



# SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT



## PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

Date: 06/29/2021 Case #: SPD200711022280

I, CHELSEA TAYLOR, a law enforcement officer, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state as follows:

1. I have probable cause to believe that JOSEPH FLORES, White/Male, DOB [REDACTED] 1978, committed one or more criminal offenses.

2. The following crime(s) happened on 2020/03/01 23:59 - 2020/07/11 04:15 at [REDACTED] in Springfield, Greene County, Missouri.

3. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

I, Detective C. Taylor #1242, was assigned this case for follow-up investigation. I obtained the following information during the course of my investigation.

On 07/16/2020, [REDACTED] (DOB 01/10/2007) completed a child forensic interview at the Child Advocacy Center in Springfield, MO. During his interview, he disclosed the following information. According to [REDACTED], his parents would lock him in his bedroom (by turning the door knobs backwards), had nailed his window shut, would place him, naked, in a "puppy cage" and dog kennel (occupied by two dogs) as a form of punishment, would pour urine on him, would call him "dumbass", "bitch", and the "n word", and would hit him with an extension cord on his back, legs, head, chest, arms, knees, buttocks, and stomach. [REDACTED] stated that all these acts started when Springfield Public Schools were shut down and parents were forced to homeschool due to COVID, which was determined to be in approximately March of 2020 while they were living a [REDACTED] in Springfield, MO.

A child-at-risk exam was completed on [REDACTED] while at the Child Advocacy Center. The medical provider completing the exam documented that patterned bruising was observed during the exam, along with unexplained scars. The medical provider documented her diagnosis as being child physical abuse with concerns that this may fit the category of child torture.

I attempted to interview [REDACTED]'s guardians, Joseph and Peggy Flores, however, they invoked their Fifth Amendment Rights.

I am requesting that an arrest warrant be issued because (complete at least one of the following):

- I have reasonable grounds to believe the defendant will not appear upon a summons based on the facts stated above and the following information:

Joseph currently has a warrant, out of Colorado, for Failure to Register as a Sex Offender.

Not Applicable

2. I have reasonable grounds to believe the defendant poses a danger to a crime victim, the community, or any other person based on the facts stated above and the following information:

Not Applicable

The facts contained above are true to the best of my information and belief.

/s/ C. Taylor #1242

1242

Officer

Signature

DSN

Title