

FILED  
BOONE COUNTY  
MAR 01 2014  
CHRISTY BLAKEMORE  
CLERK CIRCUIT COURT, COLUMBIA, MO

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BOONE COUNTY, MISSOURI

STATE OF MISSOURI )

vs. )

ANNA ELIZABETH STEELE )  
[REDACTED] )  
[REDACTED] )

CASE NO. **14BA-CR00663**

PA# 019-289096

OCN#A8068014

COMPLAINT

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Boone, State of Missouri, upon information and belief charges that the defendant:

In violation of Section 565.021, RSMo, committed the class A felony of murder in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Section 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about the 28th day of February, 2014, in the County of Boone, State of Missouri, Finley Steele was killed by her head being impacted by a blunt object as a result of the perpetration of the class C felony of abuse or neglect of a child under Section 568.060. RSMo committed by the defendant on or about the 28th day of February, 2014, in the County of Boone, State of Missouri.

The facts that form the basis for this information and belief are contained in the attached statement(s) to facts concerning this matter, which statements are made a part hereof and are submitted herewith as a basis upon which this court may find the existence of probable cause for the issuance of the warrant.

Wherefore, the Prosecuting Attorney prays that an arrest warrant be issued as provided by law.

Daniel K. Knight, Prosecuting Attorney  
of the County of Boone,  
State of Missouri, by

*Daniel K. Knight*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel K. Knight, Bar No. 40443  
Boone County Prosecuting Attorney

IN CUSTODY

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STATE OF MISSOURI )

vs. )

STEELE, ANNA ELIZABETH )  
[REDACTED] )  
[REDACTED] )  
[REDACTED] )

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CHRISTY BLAKEMORE  
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PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

I, JACKSON, JOSEPH C  
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 on 02/28/2014, at  
504 WOODRIDGE DRIVE  
STEELE, ANNA ELIZABETH W/F [REDACTED]  
committed one or more criminal offense(s):  
565.021 MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE

2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:  
On 02/28/14 at approximately 0250 officers were dispatched to 504 Woodridge Drive reference to the juvenile victim, F.S., not breathing. Upon arrival officers found the victim unresponsive. The victim was transported from the scene and later pronounced dead at the hospital. Post autopsy it was learned that the victim had recently sustained massive blunt trauma to the head and also showed evidence of being shaken.

During the scene investigation officers located items which were soiled with fresh blood. The area in which the items were located was being occupied by the victim's mother (Anna Steele), and her boyfriend (Cody Baker). Steele, Baker, and the victim resided on the lower level of 504 Woodridge Drive. Steele stated she and Baker started dating in December of 2013 and Baker moved into 504 Woodridge Drive in January of 2014.

During an interview with witness, T.S., who resides on the upper levels of 504 Woodridge Drive, investigators learned that the victim appeared to be acting normal at approximately 2100 hours when Steele and Baker took the victim to the lower level of the home.

Witness T.S. stated a week or two prior the victim sustained an injury across the front of her face which left a bruise. T.S. stated she was informed by Baker and Steele the bruise was caused by the victim falling into the rail of the crib. T.S. also stated she was aware that Baker and Steele were placing blankets over the victim's face and head at bedtime. T.S. stated she confronted Baker and Steele about placing the blanket over the victim's face and head.

During an interview with Baker, he stated they (he and Steele) put the victim to bed shortly after going downstairs at approximately 2100. The victim's bed consisted of a Pack-N-Play located at the foot of Steele and Baker's bed. Baker and Steele's bed is located in the corner of their bedroom and positioned against the wall. Baker stated he was awakened by the victim coughing at approximately 0230. Baker stated he checked on the victim and found she was damp with sweat. Baker stated he took the victim to another room where he

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changed her clothes and returned to their bedroom. Baker stated he had no conversations with Steele at this time. Baker stated he took the victim to their bed and laid down with her on his chest. Baker stated the victim was having trouble breathing so he moved the victim to her side in between him and Steele. Baker stated he went to sleep and woke up a short time later and found the victim was pale and not breathing. Baker stated he woke Steele and instructed her to call 911, which she did.

Baker stated Steele slept against the wall and would have had to crawl over him to gain access to the victim. Baker stated that Steele did not get up to attend to the victim at any time after putting the victim to bed. Baker was the only person to have contact with the victim between the time the victim was placed in bed and found not breathing.

Baker was questioned about the possibility of the victim bleeding and he stated he was unaware of any bleeding from the victim.

During an interview with Steele she stated, she, Baker, and the victim went to the lower level of their home around 2100 and Baker immediately placed the victim into the Pack-N-Play located at the foot of their bed. Steele stated Baker placed a blanket over the victim's face upon putting the victim to bed. Steele stated the victim was restless and Baker removed the blanket at her request. Steele stated she went to sleep in her bed and was partially awakened at some point during the night and saw Baker standing in the doorway of the bedroom. Steele stated she observed that the victim's shirt had been removed. Steele stated Baker told her that the victim had vomited. Steele stated she went back to sleep and the next thing she knew was that Baker woke her up and informed her that the victim was not breathing and instructed her to call 911, which she did.

Steele stated she never saw Baker or the victim in their bed as Baker had stated. Steele stated Baker never brought the victim into their bed while both she and Baker were in bed together.

Steele stated she noticed a pattern of injuries and behavior from the victim since Baker moved in which caused her to suspect that Baker was being abusive toward the victim. Steele stated it was Baker who made her aware of these injuries. Steele stated Baker requested that he have time alone with the victim so that the victim would bond with him. Steele stated this alone time included Baker putting the victim to bed which was located in a separate room, by himself. Steele stated when this occurred she heard crying through the baby monitor, which she interpreted to be not normal for the situation. Steele stated this led her to believe that Baker was causing discomfort to the victim.

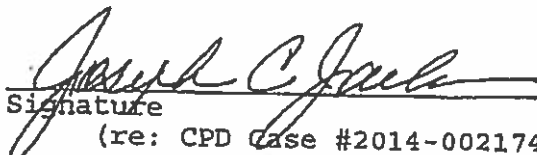
Steele stated placing the blankets over the victim's head was Baker's idea and she did not agree with it, but was compliant with it occurring. Steele stated she suspected that the victim was in danger from Baker from the time the victim sustained a bruise, approximately two weeks prior, which Baker claimed was caused by the victim falling in the crib. Steele stated she did not believe the bruise could have been caused by the victim falling in the crib. Steele stated she considered confronting Baker, but was afraid of how he would react.

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3. For the issuance of a warrant in a misdemeanor case, complete the following
- (a) I believe that the defendant will not appear in court in response to a criminal summons because:
  - (b) I believe that defendant poses
    - (1) a danger to a crime victim because
    - (2) a danger to the community or to any other person because

JACKSON, JOSEPH C  
 Date: 03/01/14

  
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 Signature  
 (re: CPD Case #2014-002174 )