

STATE OF TEXAS

CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared the undersigned Affiant who, after being duly sworn by me, on oath stated:

My name is Eric P. Beckwith and I am a commissioned Peace Officer with the City of Denton Police Department, Denton County, Texas. I have good reason to believe and do believe that on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, that Eric Jamal Johnson (B/M, DOB: 10/25/1995, AZDL: D08913762), AKA "Santitas" did then and there commit the offense(s) of: Murder (TX Penal Code, 19.02), a 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Felony.

The Affiant's belief is based upon the following facts and information:

On 01/01/16, at approximately 0220, Detective Beckwith responded to the 1800 block of N. Elm St (City of Denton, Denton County, TX) in reference to a shooting that had just occurred. It was initially reported that the victim, identified as Sara Mutschlechner, had been shot in the head while operating her vehicle. At the time, Sara was traveling southbound on N. Elm St and had three other occupants in her vehicle, all of whom witnessed the shooting and whom stated the shots came from a black or dark colored SUV which had fled the scene.

Upon arrival, Detective Beckwith learned that Sara had been transported to Denton Regional Medical Center (DRMC) with life-threatening injuries. Sara's vehicle was observed to have left the roadway to the right and had impacted another vehicle, coming to rest against a telephone pole in the 1600 block of N. Elm. Other than the damage from the accident, it was observed that the driver's side window of the vehicle had been shattered and there was a small circular hole in the back right doorframe of the vehicle, consistent with that of a gunshot.

Surveillance video was obtained from a nearby gas station which showed two vehicles traveling S/B on Elm St at approximately 2:06am, one in the right lane, one in the left. As the vehicles pass the station, one shot is heard, and then moments later, another. The suspect vehicle appeared to be a mid-size SUV, larger in size than Sara's vehicle (which was a 4dr passenger car), and dark colored, possibly dark grey, as it appeared lighter in color than Sara's car, which was black. The clerk at the station was interviewed, who just happened to be standing outside at the time of the shooting, where he verified that he heard what he believes to be two gunshots. He saw a dark SUV speed away and Sara's car crash into the telephone pole.

Two occupants of Sara's vehicle were still at the incident location and contacted by investigators, identified as Daniel (back left seat passenger) and Cori (back right seat passenger). Both were escorted to the Denton Police Department, where interviews were conducted and further information obtained. Daniel and Cori stated that they had been at a large party in Denton (Identified as 3521 Cristoforo Dr) in which there were multiple musicians/rappers in attendance. They estimated that they stayed at the party for about 45 minutes, leaving at around 2am.

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While driving home, and upon reaching the intersection of N. Elm and University Dr, it was stated that a black colored SUV pulled along their right side, the occupants of the vehicle engaging Cori in conversation, asking where they were going and making lewd comments about the two females in the vehicle, saying they wanted to "fuck" them. Cori responded back to the males that he didn't appreciate their comments and one of the males in the back seat told him he would "Beat his ass". The driver of the vehicle stated, "I'll shoot your ass", and displayed a black semi-auto handgun.

When the light turned green, both vehicles (Sara's and the Suspect vehicle) continued southbound on Elm St, and when passing the Shell station at the corner two shots were fired from the suspect vehicle, one of those shots hitting Sara in the head, incapacitating her and causing her to lose control of the vehicle, striking a vehicle parked out of a nearby parking lot and eventually coming to rest against a telephone pole. The suspect vehicle continued at a high rate of speed, southbound on Elm.

Both Cori and Daniel believed that the vehicle was occupied by at least 5 black males and they recognized at least two of the males from the party they had just come from. One of those males was described as "Very young", no more than 16 years old, and that he had braces on his teeth. The other male was also described as younger, more "Light skinned", with a "Chubby face" and had been wearing a Chicago Cubs baseball cap. Those two males were stated to be in the backseat of the vehicle. The driver was described as a black male, older than the other two, and possibly dressed in a red shirt.

It was stated that the shots came from the driver's seat, as Cori stated he could see the "Muzzle flash" and the muzzle/barrel of the weapon, which was described as a black semi-auto handgun. Cori could not say what make/model of weapon it was, only that it was a semi-auto, as he stated that the shooter did not hold the weapon completely outside the window, instead just firing the shots from inside the cab of the suspect vehicle through the open driver's side window. Both Cori and Daniel stated that they did not know any of the males but would "Definitely" recognize the males should they see them again.

An investigation was conducted into the attendees of the party and the musical acts performing at the party. This resulted in several persons of interest being identified through social media and who matched the description of the males as described by witnesses. One of those males matched the description of the younger male with braces from the party and a backseat passenger of the suspect vehicle. That subject used the "Twitter" name "Tay-K", and was a member of one of the music groups that performed at the party, the "Daytona Boyz". Another member of the "Daytona Boyz" was identified by the Twitter name "Fuck PimpyZ" and matched the description of the male at the party in the Chicago Cubs hat and who was also a passenger in the suspect vehicle.

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Detectives researched the individual's social media accounts/profiles, where they made mention of the party on Cristoforo, and had posted the same invite as sent by Cori to Detective Beckwith. There were also several photos which were believed to have been taken on the night of the party. During the course of the investigation, Detective Beckwith received numerous photos, links to video clips from the party, and "invites" from additional males who were reported to be with the 'Daytona Boyz' Tay-K and PimpyZ at the party. One of these males was identified via Twitter as "Santana Sage".

There were photos of "Santana Sage" with "Tay-K" at the party on Cristoforo, as well as a photograph of "Santana Sage" and Tay-K in a vehicle, both wearing the same clothes from the party, but Tay-K in the backseat and Santana Sage in the driver's seat. Santana Sage was observed to be a black male and appeared to be in the ages of 18-25, wearing a red hooded sweatshirt with the words "Fuck Everybody" printed on the front (it was noted that Cori described the driver as a black male wearing a red shirt). Detectives contacted several individuals present at the party, who only knew the subjects by their alias names and confirmed that they were from the Denton area.

Additional surveillance video was obtained from other locations/local businesses in the area of the incident, as well as from the section of Elm St. which travels through the "Square" area of Denton and is on a direct path north from the location of the offense. Upon a review of that video, an SUV is seen traveling at a high rate of speed through the Square only minutes after the shooting and appears to be consistent in appearance with the vehicle seen on video surveillance from those other locations. The video was clearer however and some distinct features of the vehicle could be identified, such as what appeared to be two reflectors mounted on the lower back bumper area. The overall shape of the vehicle appeared to be more "Boxy" in appearance and the rear license plate was mounted higher up on the somewhat close to the back window. No license plate number or other identifiers could be obtained.

Detective Beckwith conducted a follow up interviews with Daniel and Cori and showed them photographs of the subjects located through the various social media feeds, where both Cori and Daniel were able to positively identify "Tay-K", "PimpyZ", and "Santana Sage" as being occupants of the suspect vehicle. Tay-K and PimpyZ were stated to have been in the backseat, while Santana Sage was stated to have been the driver and whom Cori saw with the black handgun and threaten to "Shoot" him. Upon seeing the photographs, Daniel remembered the "Fuck Everybody" shirts the subjects were wearing at the party and was "Positive" it was them who were both at the party and in the suspect vehicle.

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Through research of SantanaSage's social media profiles, investigators located photographs of him posing with a vehicle, the license plate of which was visible in those photographs. The owner of that vehicle was wanted as Eric Johnson. Research was conducted using the name/address from the license plate numbers, and an Eric Jamal Johnson (b/m, 10/25/95) was confirmed to be associated with that address, as well as an address in Fort Worth, TX. Johnson was found to have both an Arizona DL, as well as a Texas ID, and photographs were obtained from both. Those photos were compared to the photographs of "SantanaSage" and he was confirmed to be the same person. A search was conducted for vehicles registered to the Fort Worth address listed on Johnson's TX ID and a 2007 Honda Pilot (TXLR/BNV3693) was identified.

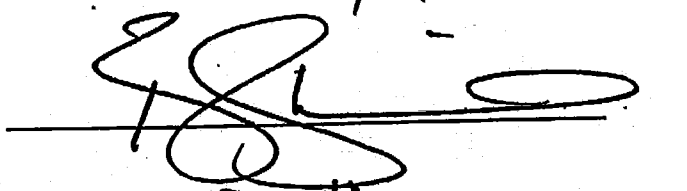
A search via the "Platescan" license plate scan database was conducted on the Honda, which revealed the vehicle had been located/scanned several times. A color photograph taken of the vehicle through that system revealed it to be grey in color. It was noted that the vehicle matched the description of the suspect vehicle as identified by witnesses (Dark colored SUV) and there were characteristics of the vehicle that matched those seen on video of the suspect vehicle, such as the reflectors on the bumper and overall vehicle shape.

Since the time of the shooting, it was learned that Sara had succumbed to her injuries (Consisting of a single gunshot wound to her head) and that she had been declared deceased. Based on information obtained through the investigation, it is believed that Eric Jamal Johnson, identified as the driver of the suspect vehicle and person who discharged a firearm, committed the offense of Murder, as with the intent to cause serious bodily injury (Telling witness he would "Shoot" him) and in the commission of an act clearly dangerous to human life (Discharging a firearm at an occupied vehicle), he caused the death of an individual, the victim, Sara Mutschlechner.

Wherefore, premises considered, your Affiant respectfully requests that a warrant be issued for the arrest of Eric Jamal Johnson, AKA "SantanaSage" to answer for the offense of Murder in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas.

  
AFFIANT

Sworn to and subscribed before me on the 4 day of January, 2016

  
JUDGE, 211<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT COURT  
DENTON COUNTY, STATE OF TEXAS