

**MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL
PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT**

STATE OF MISSOURI }

MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

COUNTY OF MILLER }

CASE # 180351990

DATE: April 2, 2019

OCN:

I, Sergeant D.R. Haslag, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state that the facts contained herein are true.

1. I have probable cause to believe that Joseph P. McKenna dob 06/24/1992 SSN 321-88-9049, on June 4, 2018, at Dry Creek Road, Miller County, committed the offense(s) listed below:

First Degree Murder-RSMo 565.020 Class A Felony
Tampering with a witness-RSMo 575.270 Class D Felony
Armed Criminal Action RSMo 571.015

2. State the facts that support a finding of probable cause to believe crime(s) was/were committed and that the accused committed the crime(s):

On June 11, 2018, unidentified human remains were located in a wooded area, just off a rural Miller County road, near Tuscumbia, Missouri. Evidence at the scene indicates the victim was shot at that location and dragged into the woods, from the roadway. On June 13, 2018 an autopsy determined the cause of death to be a single gunshot wound to the head and fingerprints confirmed the body was that of Tyler Joseph Worthington, d.o.b. 2/6/1984, of North San Juan, California.

Investigators discovered that Worthington owned and maintained a large marijuana grow operation in and around his home in North San Juan, California, and was engaged in the growing of marijuana as well as heavily involved in the production of marijuana oil. Investigator's also learned from an interview with a close associate of Worthington's that he supplied this marijuana oil to Joseph Patrick McKenna, d.o.b. 06/24/1992, of Chicago, Illinois. Investigators found that after Worthington extracted the marijuana oil, it was shipped to McKenna, who then loaded the marijuana oil into cartridges for use in vapor style smoking devices. During the execution of a search warrant at the home of Worthington, invoices were found showing a large number of new, empty vapor pen cartridges, along with specialized equipment to fill those cartridges were purchased by and shipped to McKenna Services, Inc., 2701 W. Fulton Street, Apartment #5 S, Chicago, Illinois. Also found during the search warrant was over 500 lbs of processed marijuana, green houses containing hundreds of marijuana plants, growing and cultivating supplies, and processing equipment including specialized equipment used in the extraction of marijuana oil. Other documents found during the execution of the search warrant included a handwritten ledger, which recorded details about the extraction of marijuana oil from plant material.

An interview with Worthington's fiancée' E.D. revealed that on June 2, 2018, Worthington flew to Chicago, Illinois to meet with Joseph McKenna, who she described as an individual active in the dealing of drugs and one who Worthington "works with". E.D. stated during his trip to Chicago, Worthington along with Joseph McKenna and a man she believed went by the nickname of "CK" were planning to drive from Chicago, Illinois to Missouri to "do a job". Investigators confirmed that Worthington flew out of Sacramento airport on June 2, 2018, in route to Chicago O'Hare Airport. Upon arrival, Worthington rented a white 2018 Toyota Corolla (still missing) from Hertz Rental Car. Worthington was reported to have driven separately in his rental car, from McKenna and "C.K.", but traveled with them during the trip to Missouri. Toll road records show that Joseph McKenna's 2009 Chevrolet truck and Worthington's rental car passed through the Cermak and Joliet tolls together, headed out of Chicago, just seconds apart, at approximately 0101 and 0107 hours on June 4, 2018. It

was also discovered later that same day, at 1718 hours and 1728 hours, on June 4, 2018, McKenna's truck went through northbound tolls, on its way back into Chicago, without Worthington's rental car. Captured on the toll booth cameras was McKenna's truck, occupied by two males (one being Joseph McKenna and the second, later identified as Tyler Kroll "TK") as it returned to Chicago. The approximate drive time from Chicago, Illinois to the location where Worthington was murdered is 14 hours, round-trip. From the time McKenna and his passenger left Chicago till the time they returned is 16 hours and 17 minutes.

During interviews with a close associate of Worthington's, N.B., he confirmed that Worthington and McKenna are engaged in the production and sale of marijuana oil loaded vapor pen cartridges. While conducting a phone interview with N.B., he received a phone call from Joseph McKenna, on another line. N.B. placed the other line on speaker phone and an investigator was able to listen and record the conversation between the two. During this conversation, McKenna describes what investigator's and N.B. believe is the likely drug transaction he and Worthington conducted in Missouri and details of how he last saw Worthington leaving with a large sum of money from that transaction. McKenna reported that they "unloaded" product in two locations that day and after the last stop, Worthington was planning to purchase carbon paper, reportedly used to conceal large sums of money from law enforcement. McKenna indicated the plan was to deliver those packages of money to an individual in Chenoa, Illinois where it was to be loaded into a tractor trailer and shipped. McKenna stated he was supposed to fly back to Sacramento, with Worthington, on June 5, 2018, although investigators learned that McKenna and his girlfriend flew back, without Worthington, on that date. During a face to face interview with N.B., he was able to show investigators an actual marijuana vapor pen cartridge produced by Worthington and McKenna, that he had personally obtained and used.

On September 24, 2018, Joseph McKenna was arrested for second degree murder and was interviewed. During this interview, McKenna admitted to traveling with a passenger in his truck, following Worthington out of Chicago, on the early morning hours of June 4, 2018. McKenna stated he and his passenger were hauling trash bags loaded with marijuana and marijuana oil filled vapor pen cartridges, in his truck, following Worthington to an unknown location. McKenna denied going to Missouri and indicated he and his passenger stopped a few hours outside of Chicago and loaded the illegal drugs into Worthington's vehicle before he left, alone. When asked, McKenna would not provide the passenger's identity, saying he wished to talk to the individual before he would disclose his name.

During an interview with D.P., an associate of both McKenna and Worthington, he reported that prior to the Missouri trip, McKenna told him of his intention to kill Tyler Worthington because of how Worthington was trying to collect money owed to him from McKenna for marijuana and marijuana oil he previously shipped to him. D.P. stated that McKenna told him specifically, "If Tyler (Worthington) keeps coming at me, I'm gonna kill him". D.P. reported that Worthington was coming after McKenna for money he owed him and that Worthington was not someone who would forget about a debt.

During an interview with A.F., an associate of both McKenna and Worthington, he reported having had a conversation with McKenna in June of 2018. A.F. stated McKenna told him about a "Late night" trip he and Worthington made to Missouri, along with a man named Tyler Kroll, who goes by the nickname "T.K." A.F. stated McKenna indicated this trip was to distribute marijuana and that after completing the drug deal, McKenna said Worthington left alone, while he and Kroll returned to Chicago. A.F. stated this conversation occurred while Worthington was reported missing but prior to his deceased body being discovered in Missouri. A.F. stated during this conversation, he told McKenna about a rumor he heard that Worthington's body was found in Chicago. A.F. stated McKenna became angry and responded, "Absolutely not. They didn't find Tyler dead in Chicago. If they found him in my back yard, that would implicate me. I know he's not in Chicago."

In an interview with S.M., who indicated he knew McKenna through his illegal drug trade, he stated in June of 2018, McKenna told him he went to Missouri with Worthington and a second male who S.M. understood was Tyler Kroll. S.M. stated McKenna told him this trip was to complete a large drug transaction. After learning of

Worthington's death and McKenna's arrest, S.M. stated McKenna's girlfriend confirmed that the passenger in McKenna's vehicle during the trip to Missouri was Tyler Kroll.

Two cellular phone numbers were identified for Kroll and search warrants were obtained for those cell phone records. These phone records show Kroll had contact with known cellular phone numbers of Joseph McKenna, McKenna's girlfriend, and other associates implicated in McKenna's illegal drug business. While reviewing Kroll's cell phone records, particularly the location of Kroll's phone usage on certain dates, investigators found that Kroll's phone was actively being used in the Chicago region just 39 minutes before he, McKenna, and Worthington left Chicago for Missouri. Incoming calls and texts to the phone went unanswered for over 17 hours until an outgoing text was sent a mere 20 minutes after Kroll and McKenna returned to Chicago, from Missouri. Prior to the Missouri trip and after he and McKenna's return, Kroll and McKenna's cell phones were routinely using cell phone tower located near the same areas and at the same times. This pattern of usage supports the belief that Kroll and McKenna commonly traveled together both before and after their trip to Missouri and Kroll likely left his phone behind on the day Worthington was killed, to avoid detection of he and McKenna's whereabouts. It should also be noted that Kroll's lack of cell phone usage for approximately 17 hours and 16 minutes on June 4, 2018 is not consistent with his normal pattern of usage, as found in his cell phone records.

On March 29, 2019, Investigators learned that Joseph McKenna and his girlfriend, A.S. were arrested on August 24, 2018, by the Arkansas State Police. During this arrest, the pair were in possession of approximately 68 lbs of marijuana and a Ruger 9 mm handgun, hidden in a false compartment. Due to the caliber of the handgun seized from the pair on that date, matching the caliber of a shell casing recovered at the scene of the homicide, investigators obtained the handgun for firearms comparison testing. On April 2, 2019, after testing was completed at the Missouri State Highway Patrol Laboratory, the handgun seized from Joseph McKenna and A.S. was found to be the gun that fired the shell casing found at the scene of Tyler Worthington's murder.

On April 2, 2019, a witness in the investigation, A.F. reported to investigators that he was fearful for his safety, after receiving a threatening call from Joseph McKenna. A.F. stated the call came from McKenna who was using an app called Signal and it occurred on March 21, 2019. In this call, A.F. reported that McKenna informed him that he knew A.F. had talked to the police and that he "Better watch his back". A.F. reported that following the conversation he learned from an associate that McKenna was looking for A.F. and that he was angry about A.F. talking to authorities.

Investigators believe there is probable cause that Joseph P. McKenna and Tyler M. Kroll traveled with Tyler Worthington on June 4, 2018 to commit the crime of delivery of controlled substances, which is a class C felony. However, further investigation revealed that McKenna made statements prior to this date consistent with an intent to murder Tyler Worthington. McKenna's motive to kill Worthington was because of Worthington's demands that McKenna pay him for prior deliveries of controlled substances, and in furtherance of this scheme, McKenna conspired with others (namely, Tyler M. Kroll) to lure Tyler Worthington out of California and with them into Missouri to complete the delivery, at which time Tyler Worthington was killed. Investigators believe that McKenna used the handgun found in his possession on August 24, 2018, to shoot Tyler Worthington, on Dry Creek Road, in Miller County. Investigators also believe that Joseph McKenna tampered with a witness in a felony investigation by contacting A.F., after his arrest, and threatening him for talking to the police.

Sgt. D.R. Haslag
Signature

April 2, 2019
Date