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# IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DAVIS, STATE OF UTAH

THE STATE OF UTAH Plaintiff,

VS.

AMMON JACOB WOODHEAD

DOB: 02/8/1985 ADDRESS: USP

Defendant.

NO BAIL

#### INFORMATION

PRETRIAL DETENTION REQUESTED

CASE #

OTN: 61609525 SID: 542316

The undersigned prosecutor states on information and belief that the defendant, either directly or as a party, at County of Davis, State of Utah, committed the crime(s) of:

#### COUNT 1

ATTEMPTED CRIMINAL HOMICIDE, AGGRAVATED MURDER (HABITUAL VIOLENT OFFENDER), a First Degree Felony, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-5-202(2), as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did intentionally or knowingly attempt to cause the death of another individual under any of the following circumstances: (ii)(A) the actor committed the attempted homicide incident to one act, scheme, course of conduct, or criminal episode during which two or more individuals other than the actor

were attempted to be killed; (iii) the actor knowingly created a great risk of death to another individual person other than the individual attempted to be killed and the actor; (iv) the actor committed the attempted homicide incident to an act, scheme, course of conduct, or criminal episode during which the actor committed or attempted to commit aggravated robbery, robbery, aggravated arson, arson, aggravated burglary, or burglary; (vii) the actor committed the attempted homicide for pecuniary gain; (x) the actor was previously convicted of: (A) aggravated assault, under Utah Code § 76-5-103; (O) aggravated burglary, under Utah Code § 76-6-203; (P) aggravated robbery, under Utah Code § 76-6-302; (xi) the attempted homicide was committed for the purpose of: (A) preventing a witness from testifying; (B) preventing a person from providing evidence or participating in any legal proceedings or official investigation; (C) retaliating against a person for testifying, providing evidence, or participating in any legal proceedings or official investigation; or (D) disrupting or hindering any lawful governmental function or enforcement of laws.

## COUNT 2

ATTEMPTED CRIMINAL HOMICIDE, AGGRAVATED MURDER (HABITUAL VIOLENT OFFENDER), a First Degree Felony, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-5-202(2), as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did intentionally or knowingly attempt to cause the death of another individual under any of the following circumstances: (ii)(A) the actor committed the attempted homicide incident to one act, scheme, course of conduct, or criminal episode during which two or more individuals other than the actor were attempted to be killed; (iii) the actor knowingly created a great risk of death to another individual person other than the individual attempted to be killed and the actor; (iv) the actor committed the attempted homicide incident to an act, scheme, course of conduct, or criminal

episode during which the actor committed or attempted to commit aggravated robbery, robbery, aggravated arson, arson, aggravated burglary, or burglary; (vii) the actor committed the attempted homicide for pecuniary gain; (x) the actor was previously convicted of: (A) aggravated assault, under Utah Code § 76-5-103; (O) aggravated burglary, under Utah Code § 76-6-203; (P) aggravated robbery, under Utah Code § 76-6-302; (xi) the attempted homicide was committed for the purpose of: (A) preventing a witness from testifying; (B) preventing a person from providing evidence or participating in any legal proceedings or official investigation; (C) retaliating against a person for testifying, providing evidence, or participating in any legal proceedings or official investigation; or (D) disrupting or hindering any lawful governmental function or enforcement of laws.

#### COUNT 3

AGGRAVATED ARSON (HABITUAL VIOLENT OFFENDER), a First Degree Felony, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-6-103, as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did, by means of fire or explosives, intentionally and unlawfully damage: (a) a habitable structure; or (b) any structure or vehicle when any person not a participant in the offense was in the structure or vehicle.

#### COUNT 4

AGGRAVATED ROBBERY (HABITUAL VIOLENT OFFENDER), a First Degree Felony, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-6-302, as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did (a) unlawfully and intentionally take or attempt to take personal property in the possession of another from his or her person, or immediate presence, against his or her will, by means of force or fear, and with a purpose or intent to deprive the person permanently or temporarily of the personal property; or (b) intentionally or knowingly use force

or fear of immediate force against another in the course of committing a theft or wrongful appropriation; and (1) in the course of committing the before mentioned act, (a) used or threatened to use a dangerous weapon; (b) caused serious bodily injury upon another; or (c) took or attempted to take an operable motor vehicle.

## COUNT 5

AGGRAVATED BURGLARY (HABITUAL VIOLENT OFFENDER), a First Degree Felony, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-6-203, as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did attempt, commit, or flee from a burglary and while doing so the defendant, or another participant in the crime, (a) caused bodily injury to any person who was not a participant in the crime; (b) used or threatened the immediate use of a dangerous weapon against any person who was not a participant in the crime; or (c) possessed or attempted to use any explosive or dangerous weapon.

## COUNT 6

DISARMING A PEACE OFFICER (CONDUCTIVE ENERGY DEVICE) (HABITUAL VIOLENT OFFENDER), a First Degree Felony, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-5-102.8(2), as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did intentionally take or remove, or attempt to take or remove, a conductive energy device from an individual or immediate presence of an individual who the actor knows is a peace officer: (a) without the consent of the peace officer; and (b) while the peace officer was acting within the scope of the peace officer's authority as a peace officer.

## COUNT 7

PURCHASE, TRANSFER, POSSESSION OR USE OF A DANGEROUS WEAPON BY RESTRICTED PERSON (HABITUAL VIOLENT OFFENDER), a First Degree

Felony, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-10-503(2)(b), as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did (2) being then a Category I restricted person, intentionally or knowingly agree, consent, offer, or arrange to purchase, transfer, possess, use, or have under the person's custody or control, or intentionally or knowingly purchased, transferred, possessed, used, or had under the person's custody or control: any dangerous weapon other than a firearm.

#### COUNT 8

THEFT, a Third Degree Felony, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-6-404, as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did obtain or exercise unauthorized control over the property of another person with a purpose to deprive the person thereof, and the actor had been previously convicted of a felony violation of any of the offenses listed in Section 76-6-412(1)(b)(iii)(A) through (1)(b)(iii)(C), if the prior offense was committed within 10 years before the date of the current conviction or the date of the offense upon which the current conviction is based.

#### COUNT 9

VEHICLE BURGLARY, a Class A Misdemeanor, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-6-204, as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did unlawfully enter any vehicle with intent to commit a felony or theft.

#### COUNT 10

ASSAULT AGAINST A PEACE OFFICER OR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER IN UNIFORM, a Class A Misdemeanor, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-5-102.4(2), as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did (a) assault or commit a threat of violence against a peace officer, with knowledge that the peace officer was a peace

officer; and at the time of the assault or threat of violence, the peace officer was acting within the scope of authority as a peace officer.

## COUNT 11

ASSAULT AGAINST A PEACE OFFICER OR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER IN UNIFORM, a Class A Misdemeanor, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-5-102.4(2), as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did (a) assault or commit a threat of violence against a peace officer, with knowledge that the peace officer was a peace officer; and at the time of the assault or threat of violence, the peace officer was acting within the scope of authority as a peace officer.

#### COUNT 12

INTERFERENCE WITH ARRESTING OFFICER, a Class B Misdemeanor, in violation of Utah Code Ann. § 76-8-305, as follows: That the above named defendant, on or about July 21, 2022, did have knowledge, or by the exercise of reasonable care should have knowledge, that a peace officer was seeking to effect a lawful arrest or detention of the defendant or another and interfered with the arrest or detention by: (1) the use of force or any weapon; (2) the arrested person's refusal to perform any act required by lawful order: (a) necessary to effect the arrest or detention; and (b) made by a peace officer involved in the arrest or detention; or (3) the arrested person's or another person's refusal to refrain from performing any act that would impede the arrest or detention.

This Information is based on evidence obtained from Detective Kael Jackson.

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT: The undersigned prosecutor is a Deputy Davis

County Attorney and has received information from the investigating Detective Kael Jackson of
the Centerville Police Department, and the information herein is based upon such personal

observations and investigation of said officer and other officers and witnesses to the case.

It was the afternoon of July 21, 2022. Clarence, Beth, and Herman were at their home in Centerville. Clarence and Beth are married. He was 74 and she was 68 years old. Herman, Beth's father, was 88 years old and suffering from dementia. Clarence had built the home over thirty years before. He was in the process of remodeling it. However, at the time, he was on oxygen and on this day he was resting on his bed in his bedroom. Beth was in another room and Herman was downstairs.

As Clarence lay on his bed, he heard a noise, like a scuffle. Suddenly, a man he had never seen before burst into his room, a gas can in his hand. "Give me all your money," he demanded, "or I'm going to burn your house down. Oh good," he then remarked, "you have oxygen on, you'll burn fast." The man then began pouring gasoline over the floor, onto the bed, and on Clarence. Clarence grabbed a mug within his reach and struck the man in the head. The man then backed out of the room.

Clarence made his way to the hallway and saw Beth on the ground. The same man then re-appeared and hit him, knocking Clarence to the ground and on top of Beth. He then kicked Clarence while on the ground. Given Clarence's physical condition, he was unable to get up from the ground on his own.

Earlier, Beth had been in their upstairs office. While busying herself, the same man had appeared at the door. He had been carrying a gas can and he told her, "I'm going to burn you." She had told him to get out of the house. He left briefly and she dialed 911 to report the intruder. He then returned, yelling, "Where are you, Bitch?" and finding her on the phone. He then hit her in the mouth and knocked the phone out of her grasp. While she was on the phone with dispatch, however, the recording captured him saying to her, "You fucking Bitch." The blow to her face

pushed one of her teeth out of place in her mouth and she began to bleed. He again said, "You are going to burn" and started sprinkling gasoline onto the carpet in front of her, some of which got onto her clothing. Retrieving a BIC lighter from his pocket, he then tried to ignite the carpet but without success.

The man then made his way out to the attached and enclosed wooden deck. Beth heard some crackling noises that sounded like a fire, saw smoke, and knew the house had been set ablaze. She yelled out to her father Herman and her husband Clarence. Clarence's oxygen machine happened to be in the office and she had the wherewithal to turn it off. She continued to yell to Clarence and Herman. She then saw the man again. He was looking in different bedrooms. He then came up to her and punched her in the head, knocking her into the wall and onto the ground. That is where Clarence found her and where he, too, was attacked.

The fire continued to spread, engulfing the house. Meanwhile, the man began going through Clarence's pockets while he and Beth were on the floor, again demanding money. Clarence and Beth told him that they did not have any. The man turned and entered the bedroom Clarence had been in and found Beth's purse, seizing it, returning to the hall, and then disappearing out of sight. Beth and Clarence thought he had left the house. As they would later learn, he hadn't. But Clarence crawled his way over to the stairs, swinging his legs over the edge, and Beth helped him get on his feet. The smoke was billowing in the house. The two managed to make their way down the stairs. Beth, all the while, was calling out to her father, telling him to get out. Clarence was able to slowly exit the house. Meanwhile, Beth found her father downstairs and began to help direct him. He was confused and in a daze. His mobility was limited and he moved at a shuffle. Guiding him, she began to try and help him walk out.

At this point in time, police officers began arriving. The first responding officer, Officer Farnes, her body camera on and recording, found Beth and Herman still in the house, trying to escape. The fire had grown. Debris was falling. Windows were shattering. Smoke was filling all of the rooms. As Beth and her father continued to make their way out, Beth noticed that the man who had done this was in their utility room, near the side door. He was holding onto parts of the water heater. She pointed it out to Officer Farnes. Officer Farnes, helping Herman and Beth, saw the man and issued commands to him. He replied, "Fuck you, I have a knife, fuck you, Bitch!" He told her, "You'll have to kill me first, Bitch" and slammed closed the door to the room he was in. Officer Farnes continued to assist Beth and Herman outside. Once Beth and Herman were at a safe distance, she and other officers returned to the house. They could hear the man inside, yelling and growling.

The man made his way through the house to the open garage. Police found him there. He refused to comply with any of their commands. Smoke had reached the garage. Several officers entered it and attempted to detain him. He fought them. He kicked one officer. He bit another on the arm. One officer retrieved his Taser. The man, however, tried to take the Taser from the officer. Due to his violent behavior and the smoke in the garage, having inhaled a good amount of it, the officers backed out of the garage briefly. Additional officers arrived to assist. The man, at that point, was lying on the ground. As officers re-entered the garage toward him, he suddenly sprang up and began to again attack them. He tossed a power saw out and aggressively resisted all their efforts. Finally, however, he began to exit the garage on his belly. The garage was full of smoke. Officers were able to secure him and treat him for his exposure while dealing with their own. He made comments about having broken a gas line and his belief that the house would explode, wanting to be moved further away from the house (which the police did).

In the man's pocket, police found a BIC lighter. They also found that he had gas on him (confirmed by a K-9 used to detect such odors). They later found the gas can he had used, the rental car he had driven in, another lighter in the grass, and a knife on top of the water heater where he had been tampering with the pipes. They further learned about what he had been doing earlier that day, obtaining video recordings of him at different locations.

Earlier, he had an interaction with his mother where he displayed a knife to her and was told that he should not have a knife because he was on parole. Driving a rental car, he obtained some of the clothing he was wearing from a Big 5 at around noon. He then went to another person's home. This person's garage door was open and he was getting ready to go camping. The man didn't see this person when he walked into the garage and began looking around until the person confronted him. He left and was then captured on a video recording entering yet another Centerville victim, MS's, Dodge Ram and stealing a flashlight from it, something he later disposed of on some grass.

The man who did all of this, police learned, was Ammon Woodhead. Woodhead is a convicted felon. He is a convicted violent felon. *E.g.*, cases nos. 161300153, 121910471. He is a category I restricted person. He is also a habitual violent offender. He was most recently recommitted to the Utah State Prison in case no. 191903723. The Board of Pardons and Parole paroled him on October 26, 2021. He was first sent to the Utah State Prison on July 10, 2013. And, since then, he has repeatedly been released from prison only to violate parole, reoffend, and be recommitted.

He was first paroled on June 23, 2015. After violating parole, he was returned to the prison on April 26, 2016. He was again paroled on November 15, 2016. He violated parole again and was returned to the prison on April 10, 2017. The Board again paroled him on February 13,

2018. He was returned to the prison on June 14, 2018. He was paroled on February 19, 2019. After again violating parole, he returned to the prison on April 20, 2020. The Board again released him on October 26, 2021. And he is now pending the charges in this case.

Police also learned that Woodhead has Hepatitis C. They learned this from Woodhead's mother. As such, the officer he bit on the arm is undergoing testing. His mother further explained that he has been having problems since June, including things that would violate his parole, and several efforts were made to notify his parole officer, but no action was taken or calls returned after the many calls Woodhead's family made to the parole officer.

The victims in this case have lost their home and nearly all their material belongings—thousands of dollars in tangible property, let alone all of the intangible and irretrievable losses. What's more, they continue to suffer from the injuries Woodhead inflicted on them when he attacked them, having hit both of them in the face, and from the damage the smoke did to them. The extent of their injuries is still being determined and may constitute serious bodily injury.

NOTICE: A number of the charges in this case are enhanced as a result of Woodhead's history. In particular, pursuant to Section 76-3-203.5, the State is alleging that Ammon Woodhead is a habitual violent offender. "If a person is convicted in this state of a violent felony by plea or by verdict and the trier of fact determines beyond a reasonable doubt that the person is a habitual violent offender under this section, the penalty for a: (a) third degree felony is as if the conviction were for a first degree felony; (b) second degree felony is as if the conviction were for a first degree felony; or (c) first degree felony remains the penalty for a first degree penalty except: (i) the convicted person is not eligible for probation; and (ii) the Board of Pardons and Parole shall consider that the convicted person is a habitual violent offender as an aggravating

factor in determining the length of incarceration.

"'Habitual violent offender' means a person convicted within the state of any violent felony and who on at least two previous occasions has been convicted of a violent felony and committed to either prison in Utah or an equivalent correctional institution of another state or of the United States either at initial sentencing or after revocation of probation."

Woodhead was convicted of a violent felony in case no. 161300153 on April 26, 2016. It was possession of a firearm by a restricted person. He had been found with a gun after a boy in the mountains had reported something suspicious about Woodhead. He was committed to the Utah State Prison in that case on April 26, 2016. He was also convicted of two violent felonies in case no. 121910471 on May 6, 2013. They included aggravated burglary and aggravated assault. Armed with a hatchet, he hacked at a victim's home and broken into it. A victim was in bed and awoke to Woodhead swinging at the victim's legs with the hatchet. He was committed to the Utah State Prison in that case on July 8, 2013.

**BAIL**: The evidence summarized above is substantial. Woodhead was on felony parole at the time he is alleged to have committed the felonies in this case. He is thus nonbailable under Article I, Subsection 8(1)(b). He is alternatively nonbailable under Article I, Subsection 8(1)(c). He, charged with qualifying felonies in this case identified under Section 77-20-201(1)(c), is clearly and convincingly a substantial risk of danger to the community and he is likely to flee the jurisdiction of the court.

The victims in this case were all strangers to him. He wanted money. And he was willing to break into their home, attempt to kill these three vulnerable adults, burn their home down, and put all of their neighbors and the community at extreme risk to get what he wanted. What's more, his parole history is one of non-compliance and his most recent felony convictions were

for twice fleeing from the police in a vehicle. *E.g.*, case no. 191903723. He was also convicted felony fleeing from the police in a vehicle in case no. 171902130. While he is currently back at the State prison on alleged parole violations, he should be held without bail in this case because he is constitutionally nonbailable and to ensure he will be held in this case if the Board were to again parole him.

Authorized August 19, 2022 for presentment and filing:

TROY S. RAWLINGS Davis County Attorney

By <u>/s/ Jeff Thomson</u>
Deputy Davis County Attorney