





RECEIPT

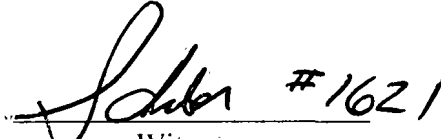
The undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of the following described property seized from Apple iPhone 14 Pro Max labeled with case number C4-004700 and property number Q2404330 located in the Lincoln Police Department Property Unit at 575 S. 10 St., Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska:

Full File System extraction from Apple iPhone  
UFDR report of the extraction

Lancaster County, NE  
FILED  
MAY 20 2024  
Clerk of the District Court

DATED this 17 day of May, 2024.

  
Law Enforcement Officer

  
Witness

C4-004700

MAY 20 2024

Clerk of the District Court

**IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

**STATE OF NEBRASKA** )  
 ) ss. **SEARCH WARRANT**  
**COUNTY OF LANCASTER** )

TO: Lynette Russell, a certified law enforcement officer with the Lincoln Police Department, Lancaster County, Nebraska, any and all law enforcement officers, or others as needed by law enforcement.

WHEREAS, Lynette Russell has filed an Affidavit before the undersigned Judge of the County Court of Lancaster County, Nebraska, and said written Affidavit, having been duly considered, the court finds that the facts set forth in said Affidavit are true, and that those facts do constitute grounds and probable cause for the issuance of a Search Warrant pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §29-814.04.

THEREFORE, you are commanded to search and seize the items as described below.

**Property to be Searched and Seized**

Law enforcement and those assisting law enforcement is directed to search the following:

- **iphone Cell Phone**, to include any digital storage device within, in the possession of the Lincoln Police Department located in Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, labeled with:
  - Property Number: **Q2404330**
  - Case Number **C4-004700**

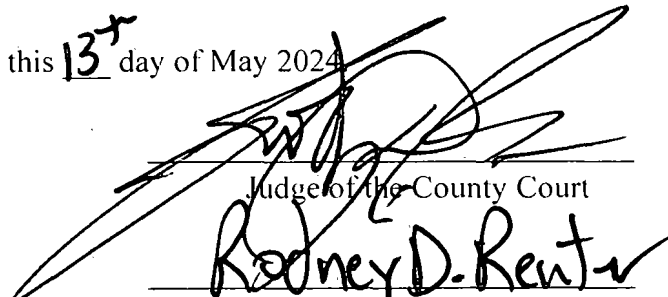
And seize the following evidence, to include any live and/or deleted data:

1. Device identifiers, information, and configurations.
2. User account information and any associated accounts on the device.
3. Databases and file systems.
4. Device activity logs and application usage logs
5. Call logs.
6. Contact lists.
7. Short Message Service (SMS), Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS) messages and instant messages.
8. Chat messages from installed applications.
9. Email messages.
10. Installed applications and their corresponding accounts and data.
11. Images and associated metadata.

12. Videos, and associated metadata.
13. Audio files, including voicemails, and associated metadata.
14. Document files and associated metadata.
15. Internet browsing history, including bookmarks, searches, browser cookies and other associated cache files.
16. Location data to include cellular tower connections, GPS (Global Positioning System) fixes, waypoints, routes, tracks, maps, and associated metadata.
17. Wireless networks, Bluetooth, IP addresses, and synchronization connection history.
18. Memos and notes (typed and voice).
20. Calendar information.
21. Passwords, keychains.

This Search Warrant shall be executed and returned within ten (10) days to the Clerk of the Lancaster District Court, Nebraska. In the event the search and/or seizure is not complete within ten (10) days, law enforcement is authorized to return the search warrant within ten (10) days upon completion of the search and seizure.

Given under my hand and seal this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge of the County Court  
Rodney D. Rentz  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Judge



IN THE COUNTY COURT OF LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA

STATE OF NEBRASKA )  
 ) ss. AFFIDAVIT FOR SEARCH WARRANT  
COUNTY OF LANCASTER )

Lancaster County, NE  
FILED  
MAY 20 2024  
Clerk of the District Court

Lynette Russell, a certified law enforcement officer for the Lincoln Police Department, being first duly sworn upon oath deposes and states that your Affiant is currently involved in the investigation of Strangulation [28-310.01], 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Domestic Assault [28-323], and Terroristic Threats [28-311.01], occurring in Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska.

**Affiant's Background**

Your Affiant has been a law enforcement officer since 1998. Your Affiant has received basic academy training and additional training through the Lincoln Police Department. Affiant has experience in conducting criminal investigations including misdemeanor and felony offenses.

This Affidavit is being submitted for the limited purpose of securing a search warrant. Your Affiant has not set forth every fact known regarding this investigation. The facts contained in this Affidavit are based in part on the investigations that your Affiant has conducted, or information provided to your Affiant by other law enforcement officers.

**Case Facts**

According to reports by Officer Sims (#1835) with the Lincoln Police Department, on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at approximately 1635 hours, Officer Sims was dispatched to Fast Mart, 3293 A St, Lincoln, Nebraska, on a report of a suspicious person in progress. (C4-004700) A male passerby called in to dispatch stating he was at the Fast Mart when he observed a white female in a black Ford Explorer (NE:YJA 483) flag him down by waving and mouthing for help.

After running the provided license plate in the local Record Management System Bethaney Seher, was identified as the vehicle's registered owner. Officers attempted to contact Seher by phone but were unsuccessful. A short time later, Seher called officers back and advised she was in the bathroom at Home Depot, 6800 S 70<sup>th</sup> St, Lincoln,

Nebraska, and further reported she had been assaulted by her intimate partner of approximately 4 months, Cody Williams.

Officers contacted Seher and she stated that on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, while she was at her and Williams' apartment at 4609 Calvert Street Apartment #3, Lincoln, Nebraska, she saw Williams' phone and it contained a message from a previous girlfriend. Seher asked Williams about the messages, and he became upset with her. Seher stated Williams put his right hand around her throat, which caused her to not be able to breathe, and slammed her down onto the bed. Seher said Williams had his right hand around her neck applying pressure, causing her to not be able to breathe for approximately 4-5 seconds. Seher said Williams then took both hands and grabbed her by the shoulders and was slamming her back down on the bed. Seher said Williams then punched her in the right leg two times. Seher was able to get Williams off her and Williams left the room. Seher had visible injuries, including bruising to her left arm and on her right shoulder. Seher complained of pain on her head and leg where she was punched.

On January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, your AFFIANT met with Sehr at the Lincoln Police Department for follow-up photos. During this follow-up, Sehr advised that she had been receiving messages from Williams on her cell phone through text messages as well as through Facebook Messenger. She said that he is trying to get her to say that she made a false report, which she didn't.

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at approximately 0059 hours, Officer Toft (#1830) with the Lincoln Police Department, was dispatched to 2025 Lake Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, on a report of threats. According to Officer Toft's reports under C4-008232, Seher reported the following. Seher reported her ex-boyfriend, Williams, and William's new girlfriend, Aliyah Bretz, both threatened her. Seher reported the threats included breaking into her residence, shooting her dog, and dragging her out of the house by her hair. Seher also stated Bretz threatened to pull her teeth out with pliers.

While officers were taking the report Bretz called Seher's utilizing Facebook. Bretz told Seher to pull up to 1734 Avenue A St, which was her previous address in Council Bluff, Iowa. Bretz told Bethaney 'I wanna beat the fuck outta you bitch.' Bretz called her a 'bitch' several more times. Williams then got on the line, threatened to take action to get her custody of her child taken away, and called her a 'bitch' several more times.

A few minutes later Seher received a phone call from Williams. Williams stated 'That's why I beat up everyone in that fucking house cause you were tough, huh? Bitch I'll do you next, huh, watch who you're talking to.' Seher was one hundred percent certain this was Williams' voice on the phone. It should also be noted that the phone number used by Williams was identified as William's phone number in the local Record Management System. Seher stated Williams' statements put her in fear for her life. Seher was very distraught during the conversation with officers.

An arrest warrant was issued for Williams and he was arrested on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 by the Lancaster County Fugitive Task Force. Williams' iPhone with a broken case was collected search incident to arrest and was ultimately placed into a Faraday phone locker at the Lincoln Police Department at 575 S 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE. by Lancaster Deputy Johnson. Sgt. Dittman, with the Electronic Evidence Unit at the Lincoln Police Department, advised that Williams' iPhone is currently in the Electronic Evidence Unit lab at 605 S 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE.

### **Background on Digital Devices**

Through your Affiant's training and past experience, and from information provided by Electronic Evidence Unit forensic examiners, your Affiant is aware that:

Digital devices are often used to communicate via voice, text messaging, social media or other communication applications; and share data with other users and that such digital data can be transferred between various digital devices. Information associated with such data may show evidence of past, current, and future criminal activity. The information also assists law enforcement in determining the identity and culpability of participants, and the identity of victims and/or witnesses. As such, digital devices can serve both as an instrument for committing crime, as well as a storage medium for evidence of the crime.

There have been numerous instances where criminal participants utilized digital devices to photograph themselves, associates and/or co-conspirators, and victims; instances in which digital devices were used by criminal participants to create videos of their criminal activity; instances where criminal participants have used digital devices' internet applications to research crimes they have or intend to participate in; instances in which criminal participants have maintained notes within digital devices; and instances in which criminal participants used global positioning, mapping and other location services to facilitate in-person meetings with co-conspirators and/or a victim. Affiant also states that it is common for users of digital devices to communicate using a variety of methods including text messages, audio files, videos and images. It is also common for users to utilize all of these methods in a single conversation. For example, a user may send an image, video and/or audio clip in a text message conversation. Failing to extract this data may seriously jeopardize law enforcement's ability to understand the context of the conversation, which may be inculpatory or exculpatory.

On a digital device, data can be created in a matter of moments because most operations can be performed almost instantly, which would be relevant to the incident being investigated. The data can be created intentionally or accidentally by the user, or automatically by the device itself as a part of its regular functioning. Through the normal



operation of a device, it logs location data, user interactions, location data, passwords, keychains, notifications, wireless connections and stores this information in databases and/or file systems.

Electronic evidence can remain on the digital devices for indefinite periods of time after the data was created, even if deleted by the user. Data generally is stored on the physical memory of the digital device, but also can be stored on removable storage devices such as Secure Digital (SD) and Subscriber Identification Module (SIM) cards. A forensic examiner may be able to recover information deleted by the user throughout the working life span of the device.

As explained herein, information stored in digital devices may provide crucial evidence of the “who, what, why, when, where, and how” of the criminal conduct under investigation. In your Affiant’s training and experience, digital device data can indicate who has used or controlled the digital device. This “user attribution” evidence is analogous to the search for “indicia of occupancy” while executing a search warrant at a residence.

To obtain and search the data from the aforementioned digital device, your Affiant requests the ability to enlist the aid of non-law enforcement who are trained in conducting forensic analysis of the data in retrieving and analyzing the data. In order to successfully complete an examination, it may be necessary to repair or replace components, or utilize potentially destructive methods. Your Affiant requests authorization to utilize the least destructive means to analyze the device before using more potentially destructive methods.

It may be required to examine every file and scan its contents briefly to determine whether it falls within the scope of the warrant. This is necessary as it is difficult to know prior to the search the level of technical ability of the device’s user and data can be hidden, moved, encoded or mislabeled to evade detection. This would be relevant to not including a time frame restriction to this search.

Your Affiant also knows that if these items are not isolated and seized from network connectivity in a timely manner, evidence may be destroyed, transferred, encrypted, modified, or otherwise lost forever. Your Affiant knows that data recovered from digital devices could be used to refute or corroborate data recovered from other mobile devices or obtained from service providers.

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21. Passwords, keychains.

The search of digital devices is a lengthy process requiring special steps to ensure the integrity of the digital devices. In the event the search and/or seizure of evidence is not completed within ten (10) days, your Affiant is requesting authorization to return the search warrant within ten (10) days upon completion of the search and seizure.

Further AFFIANT saith not;

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.

Lynette Russell

Lynette Russell AFFIANT

SUBSCRIBED to in my presence and sworn to before me this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.

[Signature]  
Judge of the County Court

Rodney D. Renter

Printed Name of Judge

