

**IN THE DISTRICT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE
STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PAYETTE
MAGISTRATE DIVISION**

IN THE STATE OF IDAHO,	}	CASE NO. CR38-25-1295
	}	
State of Idaho	}	
Plaintiff	}	
	}	
VS.	}	PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT
STACEY JAMES WONDRA	}	
DOB	}	
Defendant	}	
	}	

I, Detective Juanita Kelleher, the undersigned, being first duly sworn on oath, deposes and says:

1: I am a Peace Officer employed by the Fruitland Police Department.

2: The defendant is alleged to have committed the following crimes between the dates of approximately July 27th, 2021 through, 2025.

- I. First Degree Murder I.C. 18-4003(d) Felony**
- II. Kidnapping – 2nd Degree I.C. 18-4503 Felony**
- III. Destruction of or Concealment of Evidence I.C. 18-2603 Felony**

3: The crime(s) were not committed in my presence.

4: I believe that there is probable cause to believe the defendant committed such crime(s) because of the following facts. (NOTE: you must state the source of all information provided below. State what you observed and what you learned from someone else, identifying that person):

On July 27, 2021, neighbors reported seeing five-year-old M J V between approximately 18:15 and 18:30 hours in the area of M 's home and nearby residences on and South Arizona in Fruitland, Payette County, Idaho. M knocked on some of his neighbor's doors attempting to play with neighbors or in their yards. M was told to return home by all of the neighbors he contacted.

At approximately 18:45 to 18:50 hours, Tyler Vaughan noticed his five-year-old son, M J V , was missing from their home located at in Fruitland, Payette County, Idaho. Tyler began searching his home and property for M Tyler called 911 to report his son missing at approximately 19:21 hours and the Fruitland Police Department responded to the area.

Fruitland Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), along with other local agencies and volunteers, searched for M over several weeks and now years.

Through interviews, searches, and other corroborating evidence, all of M 's family and household members have been determined to not have any knowledge of M 's current location nor were they involved in M 's disappearance. All of M 's neighbors on SW 9th Street and Arizona have also been thoroughly investigated, searched, and interviewed and have been determined by law enforcement to not have any knowledge of or involvement in M 's disappearance. The surrounding area was searched extensively, and M has never been found.

Live scent K-9 teams searched the surrounding neighborhoods August 2-3, 2021, using a pair of M s shoes for M s scent. Out of approximately 300 homes, K-9 handlers reported the dogs only showed interest in one house located at in Fruitland. This is the home of Stacey and Sarah Wondra. A K-9 handler also reported that K-9 Banshee showed interest in the area of the corner of Meadowlark and Redwing Street. The K9 showed interest at the intersection and then headed straight to the fence and front door of the Wondras' residence.

On August 2, 2021, K9 Banshee tracked scent down to a tree over the edge of the bluff off of SW 8th and Three Rivers Way. K9 Banshee was determined to track the scent into the thorny bushes under the tree despite the thorns. A discarded child's stroller was located deep in those thorny bushes.

On August 5th, 2021, a pink "Big Flyer" tricycle was located behind the "Bluffs" sign at Three Rivers Way and SW 8th St. During a search of the same area the day prior, the tricycle was not there. Jim Smit, who lives in the Three Rivers subdivision, later reported that he had found the tricycle over the bluff under a tree next to a child's stroller. Jim said he took it home to use one of the wheels for another project but then discarded it after not removing the wheel as planned. Jim said he left it behind the Bluffs sign for neighborhood kids to use.

Kim Elko would later report to law enforcement that she had seen the tricycle in the Wondras' garage during a yard sale in the spring of 2021. Elko was able to describe the layout of the Wondras' garage and where she saw the tricycle on a stack of boxes. The described stack of boxes was still there during a later search warrant of the Wondra residence and garage.

Dorothy Starkey, who was present at in Fruitland, reported on July 29, 2021, that she saw M riding a "Big Wheel" tricycle at the corner of Redwing Street and Meadowlark Avenue on July 27th as she was either entering or leaving the neighborhood. Dorothy is seen on surveillance videos coming into the neighborhood (westbound on SW 8th Street) at 1825 hours and left the neighborhood (eastbound on SW 8th Street) at 1925 hours. Other than Dorothy's report, there are no other reports of M being seen anywhere other than SW 9th Street and his next-door neighbor's house on Arizona on the date of his disappearance.

Video surveillance was gathered from security cameras in the neighborhood M disappeared from as well as the neighboring areas. M is never seen on any of the surveillance footage that was obtained.

Stacey Wondra is captured on surveillance footage driving a white Lexus and pulling into the parking area of the splash pad in the neighborhood off SW 8th Street at 1523 hours on July 27, 2021. Stacey is seen exiting the driver's door, walking around to the passenger side of the car and appears to be testing the exterior door handle to see if it is locked. Stacey then walked back around the driver's side of the vehicle where he got into the driver's seat and exited the area onto SW 8th Street at 1524 hours (one minute after arriving).

Video surveillance shows an adult male walking in the area of Three Rivers Way at 18:08 hours on July 27, 2021, and the same male is captured walking in the area of the neighborhood Splash Pad at 1818 hours. The last image of the male is captured at 1828 hours as he walked through the wooded area to the west back towards the area in which the Wondras lived. Brandon Shurtliff was identified in 2022 as being this person and told detectives during an interview that the surveillance video captured him as he was walking and searching for a missing child on the date that M disappeared. This video captured Brandon walking prior to M being reported missing. Brandon reported he was living with the Wondras on that date.

On August 1, 2021, Fruitland Police contacted the residents at _____ in Fruitland. On their initial search of the residence, they located Adrien Lucienne hiding in a closet. Residents of the home on that date and on July 27, 2021, were identified as married couple Stacey and Sarah Wondra and their sublets Brandon Shurtliff and Adrien Lucienne. All four were interviewed on August 1, 2021.

Adrien was vague in his statements and wouldn't commit to a solid statement. He also refused to provide his social security number for identification confirmation. He provided Stacey's phone number as his own and concealed his real phone number from law enforcement.

On August 21, 2021, Sarah reported that on July 27, 2021, she and Stacey slept until noon. Sarah said they left their residence at around 17:00 hours, to tow a vehicle to Kuna. Sarah and Stacey denied they were home around 18:30 hours on July 27, 2021.

Cell phone tower data and surveillance footage show Sarah, Stacey, Adrien, and Brandon were in the area of their neighborhood at the time of M _____'s disappearance. Sarah, Adrien, and Brandon returned to Fruitland (verified by surveillance) in Sarah's blue Toyota Corolla at 17:08 hours, only to leave again at 17:12 hours. The Toyota then came back into the neighborhood again at 17:56 hours.

Surveillance footage shows Sarah driving the maroon GMC pickup on July 27, 2021, as she drove out of the neighborhood 19:08 hours. Stacey has been identified as the front passenger and Brandon was the driver's side rear passenger. Sarah, Stacey and Brandon's phone data showed they were co-located as they left the neighborhood at 19:08 hours and drove to Kuna, Idaho.

Adrien's phone did not provide any location data during the evening of July 27, 2021; however, Adrien took a selfie (photo) in the guest bathroom at the Wondra residence at 19:26 hours.

Wondra's maroon GMC pickup truck is captured on surveillance footage returning to their Fruitland neighborhood at 23:22 hours on July 27, 2021, pulling or towing a silver Mercedes-Benz.

Following M _____'s disappearance, Sarah had a distinct change in behavior. Following M _____'s disappearance, Sarah began to stand along the highway near Love's gas station in Ontario, Oregon with signs stating to "repent of your sins" and that the "end of time [was] near."

Sarah's social media posts on TikTok and Facebook also changed drastically to religion and asking for forgiveness of her sins. Prior to M _____'s abduction, Sarah had posted only approximately 11 videos on TikTok over three years. Following M _____'s abduction, Sarah posted approximately 329 videos from September 15, 2021, through December 24, 2021. In TikTok videos Sarah posted, Sarah made "testimony" statements regarding her involvement in criminal behaviors and stated that she had broken all ten of the ten commandments. It should be noted that "thou shalt not kill" is one of the ten commandments. Sarah also alleged in her videos that it did not matter what sins she had committed because God had forgiven her for all of them. M _____'s missing person flyer can be seen on her refrigerator in the background in some of her videos.

Sarah was interviewed again by law enforcement on November 15, 2021. Stacey was also interviewed. After being confronted with the photo of her leaving the neighborhood on July 27, 2021, driving the GMC pickup at 19:08 hours, Sarah changed her story and said she was driving the GMC to get Brandon's Mercedes-Benz from Kuna to tow it back to Fruitland. Sarah said the trip to Kuna to get the car had not been previously planned and that it was Stacey who wanted to go get that car at that time and date. Sarah said she stopped at SW 8th and South Arizona on the way out of the neighborhood to input the address

into the GPS. Sarah said she drove to 2518 North Snowbell in Kuna which is Brandon's mother's home. It is worth noting Brandon was in the truck with them when they entered the GPS coordinates to go to Brandon's mother's house, and that Sarah's and Brandon's cell phone data shown them at the residence earlier that day. Sarah said Brandon's mother, Tina Morreale, was out of town. Sarah said Tina did not allow Brandon to have people in her home when she was not there, so Sarah and Stacey parked down the road and Brandon used a back gate on the south side to enter Tina's residence so that her doorbell camera did not capture him there. Sarah reported that while towing the car back to Fruitland, the tow strap broke.

Sarah and Stacey Wondra sold their phones, lost or sold their vehicles, and got rid of their furniture shortly after M went missing. Sarah was asked about changing her phones following M's abduction. Sarah provided two reasons: Sarah said they sold their phones because she and Stacey were splitting up and Sarah said they sold their phones because a Demon told her to. Sarah was still paying on the phones that she sold. Sarah was asked about her Facebook posts and provided the following responses: "I literally had like a demon tell me that I need to leave my husband", "I literally deleted all of my pictures... I have no idea of what my passwords are. We had a fight, my husband and I had to sell our phones, and we had to get new phones, and I can't access any of my stuff. So, I do have Facebook, just don't have access to it right now." When asked about the vehicles Sarah and Stacey have, Sarah said the GMC pickup was repossessed. Sarah said she told Stacey when they heard the repo guys were coming to take the truck, "We are going to be the nicest repo they ever had today". Law enforcement was later told that the truck appeared to have been thoroughly cleaned prior to the repo.

Following the interview on November 15, 2021, Brandon reported Sarah and Stacey contacted him and told him that they were re-interviewed about M's abduction. Brandon said Stacey suggested Brandon come over to their place and create an alibi or write a letter on behalf of Sarah and Stacey saying that they were not involved in M's abduction.

Tina Morreale, Brandon Shurtliff's mother, was interviewed by law enforcement. Tina reported that Brandon's behavior changed after he lived with the Wondras. Tina explained that Brandon became more depressed and withdrawn, spending more time playing video games and smoking marijuana. Tina would not tell law enforcement where Brandon was or what his phone number was at that time.

Kay Ramsey, Sarah's mother, was interviewed and shown a picture of the tricycle described above. Kay claimed she found the tricycle in some bushes prior to M's abduction. The bushes that Kay described are near where Mr. Smit found the Tricycle just after M's abduction. Kay said that would be the reason her DNA would be on the tricycle. Kay said that after all of that effort, she left it at the intersection of Three Rivers Way and SW 8th Street. Kay was 73 years old in July of 2021 and the bushes were very difficult to get to.

Kay Ramsey also confirmed to law enforcement that Sarah and Stacey's dog had dug holes in the backyard of the Redwing residence. Kay reported the dog had dug up what she later determined to be the ear of a green stuffed animal. Kay said she had thrown away the stuffed ear.

Kay Ramsey is alleged to have withheld information and/or evidence in other criminal investigations involving Sarah in 2022. Then, Kay initially concealed a firearm used in an aggravated assault in which Sarah was later convicted (CR38-23-0512).

When law enforcement met with Sarah on October 12, 2022, Sarah said God told her he was going to help her find the boy. During the interview, at the first mention of "M" Sarah became emotional and broke down crying in front of the detective. Sarah wrote a "testimony" and said that if law enforcement

read it, they would locate M [redacted] redeemed Sarah for her sins.

Sarah suggested God had forgiven Hitler for his sins that God had

Kristi Kutch told Detectives prior to Sarah's arrest (April of 2022) she made a statement about Stacey being involved in the abduction of a five-year-old boy. Kristi said she made personal notes of their conversation. In June of 2022 there was a recorded jail phone call between Sarah and Kristi where Sarah advised Stacey had been arrested. Kristi asked if he had been charged with the kidnapping of a five-year-old boy. Sarah recanted her prior statements claiming that Kristi mis understood her prior comments. Also mentioned was how (Sarah's) dog was digging large holes in the backyard.

On November 5, 2022, at 00:55 hours, Stacey contacted Fruitland Police and requested an interview at the Washington County Jail. Stacey provided vague details about events surrounding M [redacted]'s abduction. Stacey said Sarah's religious beliefs and behavior changes started within a couple of days after M [redacted]'s abduction. After Stacey's arrest for an unrelated incident, Stacey spoke of changing phones/ and/or sims cards to prevent law enforcement to follow or profile him.

On November 10, 2022, Stacey again asked to speak with Fruitland Police detectives. Stacey wanted a "deal," the same offer that was given to Sarah in the M [redacted] V [redacted] case. Stacey admitted M [redacted] had been in his house the night of M [redacted]'s abduction. Stacey admitted the tricycle had been in his garage where Kim Elko had previously described seeing it.

Stacey then said that when he first saw M [redacted], Sarah was carrying M [redacted] into their home. Stacey said M [redacted] was put into a duffel bag to transport him out of their house and to Brandon's house in Kuna. Stacey said Sarah was frantic trying to figure out what to do and Brandon interjected, "I have a duffel bag." Stacey described M [redacted] as crying and to prevent him from moving or making noise, Stacey described how Sarah taped M [redacted] using duct tape. When asked who put M [redacted] in the bag, Stacey said Brandon grabbed the bag and gave it to Sarah. Sarah picked up M [redacted] as Adrien helped hold the sides of the bag open, as they shoved M [redacted] in the duffel bag. Stacey described M [redacted] was wiggling trying to get away. Stacey said he could see M [redacted] in the bag with his knees bent up in the fetal position. While describing and demonstrating how M [redacted] was taped and stuffed into a duffel bag in his living room, Stacey had a physical reaction and began violently vomiting. When asked if he was vomiting because of the chewing tobacco he was using, he indicated that he was throwing up because of the stress of talking about M [redacted].

Stacey provided two reasons they stopped in the GMC at the corner of SW 8th Street and South Arizona in Fruitland: 1- for Stacey to put power steering fluid into the vehicle and 2- so Brandon could check to see if M [redacted] was still alive because M [redacted] was bound with duct tape and stuffed into a duffel bag in the bed of the truck. Stacey said he was able to hear M [redacted] making noises like a "dull scream". Stacey said they were worried about being seen because they saw a car parked off of South Arizona.

Stacey said they drove straight to Brandon's mother's house in Kuna, Idaho, where Brandon grabbed both bags (the duffel containing M [redacted] and a backpack) and went into the house by himself. Stacey said that once they arrived in Kuna, M [redacted] was not making any more noises, and none of them had checked on M [redacted] to verify he was still alive. Stacey said that Brandon told him he left M [redacted] in the bag and put him in the spare room inside his mother's house.

They then towed Brandon's car back to Fruitland. Stacey said that Sarah, Brandon and Adrien went to Kuna the next day to get M [redacted]. The three of them brought M [redacted]'s body back to their house in Fruitland ([redacted]). He stated that he was inside, Brandon was "on guard" and Sarah and Adrien dug the hole together.

Stacey reported he did not previously report this information because he thought he would still get into trouble and because he was fearful of Sarah hurting him.

In an interview, Stacey stated that M had a stuffed animal, *"some sort of a stuffed animal. I want to say, like a dinosaur or monkey,"* and *"What I saw was a monkey, was a green, and looked like a green monkey."* In one interview, Stacey advised the lime green monkey was a dog toy that he and Sarah gave M to keep him quiet while he was sitting on the couch in their living room.

Additionally, Stacey stated that the idea to take a child to sell for money was Adrian's and they would get a \$10,000 cut. Stacey was asked if Sarah provided any direction throughout any part of this. Stacey said that Sarah asked him and Brandon to, "Follow her lead" which was to "take the kid." Stacey recalled that most of the conversation at that point was Sarah trying to figure out what they were going to do. Sarah had asked Brandon, "Where we should put the body and, and uh, Brandon was like, 'Well, you guys can take him...take him over to..to my house and well deal with it, and that will buy us some time.'"

Following his interview with law enforcement, Stacey called his mother, Tamara Johnson, from the Washington County Jail on a video visit. Tamara asked Stacey if M was alive. Stacey shook his head no and said, *"Sarah accidentally killed him."* Tamara asked, "How?" Stacey said, *"Suffocation"* and went on to say, *"they buried him in a duffel bag."*

After his interview and phone call to his mother, Stacey wrote an apology letter to M's parents and then attempted to hang himself in his jail cell but he was rescued by Washington County Jail Staff.

It should be noted that during some part of Stacey's incarceration in the Washington County Jail, prior to his confession and directions on where to find M's body, Sarah was out of custody and living back at the house on Redwing Street as evidenced by her being there when law enforcement arrived to execute the search warrant. Sarah could have had the time and ability to move any evidence from the property without Stacey's knowledge.

In June of 2022, Sarah called Kay Ramsey from jail and spoke about spouses being able to testify against each other. In a recorded phone call from the Washington County Jail to Sarah, Stacey expressed concern that Sarah was going to "turn on" Stacey. Sarah confirmed that Stacey was referring to M V. Sarah told Stacey that she had already told her attorney that she wasn't going to "turn on" Stacey and that she wasn't going to testify against Stacey. Stacey then reassured Sarah he never testify against her.

As a Search Warrant was executed on on November 12, 2022. Stacey described the exact location as to where to find M buried in the backyard of the residence. He instructed detectives through video chat.

Sarah Wondra, who was located in the residence at the time, was detained. As officers read to her the search warrant, Sarah made several strange statements: "Wow, that is a lot I definitely did not kill that boy." "The most high God already told me who did it so." "Oh wow, wow the most high God just told me that Stacey was the one who killed him and he buried him in the yard of Carson's house." She also said the "most high God" told her "Stacey was the one that killed him and he buried him." "The most high God just told me that Stacey was the one who did it." "He wants me to make sure you understand that I had nothing to do with it." "He said that Stacey buried him in the backyard by the shed." "It wasn't actually Stacey who harmed the boy." As Officers started to Search the residence, Sarah asked several times if the officers had "found him yet."

Idaho State Police and Ada County Sheriff's Office assisted with the execution of the search warrant at the Wondra residence, along with the five separate certified cadaver K-9s. Prior to officers digging in the backyard of the Wondra residence, cadaver K-9s were deployed, and alerted in the backyard of

.. A total of five Certified Cadaver K-9s were deployed and all five alerted inside the Wondra backyard, in the approximate area of where Stacey claimed he witnessed Sarah and Adrien bury M . Neither M nor any human remains, were located during the execution of this search warrant. Prior to excavating the backyard, law enforcement noted there were several areas in the yard that appeared to have been filled in with dirt and or re-sodded. Kay and Ed Ramsey reported they had filled in areas of the yard where Sarah and Stacey's dog had dug holes.

At various interviews after the disappearance of M V , Stacey was asked what happened to his and Sarah's cell phones from July of 2021. Stacey said Sarah wanted to "detract attentions so we are not on the radar" and that was the reason they sold the phones. When asked if there was evidence of the crime on these phones, Stacey said there were text messages. Investigation revealed that the Wondras changed their phones approximately three times in a five-month period. Stacey described purchasing SIM cards to put in his cell phone to evade law enforcement.

The GMC pickup was subsequently repossessed for non-payment. Stacey then called Kim's Kars wanting the truck back or to borrow it. He also told them to "hurry up and sell it." Stacey further advised that they sold the Lexus they had at the time M V was abducted.

Within a few weeks of M 's disappearance, the Wondras' I-Cloud data revealed Stacey and Sarah searched for rental houses in other states, financial assistance in different areas.

Additionally, a photo of items boxed up was taken on July 30, 2021, as if they were preparing to move.

In summation, Stacey confessed that the four members of the household, Stacey Wondra, Sarah Wondra, Brandon Shurtliff, and Adrien Lucienne, were all involved in the abduction and killing of M Vaughan. Their home is in the neighborhood adjacent to the home where M lived and was last seen. The neighbor, Dorothy Starkey, saw M riding a tricycle near the Wondra home at the time M went missing. That same tricycle was seen in Wondra garage prior to the abduction. That tricycle was discarded outside the neighborhood off a bluff after M went missing. Kay Ramsey, Sarah Wondra's mother, claimed to have found it and moved it to the entrance of the neighborhood, which is refuted by the fact that another neighbor, unrelated to the case, claimed to have found it and placed it there. Kay's story also does not account for the fact that the tricycle was in the house before being discarded and before M went missing. Live scent track dogs were deployed and the only house they showed interest in was the Wondra house. That same dog showed interest in the area where M went missing from and the area where the tricycle was discarded. Based on the foregoing, your affiant is requesting that Stacey Wondra be charged with kidnapping and murder in the first degree, as well as the concealment of evidence.

Section 9-1406: I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury pursuant to the law of the State of Idaho that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: 6-12-25

Signed: _____

Juanita Kelleher, Affiant

Probable Cause Hearing: (Telephonic)

Time: _____ **Date:** _____

Magistrate: _____

Charge(s)

Probable Cause Found:

yes/no

yes/no

yes/no

yes/no

Officer notified: _____