

CAUSE NO. _____



**CERTIFICATE FOR DETERMINATION
OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

INCIDENT NUMBER 2022-002037
UNIT FILE NUMBER

That Al Cruise is a Detective with the Seattle Police Department and has reviewed the investigation conducted in Seattle Police Department Case Number 2022-002037;

There is probable cause to believe that Deangelo M. ARNETT dob/01-27-1990 committed the crime (s) of Assault in the Second Degree RCW 9A.36.021 (1)(a).

This belief is predicated on the following facts and circumstances:

On 01-03-2022, victim **Rodney A. Stegemann** dob/12-13-1949, known as "Roddy", reported to the Seattle Police Department ("SPD" hereafter), via the Telephone Reporting Unit, that he was assaulted earlier that day while in a convenience store. The location of the incident was the Plaza Select Food Grocery store at 1024 Madison Street. This location is within the City of Seattle, County of King, and the State of Washington. Mr. Stegemann made his report to SPD **Officer J. Shields #8714**. Officer Shields later filed the following report narrative:

On the listed date and time, the victim stated he was inside of small grocery store purchasing a few items. While standing in the store (very small in space) an unknown African American male entered the store. Victim stated the male had plenty of room to walk pass him, but instead intentionally bumped him knocking the belongings from his hand. Victim stated he realized this act was 100 percent intentional and approached the unknown male to verbalize he did not appreciate the act.

Per the victim, when he addressed the situation, the male begin yelling about the race of the victim. The unknown male became more irate and struck the victim in the face knocking him to the ground. Victim stated once the offender realized he was defeated, he then got in line and made a purchase and left the store.

When speaking with the victim, he believes the assault absolutely occurred because of his race and the words yelled at him by the offender. After the offender left, the victim was able to obtain video of the incident from the surveillance system. Victim was provided an Incident number and officer contact.

In the days that followed, Mr. Stegemann followed up by reporting that he had learned that he sustained a fractured left fibula in the assault, and he is under on-going care from his physician.

Mr. Stegemann also reported that he is somewhat acquainted with the store owner, **Mr. Lawrence Stusser**, who is also an eyewitness to the assault. Mr. Stusser provided some video files from the store video system, which recorded the entire incident. Mr. Stusser also provided a copy of the credit card transaction receipt of the purchase the suspect made after the assault. That receipt names the card holder as "ARNETT". It is unknown if that is a first name or a last name. Mr. Stegeman provided the video files and several still images to the undersigned Detective.

The undersigned detective collected additional video files from the location and with the

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cooperation and assistance of Mr. Stusser. I reviewed and analyzed numerous video files.

File named **IMG_2484.mov**: This is a six second video file which appears to depict a view of the front door of the store. A man entered the store wearing an orange puffy jacket and a black hood, which was up/on. The man, who appeared to be a medium skinned black male, walked through the camera frame from left to right, walking by what appeared to be the cash register. He then exits the right side of the frame.

IMG_2488.MOV: This four second video appeared to be the same camera view as **IMG_2484.MOV**. This video appeared to depict the same individual with the orange puffy jacket exiting the store. The black hood was down.

IMG_2491.MOV: This 25 second recording was a different view. The camera appeared to be toward the back of the store pointing toward the front (pointing south) with a view of the east side cooler aisle. When the video started, victim/Stegemann could be seen standing in line for the cash register. The suspect walked up behind him. They both stood motionless for a few seconds and then the suspect could suddenly be seen lunging forward toward V/Stegemann. V/Stegemann reacts by looking downward at first, then turning toward the suspect and possibly pushing him. Almost instantly, the suspect punched Mr. Stegemann on the left side of his face. V/Stegemann stumbled into the back cooler aisle nearly falling to the ground but was able to regain his balance. The suspect then punched v/Stegemann again on the left side of his face. This caused V/Stegemann to go to the floor on his hands and knees. At this point some hyperextension of v/Stegemann's left ankle could be seen. As V/Stegemann was struggling to get back up, the suspect was hovering over him. The suspect appeared to be preparing to strike v/Stegemann again. Eventually the suspect shoved v/Stegemann as he was trying to stand. This caused v/Stegemann to fall back to a seated position on the floor. There was then a skip in the video of unknown cause after which v/Stegemann was standing in the same area and the suspect was at the cash register. The video then ended.

The undersigned Detective interviewed Mr. Stusser, who witnessed the incident, and is visible in some of the video files. Mr. Stusser said the victim Roddy is a regular customer. Roddy was standing in line for the cash register when the suspect came in and walked by Roddy. Mr. Stusser did not hear any exchange between the two. Then the next thing Mr. Stusser saw was the suspect in line behind Roddy. Then suddenly the suspect hit Roddy from the back. This knocked Roddy to the ground. Mr. Stusser thought the suspect was kicking Roddy and may have stomped on his foot. Mr. Stusser said the suspect was repeatedly yelling at Roddy "Niggah". Mr. Stusser expressed that he thought this was a hate crime. Mr. Stusser characterized this as an attack. Mr. Stusser said he also recognized the suspect as a regular customer who has actually returned to the store several times since this incident. Mr. Stusser also reported that the suspect has a tattoo on his face somewhere.

Mr. Stegeman also reported to me that he heard from a different employee at the store that the suspect's first name might be "Diangelo". Based on that, the undersigned Detective queried SPD databases using the name "Diangelo Arnett". The search returned the name of the aforementioned suspect **Deangelo M. Arnett** dob 01-27-1990. The undated Washington Driver License photo for Arnett did not show any facial tattoo. I did locate a King County Jail booking photo dated 04-17-2022 which did show a tattoo on his cheek below his right eye.

The undersigned Detective assembled a six-image photographic montage which included a known image of Arnett. I presented this montage to Mr. Stegemann, who positively identified Arnett as the suspect.



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The undersigned Detective has received copies of medical records related to medical care Mr. Stegemann has received at UW Medicine/Harborview Foot and Ankle Institute. On page 4 of these records, under the section titled "02-01-2022 Office Visit in Harborview Foot and Ankle Institute, Visit Diagnosis" the report read "Closed fracture of distal end of left fibula with routine healing, unspecified morphology, subsequent encounter". The same page/document indicated that the "encounter provider" was Bruce Joseph Sangeorzan, MD.

Under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, I certify that the foregoing is true and correct. Signed and dated by me this 18th day of May, 2022, at Seattle, Washington.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Cruise".

Detective Alan G. Cruise #6028
Seattle Police Department Homicide/Assault Unit