

Search Warrant

State of Texas
County of Taylor

THE STATE OF TEXAS to the Sheriff or any Peace Officer of Taylor County, Texas or any Peace Officer of the State of Texas, GREETINGS:

Whereas, the affiant whose name appears on the affidavit attached hereto is a Peace Officer under the laws of Texas, and did heretofore this date subscribe and swear to said Affidavit before me and whereas I find that the verified facts stated by the Affiant in said Affidavit show that the Affiant has probable cause for the belief that expresses therein and establish existence of proper grounds for issuance of this Warrant; now, therefore, you are commanded to enter the suspected place, 104 Pine Street Suite 703, Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, including but not limited to: electronic data stored on computers, laptops, tablets, CD's, DVD's, cellphones, servers, cameras, USB Flash Drives, external hard drives, and any other electronic data storage device, paper files, documents, notes, records, or other items used to record and store information, a .40 caliber handgun, .40 caliber ammunition, spent .40 caliber shell casings, blood, fibers, muddy, bloody, or wet clothing, and bloody, muddy, or wet footwear.

HEREIN FAIL NOT, but you then and there this Warrant within three (3) days, exclusive of the day of its issuance and showing how you executed same.

ISSUED this the 13 day of December, 2016, to certify which witness my hand this date at 10:32 P. M.



Judge Thomas Wheeler 350th Dist Court

Affidavit for Search Warrant

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I, Tim Pipes, being a peace officer under the law of Texas and being duly sworn, on oath makes the following statements and accusations:

1. There is in Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, a suspected place described and located as follows: A multi-level commercial office building located at 104 Pine Street, Abilene, Taylor County, Texas, further described as a concrete low-rise office building with red brick façade and white stone ground and top levels trim, Three sets of double glass doors faces to the East. The building's name "Alexander Building" is prominently displayed in white stone above the double glass doors facing East. Suite ~~XXXX~~ is on the fourth floor of the building. It has a stained wooden door with a center glass pane and has the numbers ~~XXXXXX~~ displayed in gold numbers on a black placard on top of the doorframe. There is a black skull and crossbones flag draped behind the glass frame.
2. Said suspected place is in the charge of and controlled by the following named parties: The Alexander Trust Estate.
3. There is a suspected place and premises the following items constituting evidence of a criminal offense or constituting evidence tending to show that a particular person committed a criminal offense: Any and all items related to the offense of Texas Penal Code 19.02 MURDER including but not limited to: electronic data stored on computers, laptops, tablets, CD's, DVD's, cellphones, servers, cameras, USB Flash Drives, external hard drives, and any other electronic data storage device, paper files, documents, notes, records, or other items used to record and store information, a .40 caliber handgun, .40 caliber ammunition, spent .40 caliber shell casings, blood, fibers, muddy, bloody, or wet clothing, and bloody, muddy, or wet footwear.
4. Affiant has probable cause for said belief by reason of the following facts:

Your affiant was called to assist with a homicide investigation where police patrol officers responded to a residence in the 3700 block of Woodridge and found a male subject was deceased in his bedroom. The victim had sustained several gunshot wounds. Empty .40 caliber shell casings were recovered from the scene. There was no forced entry discovered and the witness, the victim's wife, heard several gunshots before running from the residence in fear.

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While processing the crime scene, investigators located marks and tracks in the mud leading to the creek behind the victim's house. This leads your affiant to believe the suspect approached and/or exited the crime scene via Elm Creek, which would leave mud on clothing.

During the investigation, it was discovered that the victim's father had recently passed away and there was reported strife between family members concerning the executors of the related will. The victim and his mother had been named as executors, but the victim's sister, Ellouise Sweetser, and her husband, Luke Sweetser, had specifically been excluded as executors of the will. Ellouise and Luke Sweetser were reportedly very upset over this issue and had made failed requests and attempts and changing the status of the executorship which led to verbal disputes between themselves and the deceased.

Your affiant additionally learned during the investigation that Luke Sweetser's location was unaccounted for during the night and morning leading up to the shooting victim's death. When contacted by detectives, Luke specifically told a detective that he did not have an alibi and was uncooperative with the investigation of the murder of his close family member by further refusing to speak to detectives for any reason.

Your affiant learned that, after knowing of the victim's death, Luke Sweetser retrieved his 13-year-old son, [REDACTED] Sweetser, from school. In an administrator's office, Luke told [REDACTED] that the victim had been shot. [REDACTED] responded by saying that the victim was mean and nobody liked them but he hoped that the shooting was done with a .40 caliber so that the victim wouldn't suffer.

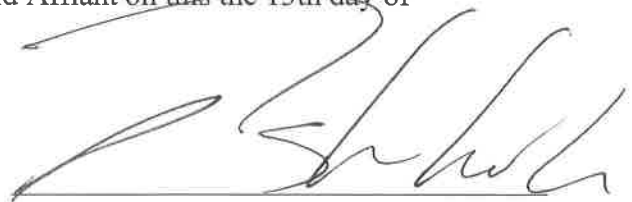
Your affiant learned that Luke and Ellouise Sweetster have been allowed to have access to the Alexander Office Building, located at 104 Pine Street. The murdered victim was involved with The Alexander Trust Estate and allowed his sister Ellouise and her husband, Luke, to utilized Suite #418 since the entire fourth floor was not being used, utilized, or leased out. Luke and Ellouise receive mail at the Alexander Building Suite [REDACTED]. It is reported that Luke and Ellouise had keys to the building's front door and to their Suite [REDACTED].

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Your affiant has learned through his training and experience that persons involved in criminal activity often utilized cellphones, computers, laptops, and tablets to research, discuss, and achieve their plans, objectives, accomplishments, and to take and store photos. Electronic storage devices can contain and/or store this type of information and data. Furthermore, electronic devices can contain geographical information that can corroborate their locations at a given time. Therefore, your affiants ask for the issuance of this warrant to search said suspected place.


Affiant

Subscribed and sworn before me by said Affiant on this the 13th day of
December, 2016.



Judge Thomas Wheeler 350th Dist Court