

STATE OF WISCONSIN		CIRCUIT COURT	MILWAUKEE COUNTY
STATE OF WISCONSIN Plaintiff,		DA Case No.: 2022ML013239 Court Case No.:	
vs. HUGHES, MARKELL SINCLAIR 9008 WEST LAYTON AVENUE #11 GREENFIELD, WI 53228 DOB: 02/22/2005		CRIMINAL COMPLAINT	
Defendant(s).		<i>For Official Use</i>	

THE BELOW NAMED COMPLAINANT BEING DULY SWORN, ON INFORMATION AND BELIEF STATES THAT:

Count 1: DRIVE OR OPERATE A VEHICLE WITHOUT OWNER'S CONSENT

The above-named defendant on or about Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 3600 West Courtland Avenue, in the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, did intentionally drive or operate a vehicle, a 2021 Hyundai Elantra, without the consent of the owner, MDP, contrary to sec. 943.23(3), 939.50(3)(i) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, a Class I Felony, the defendant may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than three (3) years and six (6) months, or both.

Count 2: FIRST DEGREE RECKLESSLY ENDANGERING SAFETY

The above-named defendant on or about Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 3600 West Courtland Avenue, in the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, did recklessly endanger the safety of SJM, under circumstances which show utter disregard for human life, contrary to sec. 941.30(1), 939.50(3)(f) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, a Class F Felony, the defendant may be fined not more than Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), or imprisoned not more than twelve (12) years and six (6) months, or both.

Count 3: OBSTRUCTING AN OFFICER

The above-named defendant on or about Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 949 North 9th Street, in the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, did knowingly obstruct an officer, while such officer was doing an act in an official capacity and with lawful authority, contrary to sec. 946.41(1), 939.51(3)(a) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, a Class A Misdemeanor, the defendant may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than nine (9) months, or both.

Count 4: BAIL JUMPING (FELONY)

The above-named defendant on or about Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 949 North 9th Street, in the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, having been charged with a felony and released from

custody under Chapter 969 of the Wisconsin Statutes, did intentionally fail to comply with the terms of his bond, contrary to sec. 946.49(1)(b), 939.50(3)(h) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, a Class H Felony, the defendant may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than six (6) years, or both.

Probable Cause:

Complainant is a City of Milwaukee Police law enforcement officer and bases this complaint on information and belief and on a review of official police reports prepared by fellow City of Milwaukee police officers which are of the kind Complainant has used in the past and found to be truthful and reliable and which Complainant knows were prepared in the ordinary and regular course of police business. The complainant states that the events described in this complaint occurred in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin unless otherwise noted.

Complainant states that on the morning of May 17, 2022, Police Officer Sadowski went to the Hawthorn Suites at 1001 West College Avenue in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, in response to a call about a stolen vehicle situation. Upon arrival, law enforcement spoke with LP, who was renting the vehicle from Hertz Rental at the time of the theft. LP informed law enforcement that the car was a red 2021 Hyundai Elantra with a key-start ignition and a Pennsylvania license plate which read KHW5787 (vin: 5NPLL4AG0MH050722). LP informed law enforcement that the car was taken at some point between 6:30 pm the night of May 16, 2022, and the morning of May 17, 2022. LP showed law enforcement where the vehicle had been parked in the Hawthorn Suites parking lot. Law enforcement observed broken glass on the ground where LP stated the car was parked.

Police spoke with the fleet manager for Hertz in Milwaukee, MEP, who stated that no one other than LP or Hertz personnel had permission to drive this car. Following this incident, the Oak Creek Police Department dispatch entered the Hyundai Elantra into NCIC as stolen.

Officer Sadowski contacted a fleet manager at Hertz Rental, identified as MP, about the car theft. Later on the day of May 17, 2022, a report was made to the Wauwatosa Police Department by victim QC that her 2021 blue Kia Seltos was stolen from 11500 W. Burleigh St. in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. The victim stated that the car was taken after 11:50 am on May 17, 2022. The Wauwatosa Police Department filed a case about this theft (Wauwatosa Police Department Case #22-010463).

On May 31, 2022, a video was uploaded to YouTube, titled "Kia Boys Documentary (A Story of Teenage Car Theft)." The video shows an incident from May 17, 2022, in which a red Hyundai Elantra is caught at and around 3600 W. Courtland Ave in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, driving at a high rate of speed, down a one-way street the wrong way. This incident occurred within feet of a school. The Elantra is seen skidding off the road and over the curb, onto a sidewalk. The driver of the Elantra misses a female bystander, later identified as SJM (a 17 year old), who was on the sidewalk by mere feet. SJM told police that if she had not moved out of the way that the car would have struck her. Later in the video, the Elantra speeds down a one-way road, swerving erratically, narrowly missing a male bystander running across the road. Multiple people are seen sprinting away from the car through the documentary. The license plate of the Elantra in the video is the same Pennsylvania plate from MEP's rental Elantra (KHW5787). The Elantra had a spare tire of the front driver's side and had tape over the window on the rear passenger's side window.

On May 17, 2022, following the occurrence of the incident recorded in the YouTube video, the Milwaukee Police Department received a call from an unknown caller reporting a maroon Hyundai driving recklessly at high rates of speed. The caller informed law enforcement that the subjects were changing a tire behind the Walgreens, located at 6707 W. Hampton Avenue in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Around six minutes later and about 1.5 miles away, law enforcement received a report of a car accident involving a school bus and a blue Kia Seltos, at 3800 West Nash St. in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Milwaukee Police Officer Young reported to the scene of the accident. The school bus involved in the accident was occupied by a driver and eight young children. The crash occurred at approximately 3:46 PM.

Video footage of the accident was taken on the phone of a bystander (YRT). This video showed a man, later identified by law enforcement as QLS, arrive at the crash scene in a red Hyundai Elantra wearing a black hooded sweatshirt with the word "Glock" written on it in white lettering. This sweatshirt matches the depiction of the sweatshirt of the front passenger in the YouTube video.

In the bystander's video of the crash, QLS gets out of the rear passenger-side of the Hyundai Elantra and approaches the crashed Kia Seltos. QLS opens rear passenger-side door and assists an unknown woman exit the vehicle. QLS then proceeds to the front passenger seat and retrieves items. QLS returned to the red Hyundai Elantra, whereby the vehicle fled the scene. The Elantra in the bystander video has the same Pennsylvania license plate as the previous police reports (KHW5787).

On June 7, 2022, Detective Gonzales was provided the bystander's video footage of the crash. Detective Gonzales was able to positively identify QLS from the booking photo provided by the Wauwatosa Police Department. The bystander video of the crash shows that the driver of the red Hyundai Elantra is a light-skinned black male wearing a black sweater and shoulder-length dreadlock styled hair. This depiction is consistent with the defendant's booking photos taken by the Milwaukee Police Department on March 8, 2022, and May 30, 2022. On June 5, 2022, the Milwaukee Police Department received an anonymous tip which stated that the driver of the vehicle in the YouTube documentary was the defendant.

The Kia Seltos involved in the crash was processed by law enforcement. On June 3, 2022, Latent Print Examiner Wagoner recovered several fingerprints from the Kia Seltos. Three separate prints recovered from the Kia Seltos matched QLS. An additional recovered print, taken from the center display console in the car, matched the left-thumb of the defendant, Markell S. Hughes.

On June 2, 2022, law enforcement recovered the stolen red Hyundai Elantra with the same Pennsylvania license plate (KHW5787) and vin (5NPLL4AG0MH050722). The recovered Elantra had a spare tire on the front driver's side and had tape over the window on the rear passenger's side window. No useable fingerprints were recovered from the vehicle.

The defendant was arrested on May 30, 2022, for two offenses of Take and Drive Vehicle without Owner's Consent, and one offense of Operate Vehicle without Owner's Consent-Passenger (neither of which are related to the Kia Seltos or Hyundai Elantra).

On June 8, 2022, Detective Gonzales reviewed jail calls placed by the defendant on June 6, 2022. In those calls, the defendant states "I heard my video went viral too. I heard my shit hit 50K in one day." The video has close to 500,000 views after two weeks."

Detective Gonzales met with QC and showed her the booking photos of QLS and the defendant. QC stated that she did not recognize either person, nor did she provide them with permission to take, operate, or be a passenger in her vehicle.

On June 10, 2022, Det. Gonzales interviewed the defendant regarding various matters, including the May 17, 2022, incident in which the Elantra was driven up on the curb at 3600 W. Courtland and SJM had to get out of the car's way. The defendant admitted to being the driver of the car in this incident and said he was going too fast. Det. Gonzales showed him the video and the defendant pointed out that SJM was standing near a fire hydrant on the video and started laughing when talking about SJM. He

said he does not steal cars but he agreed with Det. Gonzales when the detective said, "You just drive them."

On June 9, 2022, Milwaukee Police Officers Sutyak and Graham responded to 949 N 9th Street in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, upon notification that the defendant had his preliminary for case 2022CF002170. Law enforcement intercepted the defendant on his way out of prelim court and advised the defendant that he was under arrest. Both Police Officer Sutyak and Graham were in full Milwaukee Police Department uniform at the time. Detective Gonzales was also in the area during the exchange.

As law enforcement was placing handcuffs on the defendant outside of prelim court, the defendant attempted to flee from the officers. The defendant quickly bent down to his knees and pulled his hands away from Police Officer Sutyak and attempted to run. The officers quickly apprehended the defendant and decentralized him. From there, the defendant was taken into custody.

On June 9, 2022, the defendant was out on bail in Milwaukee Co. Circuit Court case 22CF2170 in which he had been charged with the felony offense of Attempt Take and Drive Vehicle Without Owner's Consent. He made his initial appearance in that case on June 3, 2022, and was released from custody pursuant to a \$1000 personal recognizance bond. One of the conditions of his release is/was that he commit no new crime.

Milwaukee Police have identified the defendant's fingerprints in six other stolen cars not mentioned in this complaint.

****End of Complaint****

Electronic Filing Notice:

This case was electronically filed with the Milwaukee County Clerk of Circuit Court office. The electronic filing system is designed to allow for fast, reliable exchange of documents in court cases. Parties who register as electronic parties can file, receive and view documents online through the court electronic filing website. A document filed electronically has the same legal effect as a document filed by traditional means. You may also register as an electronic party by following the instructions found at <http://efiling.wicourts.gov/> and may withdraw as an electronic party at any time. There is a \$ 20.00 fee to register as an electronic party. If you are not represented by an attorney and would like to register an electronic party, you will need to contact the Clerk of Circuit Court office at 414-278-4120. Unless you register as an electronic party, you will be served with traditional paper documents by other parties and by the court. You must file and serve traditional paper documents.

Criminal Complaint prepared by James C. Griffin.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 06/16/22

Electronically Signed By:

James C. Griffin

Assistant District Attorney

State Bar #: 1022152

Electronically Signed By:

Police Officer Jaimie Skonecki

Complainant