

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WHITE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

STATE OF ARKANSAS

PLAINTIFF

VS.

CR-2015-583

JEFFERY LEROY CLIFTON

DEFENDANT

MOTION TO UNSEAL FILE

Now on this day comes on for consideration the above captioned case. That this matter was sealed from public inspection on December 1, 2015 for reasons of law enforcement necessity. That it is no longer necessary for this matter to be sealed and the State requests that this matter be unsealed.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca D. Reed McCoy

Rebecca D. Reed McCoy
Prosecuting Attorney

ORDER TO UNSEAL FILE

The State's Motion is granted for the reasons stated and that this matter is hereby unsealed.

Robert Edwards

Robert Edwards,
Circuit Court Judge

12-3-2015

Date

BENCH WARRANT

012301

STATE OF ARKANSAS, To Any Sheriff, Constable or Policeman of this State:

JEFFERY LEROY CLIFTON B/M DOB: 6/26/72

YOU ARE COMMANDED forthwith to arrest

605 Chrisp Ave., Apt. 4E, Searcy, AR

SID: 3063751

and bring him before the White County Circuit Court, to answer an indictment in that Court against him for the offense of Capital Murder in Violation of ACA § 5-10-101 (a)(9)(A), a Class Y Felony; Abuse of a Corpse in Violation of ACA § 5-60-101 (a)(2)(A)(b) a Class C Felony;

or if the Court be adjourned for the term, that you deliver him to the jailer of White County.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court, this 1 day of DECEMBER A.D. 2015

Robert Edwards
JUDGE

REBECCA D. REED MCCOY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

CR-2015-583

INFORMATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WHITE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

THE STATE OF ARKANSAS
Vs.

JEFFERY LEROY CLIFTON B/M DOB: 6/26/
72 [REDACTED] 605
Chrisp Ave, Apt.4E, Searcy, AR
SID: 3063751 CR-2015-583

INFORMATION
"Capital Murder in Violation of ACA § 5-10-101(a)(9)(A),
a Class Y Felony; 2 Abuse of a Corpse in Violation of
ACA § 5-60-101 (a)(2)(A)(b), a Class C Felony;

I, Rebecca D. Reed, Prosecuting Attorney within and for the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of the State of Arkansas, of which White County is a part, in the name and by the authority of the State of Arkansas, on oath, accuse the defendant,

JEFFERY LEROY CLIFTON

of the crime of Capital Murder: Abuse of a Corpse:

committed as follows, to-wit: The said JEFFERY LEROY CLIFTON
in the County and State aforesaid, on or about the 20TH day of NOVEMBER, 2014,

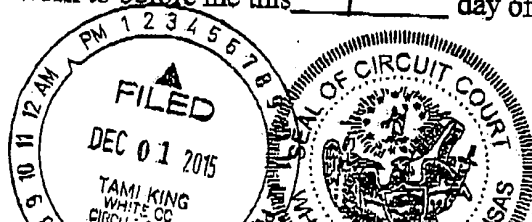
did unlawfully and feloniously under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life, being over the age of 18 knowingly cause the death of a person fourteen (14) years of age or younger, to-wit: Minor DOB: 6/30/2012, against the peace and dignity of the State of Arkansas;

(2) Said Defendant, on the date and in the county and state aforesaid, did unlawfully and feloniously physically mistreats or conceals a corpse in a manner offensive to a person of reasonable sensibilities, to-wit: MALIK DRUMMOND;

against the peace and dignity of the State of Arkansas. **REBECCA D. REED/MCCOY**

Rebecca D. Reed McCoy
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of December 2015.



Tami King
Circuit Clerk
Rebecca D. Reed McCoy

warrant #012301

AFFIDAVIT
CASE NUMBER: SP-03684-14
Jeffery Leroy Clifton
B/M, DOB 06/26/1972
SSN: [REDACTED]
ATN:

COMES NOW, **DETECTIVE TERRI LEE**, OF THE SEARCY POLICE DEPARTMENT AND AFTER BEING SWORN ON OATH STATES:

On November 23, 2014 at approximately 6:30 p.m., Searcy Police officers responded to 710 West Park Avenue in Searcy, regarding the report of a missing two-year old. Upon arrival, officers spoke to the child's father, Jeffery Clifton, who stated while he was sleeping, the child, Malik Drummond, walked out of the house and could not be found. Witness #1 (W1) was also in the house at the time of the alleged disappearance. W1 was in the bathtub with another child when Malik reportedly disappeared from the house. After an extensive search of the area failed to locate Malik, a criminal investigation was initiated.

During the course of the criminal investigation, numerous inconsistencies emerged regarding the initial report of Malik's disappearance. During several interviews with Clifton, he continued to say he knew nothing about the disappearance of Malik except what he previously reported.

On November 23, 2015, Detective Terri Lee and Special Agent Charles B. Watkins (FBI) interviewed W1 who was present in the Clifton home during the week of November 20-23, 2014. W1 told us Jeffery Clifton beat Malik on Thursday, November 20, 2014 and kept his body hidden until early Sunday morning. W1 said Clifton then took the body and disposed of it, but did not tell W1 where or how. Clifton and W1 then staged the events on Sunday, November 23, 2014 to report that Malik was missing.

W1 stated Malik and other children in the household were eating dinner on the coffee table in the living room on Thursday, November 20, 2014. Malik was not eating and Clifton got mad at him. W1 said Clifton took Malik into the bedroom to discipline him. W1 said they came out and Malik started eating. W1 gave the other kids a bath at this time. W1 said Malik then drank all of another child's drink so Clifton got mad at him again. W1 said Clifton then took him back in the room again while W1 begged him not to. W1 said when Clifton brought Malik back out, Malik did not act or look okay. W1 begged Clifton to take Malik to the hospital, but he would not listen. W1 said Clifton was scared to take Malik in because of the extensive bruising on Malik's body. W1 said Clifton beat Malik and his twin sister on several occasions. W1 pointed out a bruise on Malik's lip, in one of the pictures on the Missing Poster published by law enforcement officials, was an injury inflicted by Clifton on a previous occasion.

W1 said Clifton put Malik in the bathtub to see how the water would affect him. W1 said the other kids were asleep and Malik was in the bed between W1 and Clifton. W1 said Malik's legs were cold and his belly was swelling. W1 said Malik started making a choking sound and W1

tried CPR. W1 said Clifton wrapped Malik up in a purple robe and took him outside. W1 said Malik was wearing the clothes he was reported missing in, and he was also wearing a diaper. W1 said Clifton came back in later and said it was too late. W1 was hysterical and Clifton sent W1 over to the neighbor's apartment to spend the night. W1 went next door with two of the children. W1 told the neighbor (W2), that W1 and Clifton were fighting. In a subsequent interview with W2, W2 confirmed these events.

Later that same day, W1 said Clifton then came to get W1 and they sat in the truck, trying to come up with a plan. W1 said while they were in the truck, Clifton first tried to come up with a way to frame Malik's biological mother for taking Malik. Clifton came up with the plan to tell police Malik walked out of the door. Clifton said he would take W1 down with him if W1 told anyone what actually happened. W1 said Clifton went to work on Friday with Malik's body in the back seat of Clifton's pick-up truck. W1 said Clifton asked his brother (W3) for his Durango on Saturday. W3 confirmed these events in a subsequent interview. On November 30, 2014, a cadaver dog alerted on the interior of the Durango and a search warrant was executed on the vehicle.

W1 recalled an incident from a few months prior to Malik's reported disappearance, when Clifton had beaten Malik and placed him in a playpen. W1 said W3 came over to the house and saw the bruises on Malik. W1 said Malik was in the playpen and W3 said "He don't need to do that to that boy". In a subsequent interview, W3 confirmed seeing Malik in the playpen with bruising on his face.

W1 said Clifton put Malik's body in the borrowed Durango and left 710 West Park at about 3:00 a.m., on Sunday morning, November 23, 2014. W1 also said when Clifton took the Durango to dispose of Malik's body, Clifton left his phone at the house because "he knew it had GPS on it." W1 said Clifton came back about sunrise (approximately 6:30 a.m.). W1 said Clifton was awake the whole weekend and told W1 what to do later that day in order to implement the prior plan to tell police Malik walked off. Clifton told W1 to text him about Malik; to create the impression Malik was still alive that weekend.

W1 told us that a friend of Clifton (W4) came over to the house on Thursday, November 20, 2014, and saw all of the children, including Malik. W1 said W4 came over on Saturday as well to bring some toys to the children. In a subsequent interview, W4 confirmed these events. W4 specifically recalled holding Malik on the November 20 visit and noticed his absence on the November 22 visit, while noting all of the other children in the household were present.

On November 24, 2015, W1 conducted a consensual recording of a conversation W1 had with Clifton. In that conversation, W1 spoke to Clifton about Malik. When W1 asked "what if they find his (Malik's) body?", Clifton replied "we already talked about this. This is not the time to talk about this. We need to talk face-to-face."

On November 25, 2015, W1 conducted a consensual recording of an in-person conversation with Clifton. W1 talked to Clifton at his residence. W1 started a conversation about Malik. Clifton

Said "they can't come at you with nothin'. The only person that [would] know is me." Clifton said "All you got to remember is to keep saying you don't know ... I don't care what they say whatever they is saying, they don't have anything ... I don't care what they say, they don't have shit. You know this. So I don't care what they tell you they say it is. 'No I didn't. No I didn't.'" He told W1 "That's why I don't want to say nothin' about it. Got me spooked."

I, Therefore, request a warrant for Jeffery Leroy Clifton, B/M, DOB 06/26/1972, [REDACTED] on one count of Capital Murder, A.C.A. 5-10-101, A Class Y Felony and Abuse of a Corpse, A.C.A. 5-60-101, a Class C Felony.

This case is under investigation.

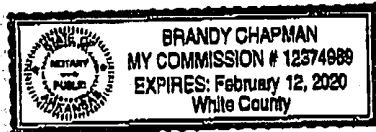
Det. Terri Lee

Detective Terri Lee

STATE OF ARKANSAS

COUNTY OF WHITE

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS 1 DAY OF December 2015.



Brandy Chapman

NOTARY