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IN THE JUSTICE COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, JUSTICE COUNTY OF MISSOULA
BEFORE Karen A. Orzech JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Cause No. CR-2012-10413-C2

STATE OF MONTANA
Plaintiff,

-VS-

DRAKE ANTHONY HOTZEL Defendant.

## **COMPLAINT**

Shawn Thomas, Deputy Missoula County Attorney, deposes and says that on or about and between the 25th day of November, 2012, and the 19th day of December, 2012, the Defendant committed the offense(s) of COUNT I: CONSPIRACY to commit BURGLARY, a Felony, in violation of Montana law, namely: Mont. Code Ann. § 45-6-204(1) and § 45-4-102, punishable by 20 years MSP and/or \$50,000 fine; COUNT II: CONSPIRACY to commit BURGLARY, a Felony, in violation of Montana law, namely: Mont. Code Ann. § 45-6-204(1) and § 45-4-102, punishable by 20 years MSP and/or \$50,000 fine; COUNT III: CONSPIRACY to commit BURGLARY, a Felony, in violation of Montana law, namely: Mont. Code Ann. § 45-6-204(1) and § 45-4-102, punishable by 20 years MSP and/or \$50,000 fine; COUNT IV: CONSPIRACY to commit BURGLARY, a Felony, in violation of Montana law, namely: Mont. Code Ann. § 45-6-204(1) and § 45-4-102, punishable by 20

COUNT I:

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years MSP and/or \$50,000 fine; COUNT V: BURGLARY, a Felony, in violation of Montana law, namely: Mont. Code Ann. § 45-6-204(1), punishable by 20 years MSP and/or \$50,000 fine; COUNT VI: CONSPIRACY to commit BURGLARY, a Felony, in violation of Montana law, namely: Mont. Code Ann. § 45-6-204(1) and § 45-4-102, punishable by 20 years MSP and/or \$50,000 fine; COUNT VII: CONSPIRACY to commit BURGLARY, a Felony, in violation of Montana law, namely: Mont. Code Ann. § 45-6-204(1) and § 45-4-102, punishable by 20 years MSP and/or \$50,000 fine; COUNT VIII: CONSPIRACY to commit BURGLARY, a Felony, in violation of Montana law, namely: Mont. Code Ann. § 45-6-204(1) and § 45-4-102, punishable by 20 years MSP and/or \$50,000 fine.

On or about the 25th day of November, 2012, the above-named Defendant committed the offense of conspiracy to commit burglary, with the purpose that the offense of burglary be committed, the Defendant agreed with Jon Worcester and Mackenzie Culp to the commission of the offense of burglary and in furtherance of such conspiracy, Blessed Trinity Church, Missoula, Montana, was entered without permission by the Defendant and/or his co-conspirators and personal property belonging to the church was taken.

## **COUNT II:**

On or about the 12th day of December, 2012, the above-named Defendant committed the offense of conspiracy to commit burglary, with the purpose that the offense of burglary be committed, the Defendant agreed with Jon Worcester and Mackenzie Culp to the commission of the offense of burglary and in furtherance of such conspiracy, Blessed Trinity Church, Missoula, Montana, was entered without permission by the Defendant and/or his co-conspirators and personal property belonging to the church was taken.

#### **COUNT III:**

On or about the 18th day of December, 2012, the above-named Defendant committed the offense of conspiracy to commit burglary, with the purpose that the offense of burglary be committed, the Defendant agreed with Jon Worcester and Mackenzie Culp to the commission of the offense of burglary and in furtherance of such conspiracy, Blessed Trinity Church, Missoula, Montana, was entered without permission by the Defendant and/or his co-conspirators and personal property belonging to the church was taken.

# **COUNT IV:**

On or about the 25th day of November, 2012, the above-named Defendant committed the offense of conspiracy to commit burglary, with the purpose that the offense of burglary be committed, the Defendant agreed with Jon Worcester and Mackenzie Culp to the commission of the offense of burglary and in furtherance of such conspiracy, Lighthouse Baptist Church, Missoula, Montana, was entered without permission by the Defendant and/or his co-conspirators and personal property belonging to the church was taken.

### **COUNT V:**

On or about the 3rd day of December, 2012, the above-named Defendant committed the offense of burglary when he knowingly entered or remained unlawfully the Lighthouse Baptist Church, Missoula, Montana, with the purpose to commit an offense therein, to wit: theft and/or criminal mischief.

## **COUNT VI:**

On or about the 25th day of November, 2012, the above-named

Defendant committed the offense of conspiracy to commit burglary, with the
purpose that the offense of burglary be committed, the Defendant agreed
with Jon Worcester and Mackenzie Culp to the commission of the offense

of burglary and in furtherance of such conspiracy, First Church of the Nazarene, Missoula, Montana, was entered without permission by the Defendant and/or his co-conspirators and personal property belonging to the church was taken.

#### **COUNT VII:**

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On or about the 25th day of November, 2012, the above-named Defendant committed the offense of conspiracy to commit burglary, with the purpose that the offense of burglary be committed, the Defendant agreed with Jon Worcester and Mackenzie Culp to the commission of the offense of burglary and in furtherance of such conspiracy, Journey Christian, Missoula, Montana, was entered without permission by the Defendant and/or his co-conspirators and personal property belonging to the church was taken.

#### **COUNT VIII:**

On or about the 19th day of December, 2012, the above-named Defendant committed the offense of conspiracy to commit burglary, with the purpose that the offense of burglary be committed, the Defendant agreed with Jon Worcester to the commission of the offense of burglary and in furtherance of such conspiracy, the residence at 1711 South 13th Street West Missoula, Montana 59801 was entered without permission by the

Defendant and/or his co-conspirator and personal property belonging to the residents was taken.

DATED this 22nd day of December, 2012.

∕Shawn Thoma**\$** 

Deputy Missoula County Attorney

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd pay of December, 2012.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

COMPLAINT 12-3013

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1	IN THE JUSTICE COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA, DEC 2 2 2012
2	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MISSOULA  BEFORE Karon A Orzech JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
3	
4	Cause No
5	STATE OF MONTANA, Plaintiff,
7	-vs- <u>AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE</u> CAUSE
9	DRAKE ANTHONY HOTZEL,  Defendant.
11	STATE OF MONTANA )
12 13	County of Missoula )
14	Shawn Thomas, Deputy County Attorney of Missoula County,
15	Montana, being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says:
17	I have read the official law enforcement reports regarding the
18 19	investigation of DRAKE ANTHONY HOTZEL for allegedly committing the
20	offense(s) set forth in the complaint and based upon the information
21	contained in the reports, if true, believe probable cause exists to justify
22	charging the above-named defendant as specified in the accompanying
24	complaint.
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# **Blessed Trinity Church**

On or about the 26th day of November, 2012, Officer Vreeland of the Missoula Police Department responded to a reported break-in of the Blessed Trinity Church, 1475 Eaton Street, Missoula, Montana. Officer Vreeland made contact with Frank Kahler, a janitor for the church, who had reported at 6:45 a.m. he discovered a window on the north west side of the church had been unscrewed and someone had made entry into the church. Kahler reported desks in the main office of the building had been gone through. Officer Vreeland contacted the church's priest, Edward Hislop to investigate if anything was missing. Officer Vreeland and Hislop found cabinets and other desks as well as a metal cash box had been gone though. Hislop stated approximately \$10, mostly in loose change, had been taken from the box.

On or about the 13th day of December, 2012, Officer Woods of the Missoula Police Department responded to a reported break-in of the Blessed Trinity Church, 1475 Eaton Street, Missoula, Montana, that had occurred sometime the night prior. Officer Woods made contact with Hislop who informed him that the church and been broken into and vandalized sometime between 9:30 p.m. the 12th of December, 2012, and 8:00 a.m. the 13th of December, 2012. Officer Woods and Hislop

discovered the Chapel Room to the right of the entryway to be in complete disarray. Hislop explained he had a few members of the church had placed Christmas presents in the Chapel room last night in order to keep them out of sight. Officer Woods observed the presents were now torn open and strewn all over the room, including a present containing soft drink cans that were damaged and spilled on the carpet. A hole had been in made in the wall. The pedestal that contained the Holy Sacrament was knocked and over the Holy Sacrament was dumped on the floor. A screw driver was left on the ground in the room. Hislop stated the screw driver did not come from the church. Officer Woods and Hislop found many rooms of the church to be damaged and in disarray including Hislop's personal office, an adjacent office containing a "petty cash safe" from which Hislop stated \$20 had been stolen, an office belonging to Sister Mary Jo, a large room with tables set up for a Christmas event, and the sanctuary of the church. Officer Woods observed one of the bottom windows in the southwest corner of the event room to be broken out. Looking outside, Officer Woods observed two cut trees, as if cut for Christmas trees, propped up against the church building as well as multiple footprints pointing towards and backwards from the trees and next to the downspout on the gutter that appeared to be fresh.

On or about the 19th day of December, 2012, Officer Rosling of the Missoula Police Department responded to a reported break-in of the Blessed Trinity Church, 1475 Eaton Street, Missoula, Montana. Officer Rosling made contact with Hislop who stated that entry was made through the same window on the west side of the church as the previous break-in as the window had not been properly replaced yet. The church was again in a state of disarray with lock box keys and drawers on the floor as well as two checks missing from the bookkeepers items, identified as checks 1247 and 1248, and a \$50 bill that had been on a desk. Wrapped presents intended for Franklin School were thrown on the floor and torn open, it appeared some Walmart gift cards were taken. In the kitchen area of the church there were knives stabbed into the door, walls and ceiling.

## **Lighthouse Baptist Church**

On November 26, 2012, Missoula City Police Officer Kamerer responded to Lighthouse Baptist Church, 5425 Gharrett Street, Missoula, Montana, for a report of a burglary no longer in progress. Officer Kamerer spoke with the complainant, Pastor Thomas Lemmons who stated that sometime between the evening hours of November 25, 2012 and November 26, 2012, illegal entry was made into the church through unknown means. He advised that several areas had been rummaged

through, damage had been done to property and several collectors knives and swords were missing along with an unknown amount of money.

Officer Kamerer walked through the church and observed several locations where paperwork had been strewn as well as areas that appeared to have been damaged. Officer Kamerer observed paint scraps around the lock on the emergency door, which indicated possible forced entry. Pastor Lemmons stated that on November 25, 2012, an unidentified individual had come to the church and looked around. Pastor Lemmons noticed a key was missing after this individual left. Pastor Lemmons later notified Sgt. Welsh that he had located a pair of gloves on the floor in his office.

On December 3, 2012, Missoula City Police Officer Martini responded to the report of a second unlawful entry at the Lighthouse Baptist Church. Officer Martini spoke with Pastor Thomas Lemmons and Sean Kelly. Kelly stated he arrived at the church at approximately 12:00 on December, 3, 2012. When he entered the building he observed the Pepsi machine was damaged beyond repair. Pastor Lemmons and Officer Martini went into Pastor Lemmons's office. The office was in a state of disarray. Pastor Lemmons stated two Ghorka swords had been stolen along with a pair of gloves that Pastor Lemmons suspected were used in the burglary which

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27 28 occurred on or before November 26, 2012. Pastor Lemmons reported that other items were taken, including Great Value cupcakes, and cash.

### First Church of the Nazarene

On November 30, 2012, Missoula County Sheriff's Deputy Newsome met with the Associate Pastor, Larry Spicer, of the First Church of the Nazarene, 2339 26th Avenue, Missoula, Montana. Pastor Spicer stated at some point between 1:30 a.m., when the last group had left the church the night prior and when he arrived at 9 a.m. that day, someone had burglarized the church. When Pastor Spicer arrived at the church that morning, he found an outside door was unlocked, the doors to three offices had been kicked in and the offices had been rummaged through. Items were stolen, including cash, beef wrapped in butcher paper, ice cream and popsicles.

Deputy Newsome was able to determine that the point of entry was through an unlocked window. Someone had cut a small hole in the window screen and pulled it off. The person or persons then pushed up the window, crawled through, closed the window behind themselves and left the screen inside the building.

## Journey Christian Fellowship

On the morning of November 26, 2012, Missoula City Police Officer Slater responded to Journey Christian Fellowship at 345 S. 5th St., Missoula, Montana, for the report of a possible burglary. Officer Slater spoke with Shane Sander who stated that upon return to the Fellowship that morning, he received a message that a side door to the building was open. Sander when to found the open door and also observed a bathroom window had been broken. Sander continued to look through the building and found a flat screen TV was missing from the congregation hall.

## 1711 S 13<sup>th</sup> Street

On December 19, 2012, Officer Volinkaty responded to 1711 S. 3rd Street, Missoula, Montana, for the report of a burglary. The owners of the residence discovered that some time during the day, suspects entered their residence and opened all of their Christmas presents. They reported numerous items were missing, including a gift card to Southgate Mall, a gift card to the Mustard Seed, an IPOD Nano, a bottle of vodka, a flask, a DVD and a jar of change. The victims stated the curtains had been drawn, which is not how they left the house and they suspected the suspects had entered through the dog door. The victim stated that he had left the house earlier that morning. He noticed two males sitting on the Catlin between 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> in the alley, which is close to his house.

Officer Volinkaty then responded to South Gate mall to get information on the gift card. Using the tracking number from the card, customer service was able to inform Officer Volinkaty that was used at Zumiez on December 19, 2012. Zumiez was able to provide a receipt for the transaction, which was signed by Drake Hotzel. Hotzel matched a description given by the victim of the boys he saw sitting in the alley. Interview with suspects

Hotzel is a known offender to have past connections with Jon Worcester. Based on this information and information learned during the investigation, a search warrant was obtained and executed a search warrant of the residence at 1833 Stoddard #6 Missoula, Montana 59802. During this search the items were found to be in connection with items taken from the churches and the 13th Street residence.

Missoula City Police Detective J.C. Denton took a statements from Worcester and Mackenzie Culp, his summary of the statements are contained verbatim, in pertinent part, as follows:

WORCESTER stated that he could not remember exact dates or times but all of the church burglaries were committed at night. He also had trouble remembering the names of the churches but was able to remember the locations of the church. The first church that was burglarized was the

church he described at the top of Gharrett Street (Lighthouse Baptist). The date of this burglary was November 26th, 2012. WORCESTER stated that HOTZEL had been inside the church before for some Jehovah's Witness meeting. WORCESTER stated that it was HOTZEL's idea to break into churches because he did not see any security measures and easy ways to get into the churches. WORCESTER stated that this was the first church he and HOTZEL burglarized. WORCESTER and HOTZEL were driven to the location by CULP in CULP's vehicle. CULP parked on a side street or a little ways away and waited for WORCESTER and HOTZEL to enter the church.

WORCESTER and HOTZEL entered this church from the rear of the church. They were able to pull the door open and make entry.

WORCESTER and HOTZEL rummaged through the church and looked for money. WORCESTER stated that he and HOTZEL would get a rush from breaking into the churches. WORCESTER stated he was interested in finding money in the churches and HOTZEL would always be looking for food type of items. After rummaging through the church WORCESTER stated that he stole an armful of Airheads candy. He stated that HOTZEL had taken at least two swords from the church. WORCESTER and HOTZEL were wearing gloves when they entered the church and may have

had packs on. He could not remember. He also could not remember what happened to the swords. WORCESTER stated that when HOTZEL was arrested he was worried about all of the stolen items in his apartment so he and CULP rented the storage unit to store the items. Whenever the group would steal items they would keep them at WORCESTER's residence because HOTZEL lives with his mother. He also stated that sometimes HOTZEL would commit burglaries on his own and bring items to WORCESTER's apartment on Stoddard.

Detective Denton asked WORCESTER if he or HOTZEL had lost their gloves and he stated he was not sure. He remembers taking his gloves but he was not sure about HOTZEL. After the two males left the church they ran over to CULP's vehicle and she drove them back to the apartment on Stoddard.

Detective Denton then asked about the second burglary at the Lighthouse Church and he stated that he and CULP were not part of that burglary. HOTZEL would sometimes commit burglaries by himself.

WORCESTER stated that the next burglary that he and HOTZEL committed was the church located on South Avenue near the Holiday Gas Station on Reserve Street. This church is the First Church of the Nazarene. Since this church was in the county, Missoula County Sheriff's Office

 handled the report and follow-up investigation. Detective Denton notified the Sheriff's Office when he had taken WORCESTER and CULP into custody. The date of this burglary was November 30th, 2012.

For this burglary CULP drove WORCESTER and HOTZEL to the church. Again he could not remember the exact date and time. CULP parked the car on a side street and waited for WORCESTER and HOTZEL to commit the burglary. She knew exactly what they were doing. The two males entered the church from the rear. WORCESTER describes it as the rear four window area. The fourth window was open and he and HOTZEL were able to make entry into the church this way. He stated that again it was HOTZEL's idea to his this church. The two males did not have a real plan with these churches and would hit them randomly. There was no list of churches to hit.

After entering the church the males split up and looked for items in the church. WORCESTER stated he had some problems remember some of the details once he and HOTZEL made entries into the church because of the adrenaline. WORCESTER does remember taking a \$100 bill that was scrunched up. A \$100 bill was reported stolen by the church. He also remembers HOTZEL finding a long tube of meat. WORCESTER was unsure if the males were wearing gloves in the burglary and he remembers

kicking in doors. He state that nearly every church burglary the doors would be kicked it to gain entry to different areas.

After WORCESTER and HOTZEL left this church, they ran to CULP's car and she drove them away. Detective Denton asked what happened to the meat and he stated that the group would split money up and also they would cook up the food and eat it. He stated that HOTZEL probably stole the ice cream bars because HOTZEL loves ice cream.

The next burglary committed was the first burglary at the Blessed
Trinity Church located on Eaton Street. This burglary was reported on
November 26th, 2012. It is not sure if the group drove directly to Blessed
Trinity Church this night.

WORCESTER stated that CULP parked the car near the apartments that are located to the North of the church and waited for WORCESTER and HOTZEL. Again WORCESTER stated that she never went into the churches but she did drive and wait for them. HOTZEL and WORCESTER located a window that was on the back of the church and WORCESTER was the lookout while HOTZEL was able to remove the window by unscrewing the window. The two of them entered the church and split up looking for items.

WORCESTER stated that there was not much taken and the two males rummaged through the church. The males then exited the church and drove away in CULP's vehicle.

WORCESTER stated that he was part of the second burglary in which a tree was used as a battering ram. He claims that HOTZEL broke the window out using a Christmas tree. WORCESTER was able to describe what happened inside the church from his view. This burglary was reported December 13th, 2012.

WORCESTER was able to give details about kicking in doors to the office and making entry into the Father's office, which is located at the end of a long hallway. WORCESTER also described how he and HOTZEL entered two double doors into a small chapel where the presents were located. WORCESTER claims that he only moved the presents around and did not open the presents. WORCESTER began to get very emotional at this time and start crying. WORCESTER was feeling very guilty about taking the presents of little kids. He stated that HOTZEL was the one tearing into the presents in the small chapel. Detective Denton asked about the Holy Sacrament and WORCESTER stated that HOTZEL thought there was some money in the case because it was locked. He lifted the case and slammed it onto the ground breaking it open. He and HOTZEL

 saw that there was bread and wine in the box. Detective Denton asked how the hole had gotten in the wall and he stated that HOTZEL and thrown the plant through the wall.

WORCESTER stated that he never did any of the vandalism to the church and he felt guilty about what HOTZEL did. WORCESTER was emotional during various parts of the interview and did seem genuinely sorry for what he had done. WORCESTER stated that all of the offices were ransacked and gone through. He stated that some gift cards were taken and he thought this is when HOTZEL took the bongo drums. He was very angry with HOTZEL because he took the drums. He stated that HOTZEL also stole a Santa Claus from a yard that night. Detective Denton remembers seeing a stuffed Santa stuffed behind the chair in the living room. It should be noted that the bongo drums were located in the storage unit along with other stolen items.

WORCESTER did say he was part of the third burglary at Blessed Trinity Church. The date this burglary was reported was December 19th, 2012. CULP drove the males to the church and parked in the same spot, in the apartment parking lot and waited for the males. The males were able to enter the church by removing the temporary glass that was put up because the other glass was broken in the previous burglary.

WORCESTER and HOTZEL split up and WORCESTER claims that he did not see HOTZEL throw knives at the ceiling and stick them into the door. He stated that all of the offices were gone through again and presents opened. WORCESTER remembers HOTZEL paying him money and it was a \$50 bill from the burglary. A \$50 bill was reported as being stolen in this burglary. Gift cards were also taken during this burglary. The males left in CULP's car.

Detective Denton then questioned if this was when the group went to Wal-Mart and WORCESTER could not remember. Detective Denton showed him the surveillance photos and he positively identified himself, HOTZEL, and CULP. He also positively identified CULP's car they drove in. Detective Denton asked about another vehicle that appeared to may have driven in with CULP's vehicle and WORCESTER claims he doesn't know the other vehicle and it must have been a coincidence.

WORCESTER stated he remembers buying the sodas and candy. He also believes that this is when HOTZEL purchased a Trac phone from Wal-Mart.

Detective Denton then asked WORCESTER about the two residential burglaries that were reported on December 19th, 2012. He stated that CULP did not drive on these burglaries and he and HOTZEL were out walking. He stated that they were walking and saw a car drive away. He

and HOTZEL thought the occupants of the house left so he stood watch and HOTZEL made entry into the house through the doggy door. HOTZEL stole the items inside the house while WORCESTER continued to stand guard. This was report number P121219-038.

WORCESTER stated that a bottle of vodka was taken, some gift cards, a flask and some money. He and HOTZEL split the money. This is what was reported as stolen by the homeowners. The homeowner also remembers seeing two males standing near his house while he was leaving and the doggy door was used to gain entry into the house.

After committing the burglary the two of them walked to the mall where they went shopping. This is when HOTZEL purchased the Metal Mulisha gear that was seized at his residence. After spending some time in the Mall the two males left the mall and were walking in the area behind Paul's Pancake Parlor. He stated that he and HOTZEL walked up to a house and knocked on the door to see if anyone was home. No one answered the door so they went around back and kicked in the door to the garage and made entry into the house. WORCESTER stated that an I Pad was stolen along with some money. This I pad was later recovered from the storage unit that WORCESTER and CULP had rented.

WORCESTER stated that he then walked all the way home to Stoddard and HOTZEL went to his residence. WORCESTER stated that he knew that HOTZEL had been arrested because he was at the house about 5 minutes before patrol officers arrested him. WORCESTER was nervous about all of the stolen items in the house so he and CULP rented a storage unit for the stolen property. See transcripts for further on the interview. WORCESTER was cooperative with Detective Denton so Detective Denton allowed him to make a phone call to his mother. He was then transported to the jail.

On December 21st, 2012 Detective Denton and Detective Lear responded to the Missoula County Jail to speak with CULP. Detective Denton informed CULP why he and Detective Lear were at the jail to speak with her and she stated she had read about the church burglaries in the paper, Detective Denton quickly informed her that he knew she was involved. Detective Denton recorded the interview on a digital recorder that he later uploaded to be transcribed. Detective Denton read the Advise of Rights Form to CULP and she waived her rights and agreed to speak with the detectives. CULP admitted that she drove the males to the burglaries. Detective Denton asked how many churches she went into and she stated she did not want to answer the question. He asked her who planned the

burglary and she would not answer the question. Detective Denton asked her why she would not answer and she told him that she wanted a lawyer. Detective Denton stopped questioning at this time. See transcripts for further.

Shawn Thomas

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this. 22nd day of December, 2012.

Deputy Missoula County Attorney

# ORDER

Upon reading the foregoing Affidavit, the Court finds that there is probable cause to believe the above-named Defendant committed the crimes charged.

DATED this July day of Mollem nev , 2012 at 9:35 (a.m/p.m.

Actinguistice of the Peace