police Department for over seventeen years. Your affiant has been assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division since May, 2007. Your affiant is familiar with the laws of the State of Maryland, and has been trained in the investigation of violations of those laws. Your affiant's law enforcement training and experience includes the preparation, presentation, and service of criminal complaints, arrests, and search warrants.

Your affiant, who is currently assigned to the Prince George's County Police Department's Homicide Unit, has investigated numerous violations of the laws of the State of Maryland, including robberies, sexual assaults, carjackings, and homicides. As a result of such investigations, your affiant has made numerous arrests for violations of the laws of the State of Maryland, has testified before the courts of this State leading to convictions for violations of the laws of this State.

4. PROBABLE CAUSE:

The facts and information contained in this affidavit are based on personal knowledge and knowledge obtained through the investigation and observations of other law enforcement personnel involved in this investigation. All information referenced below that was not personally obtained by your affiant was related to me by the persons who obtained it or contained in official reports. Your affiant has not included each and every fact known concerning this investigation. Your affiant has set forth the facts that she believes are essential to establish the necessary foundation for the issuance of a Search and Seizure Warrant.

On May 30, 2017, at approximately 1440 hours, Prince George's County Police Communications received a call for a check on the welfare at [REDACTED] Hyattsville, Prince George's County, Maryland 20784. Officers responded to the scene and located a male lying face down

on the living room area floor suffering from trauma to the body. P/O Ferguson #4076 pronounced [REDACTED] dead at 1505 hours.

Homicide Investigators, CSID, and Forensic Investigator Sevilla were notified and responded to the scene to assume investigative responsibility. TRW Transport responded and transported the Decedent to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Baltimore for purposes of an autopsy. On May 31, 2017, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner performed an autopsy and ruled the manner of death homicide and the cause multiple sharp force injuries.

The crime scene was processed for evidence by the Prince George's County Police Department Forensic Services Division, Evidence Unit. While processing the scene, Evidence Technicians recovered clothing items, Suspected blood evidence, latent fingerprints, and Suspected DNA swabs in this murder investigation.

Investigators conducted a neighborhood canvass. During the canvass, a neighbor stated to police that on May 29, 2017, at approximately 2230 hours, they heard loud noises coming from within [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Hyattsville, Maryland 20784. The witness then observed a male coming from the second floor of the apartment building, exit the building, and the male did not return.

During this investigation, Detectives reviewed the Decedent's cellular telephone records, social media, and various communication applications. During the review of the Decedent's records, the Decedent was found to be in contact with "Brandon Biagas" via Craigslist email relay system. The Decedent and the user "Brandon Biagas" had multiple conversations during May 2017. During the conversations, the Decedent agreed to allow the user to come to the Decedent's residence to smoke and engage in sexual activities.

A search of law enforcement databases revealed that on May 30, 2017, at approximately 0033 hours, Charles County Sheriff Deputies responded to Charles Regional Medical Center, located at 5 Garrett Avenue, Laplata, Maryland, for the report of a cutting. Upon arrival, PF Bledsoe #532 met with the Suspect (Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, B/M, dob: [REDACTED], who was suffering from a severe laceration to his left hand. The Suspect's statement of being assaulted while giving an unknown male some weed had numerous inconsistencies. Officers were unable to locate a crime scene where the Suspect stated the assault occurred. On May 31, 2017, Charles County Sheriff Deputy Bledsoe #532 responded to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Waldorf, Maryland, to meet with the Suspect about the cutting investigation. The Suspect declined to answer any questions or speak with Deputy Bledsoe.

On May 30, 2017, a search warrant was executed on the 2006 Ford F-150 bearing Washington DC Registration [REDACTED] by Charles County Sheriff Department Deputies that the Suspect identified as the vehicle he was driving on May 29, 2017. Several items of evidence were recovered and collected to include a large knife and sheath. Also, a wallet in the storage pocket on the driver's side door containing a Maryland Driver's License belonging to the Suspect Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas was located and photographed during the execution of the search warrant. The large knife and sheath were subsequently submitted to the Prince George's County DNA Laboratory for analysis in this murder investigation.

On May 28, 2020, the Prince George's County DNA Laboratory reported that a DNA profile from two contributors, consistent with the Decedent and Unknown Male #1, was obtained from wet/dry swabs from the knife blade. The Unknown Male #1 DNA profile found on the knife blade recovered from the vehicle the Suspect was operating on May 28, 2017 is consistent with the Unknown Male #1 DNA profile recovered at the crime scene of the homicide on May 29, 2017, at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Hyattsville, Prince George's County, Maryland 20784.

5. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PLACE TO BE SEARCHED AND ITEMS TO BE SEIZED.

Your Affiant knows through their training, knowledge and experience that it is possible for latent DNA or finger, palm, or hand print impressions to be present on an object or surfaces, once that item has been touched, possessed, and/or used by an individual. Your Affiant further knows through their training, knowledge, and experience that such items processed for DNA evidence can yield multiple DNA profiles belonging to different individuals. Your Affiant knows through their training, knowledge, and experience that in order to ensure complete and comprehensive results of DNA analysis, it is essential to have a known DNA profile of an individual known or Suspected of having contact with an item or items to compare samples of evidence to.

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEMS TO BE SEIZED:

- 2 buccal DNA sample swabs from the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED]
- One set of major case finger, palm, and hand print impressions from the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED]
- To seize the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED] using any necessary and reasonable force as required, and to transport him to an appropriate police department facility for the safe execution of this warrant.

For all of the foregoing reasons, your Affiant requests to search the person Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED]

I SOLEMNLY SWEAR OR AFFIRM UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS APPLICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Affiant's Signature

Sgt. D. Shapiro #2750  
Affiant's Printed Name and ID#

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRIMINAL PROCEDURE §1-203, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND ON THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE'S PRINTED NAME

**IN THE CIRCUIT/DISTRICT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND  
SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT**

TO: Sergeant D. Shapiro #2750, Prince George's County Police Department or any other duly appointed member of the Prince George's County Police Department

Upon reviewing the Application and the accompanying Affidavit of Sergeant D. Shapiro #2750, Prince George's County Police Department, which are incorporated into this Warrant, I find sufficient probable cause to issue this Search and Seizure Warrant. You are therefore commanded with the necessary and proper assistants to search forthwith the following person to seize the following specified items:

1. You shall conduct a search of the person identified as:
  1. Brandon Luke Biagas, a black male, with a date of birth of 03/09/1998
  2. You shall locate, identify, seize, and search the person of Brandon Luke Biagas, a black male with a date of birth of 03/09/1998, transport Brandon Luke Biagas to any Prince George's County Police facility or designated area.
3. You shall seize the following items, evidence, and/or contraband:
  - 2 buccal DNA sample swabs from the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED]
  - One set of major case finger, palm, and hand print impressions from the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED]
  - To seize the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED] using any necessary and reasonable force as required, and to transport him to an appropriate police department facility for the safe execution of this warrant.
4. Upon execution of this Warrant, you shall leave an inventory of the items seized, together with a copy of this Warrant, Application, and supporting Affidavit (unless previously sealed by court order) with the person from whom the items are seized, or with the person in charge of the premises, or if neither of those persons is present, then in a conspicuous place on the premises.
5. You shall return this Warrant to me or, if I am not available, to any judge of this Court within 10 days of the date of its execution, along with verified inventory of the items seized.
6. If this Warrant is not executed within 15 days of its issuance, it expires and shall become null and void. This Warrant may be executed at any time of the day or night.

July 21, 2020  
DATE

  
JUDGE'S SIGNATURE

3:36 pm  
TIME

Cheri N. Simpkins  
JUDGE'S PRINTED NAME

on the living room area floor suffering from trauma to the body. P/O Ferguson #4076 pronounced [REDACTED] dead at 1505 hours.

Homicide Investigators, CSID, and Forensic Investigator Sevilla were notified and responded to the scene to assume investigative responsibility. TRW Transport responded and transported the Decedent to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Baltimore for purposes of an autopsy. On May 31, 2017, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner performed an autopsy and ruled the manner of death homicide and the cause of death multiple sharp force injuries.

The crime scene was processed for evidence by the Prince George's County Police Department Forensic Services Division, Evidence Unit. While processing the scene, Evidence Technicians recovered clothing items, suspected blood evidence, latent fingerprints, and suspected DNA swabs. No apparent weapon was recovered at the crime scene. The FBI laboratory examined footwear impressions left by the Suspect from the crime scene and determined that the footwear impressions were from Asics footwear.

Investigators conducted a neighborhood canvass. During the canvass, a neighbor stated to police that on May 29, 2017, at approximately 2230 hours, they heard loud noises coming from within [REDACTED] Hyattsville, Maryland 20784. The witness then observed a male coming from the second floor of the apartment building, exit the building, and the male did not return.

During this investigation, Detectives reviewed the Decedent's cellular telephone records, social media, and various communication applications. During the review of the Decedent's records, the Decedent was found to be in contact with "Brandon Biagas" via the Craigslist email relay system. The Decedent and the user "Brandon Biagas" had multiple conversations during May 2017 about engaging in sexual activity and smoking marijuana. During the conversations on May 29, 2017, the Decedent agreed to allow the user to come to the Decedent's residence to smoke. Investigators have determined that the Decedent was murdered during the evening hours of May 29, 2017.

A search of law enforcement databases revealed that on May 30, 2017, at approximately 0033 hours, Charles County Sheriff's Deputies responded to Charles Regional Medical Center, located at 5 Garrett Avenue, La Plata, Maryland, for the report of a cutting. Upon arrival, PFC Bledsoe #532 met with the Suspect (Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, B/M, dob: [REDACTED], who was suffering from a severe laceration to his left hand. The Suspect's statement of being assaulted while giving an unknown male some weed had numerous inconsistencies. Officers were unable to locate a crime scene where the Suspect stated the assault occurred. On May 31, 2017, PFC Bledsoe #532 responded to [REDACTED] Waldorf, Maryland, to meet with the Suspect about the cutting investigation. The Suspect declined to answer any questions.

On May 30, 2017, Charles County Circuit Court Judge Greer signed a search warrant authorizing the search of a 2006 Ford F-150 bearing Washington DC Registration [REDACTED]. Charles County Sheriff's Office Deputies had previously identified the 2006 Ford as the vehicle the Suspect was operating on May 29, 2017. Upon execution of the search warrant, several items of evidence were recovered and collected to include a large knife and sheath. In addition, a wallet was located in the storage pocket of the driver's side door containing a Maryland Driver's License belonging to the Suspect, Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas. The large knife and sheath were subsequently submitted to the Prince George's County DNA Laboratory for analysis in this murder investigation.

On May 28, 2020, the Prince George's County DNA Laboratory reported that a DNA profile from two contributors, consistent with the Decedent and Unknown Male #1, was obtained from wet/dry swabs from the knife blade. The Unknown Male #1 DNA profile found on the knife blade recovered from the vehicle the Suspect was operating on May 29, 2017 is consistent with the Unknown Male #1 DNA profile

recovered at the crime scene of the homicide on May 30, 2017, at [REDACTED] Hyattsville, Prince George's County, Maryland 20784.

On July 2, 2020, the Prince George's County Forensic Latent Print Unit examined a bloody fingerprint left at the crime scene on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 5451 Newton Street, Apartment 8, Hyattsville, Prince George's County, Maryland 20784. The bloody fingerprint was manually compared to fingerprints contained on a FBI fingerprint card of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas. As a result, it was definitively determined that the right thumb impression of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas left the bloody fingerprint at the scene of the murder.

5. JUSTIFICATION FOR THE PLACE TO BE SEARCHED AND ITEMS TO BE SEIZED.

Your Affiant knows through their training, knowledge and experience that it is possible for latent DNA or finger, palm, or hand print impressions to be present on an object or surfaces, once that item has been touched, possessed, and/or used by an individual. Your Affiant further knows through their training, knowledge, and experience that such items processed for DNA evidence can yield multiple DNA profiles belonging to different individuals. Your Affiant knows through their training, knowledge, and experience that in order to ensure complete and comprehensive results of DNA analysis, it is essential to have a known DNA profile of an individual known or Suspected of having contact with an item or items to compare samples of evidence to.

6. DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEMS TO BE SEIZED:

- Buccal DNA sample swabs from the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED]
- One set of major case finger, palm, and hand print impressions from the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED]
- To seize the person of Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED] using any necessary and reasonable force as required, and to transport him to an appropriate police department facility for the safe execution of this warrant.

For all of the foregoing reasons, your Affiant requests to search the person Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, a black male having a date of birth of [REDACTED]

I SOLEMNLY SWEAR OR AFFIRM UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS APPLICATION AND AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Affiant's Signature

Sgt. D. Shapiro #2750

Affiant's Printed Name and ID#

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN IN ACCORDANCE WITH CRIMINAL PROCEDURE §1-203, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND ON THIS 21st DAY OF July, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE

Cheri N. Simpkins

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE'S PRINTED NAME

IN THE CIRCUIT/DISTRICT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

SEARCH AND SEIZURE WARRANT RETURN

On 07/23/2020 at 2100 hours, I searched the person, Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas, described in the Warrant and I left a copy of the Warrant with Brandon [REDACTED] Biagas along with a copy of the inventory, Application and Affidavit (if not previously sealed by Court order).

The following is an inventory of property taken pursuant to the Warrant:

- Buccal DNA sample swabs
- Major case finger, palm, and hand print impressions

The inventory was made in the presence of Cpl. James Janifer #3553.

I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that this inventory is a true and detailed account of all the property taken by me pursuant to the Warrant.

Sgt. Denise Shapiro #2750

Sgt. Denise Shapiro #2750

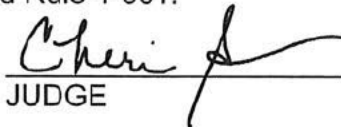
Subscribed and sworn to and returned before me on this 13th day of  
November, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE'S SIGNATURE

Cheri Simpkins  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE'S PRINTED NAME

MADAM CLERK:

Please file and seal pursuant to Maryland Rule 4-601.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE