



West Palm Beach Police Department PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT



OBTS # FL 0500800

CASE # 2011-2573

DEFENDANT: Barahona, Jorge

VICTIM'S NAME: Race: W Sex: M D.O.B.

Local Address: 11501 SW 47th Terrace, Miami, FL 33165

On February 14th, 2011, at approximately 0530 hours, Florida Department of Transportation Road Ranger Thomas Butler noted a red 1998 Toyota pickup parked on the East shoulder of North bound I-95, North of Palm Beach Lakes Blvd. Thomas approached the vehicle and noted the driver's seat was unoccupied. He saw a young child, ten year old in the center seat next to an open five gallon gas tank. Thomas noted the child appeared to be in respiratory distress and trembling. The child's clothing was soaked with an unknown chemical. Thomas observed the defendant Jorge Barahona, unresponsive and supine on the ground outside the truck. Florida Highway Patrol and medics responded and transported Jorge and to local hospitals for treatment of exposure and burns from an unknown chemical agent.

Due to the unknown chemical agent within the vehicle, it was decontaminated by Eagle SWS. Eagle SWS employee Allen Potts was cleaning the bed of the truck when he moved a black plastic bag from the front of the bed to the rear of the bed. Potts observed a human limb within the plastic bag. Potts notified FHP Troopers on scene of his discovery. Further investigation revealed the bag contained a deceased human body.

is currently hospitalized in the Intensive Care Unit and is suffering from severe burns to his abdomen, upper thighs, and buttocks. Prior injuries were also discovered on by medical staff and police. The injuries included a fractured clavicle, a fractured arm, scarring to his buttocks and lower abdomen, and ligature markings to both wrists.

On February 15th, 2011, Det. Sgt. Lefont, Det. Matias, and I interviewed Jorge

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED before me

OFFICER (F.S.S. 117.10)

SIGNATURE OF ARRESTING OFC
Detective Alison Lichter, #1298



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Barahona at Colombia Hospital. Jorge was read Miranda and stated he understood each warning. Jorge said he travelled North on I95 from Miami to West Palm Beach on February 14th, 2011 after he placed his deceased daughter in a plastic bag, which he loaded in the rear of his truck. He said he was accompanied by his son Jorge told us he was distraught over the death of his daughter and intended to commit suicide. Jorge said he pulled over onto a grassy area of the expressway where he would easily be found. He gave a handful of sleeping pills and told him to take them so he could sleep. Jorge said head remained on his lap as he sat in the vehicle's driver's seat pouring gasoline over his own head from the five gallon gas tank. Jorge intended to ignite a lighter to set himself on fire, but he could not do it because was present.

Jorge incurred no obvious burns to his person unlike the injuries suffered by When confronted about the severity of injuries, Jorge explained some of the gasoline must have splattered on Jorge's account of events is inconsistent with injuries. Based on these facts, I believe probable cause exists to charge Jorge Barahona for the crime of Aggravated Child Abuse, F.S.S. 827.03(2)a.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED before me

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DK R. Cruz

OFFICER (F.S.S. 117.10)

Alison Lichter

SIGNATURE OF ARRESTING OFC
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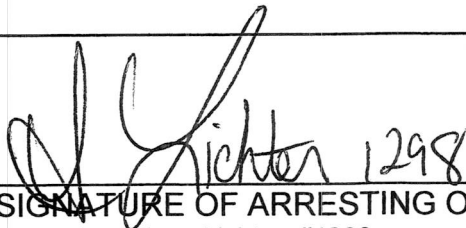
Supplement to Original Probable Cause Affidavit

On February 15th, 2011, the defendant was interviewed in his room at Colombia Hospital. Post Miranda, the defendant told me he gave the victim a handful of sleeping pills to disable the child. The defendant stated he poured gasoline over his head while slept with his head in the defendant's lap. Later in the interview, the defendant said he held in his arms while he poured gasoline over his own head. Upon comparing the injuries incurred by the defendant and the victim, it is evident the victim was not burned in the course of the defendant attempting to ignite himself. The defendant suffered no burns to his person while the victim incurred serious burns to his abdomen, buttocks, and upper thighs.

Based on these facts, I believe probable cause exists to charge Jorge Barahona for the crime of Attempted First Degree Murder, F.S.S. 782.04(1)(2).

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED before me


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OFFICER (F.S.S. 117.10)


1298
SIGNATURE OF ARRESTING OFC
Detective Alison Lichter, #1298