

AFFIDAVIT AND APPLICATION FOR SEARCH WARRANT

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF PASCO

BEFORE ME, the undersigned Judge, Circuit Court Judge of the Sixth Judicial Circuit in and for Pasco County, Florida, personally appeared Investigator J. D. Thomas, Criminal Investigator for the Office of the Public Defender, Sixth Judicial Circuit of Florida ("AFFIANT"), who by me first being duly sworn, deposes and says that he believes and has good reason to believe that located at 10401 Hazel Avenue, Hudson, Florida 34669-1-14, there is evidence the Laws of Florida pertaining to Leaving the Scene Of An Accident Involving Serious Injury or Death in violation of Florida Statute 316.027(1)(b), have been violated and there are instrumentalities or means by which the crime of Leaving the Scene of An Accident Involving Serious Injury or Death has been committed or evidence relevant to proving said Leaving the Scene of an Accident Involving Serious Injury or Death is contained upon the property at said location. Your Affiant Thomas' reasons for this belief are as follows:

The address of 10401 Hazel Avenue, Hudson, Florida, is further described as a single story, single family dwelling house located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Hazel Avenue and Cobra Way in an unincorporated area of Pasco County. The structure is a cream-colored brick dwelling with a white garage door and a brownish-colored roof. The property is enclosed by a four-foot tall chainlink fence which runs along the southern, western, and northern boundaries of the property. Along the eastern property line is a chainlink fence and overgrown with weeds and shrubs. The driveway is paved, and there are gates for access at the driveway, as well as a gate at the sidewalk leading to the front door. The house faces Hazel Avenue, and the attached garage is at the southeast corner of the dwelling, also facing Hazel Avenue. There is a mailbox on Hazel Avenue in front of the property with the numbers "10401" on it. The property consists of the dwelling situated towards the southwest corner of the 2.14 acres. There are four utility buildings also on the property, three of which are made of wood and one is metal. A fifth-wheel camper/trailer is parked along the eastern fence line, toward the southern edge of the property. There is a white Ford Bronco near the northeast corner of the property which does not appear to be operable and does not have a license plate attached. It is facing west. There is a dirt driveway which runs north and south immediately to the east of the eastern property line of the subject property. This dwelling is in the care, custody and control of Alice Neu, according to the tax rolls of Pasco County and is further described as parcel identification number 30-24-17-0010-00000-0640, Pasco County, Florida. According to the Pasco County Property Appraiser's records, the subject property also has a second address listed as 10339 Hazel Avenue.

Your Affiant has reason to believe that the white Ford Bronco located on this said property was involved in and/or caused a vehicle crash which resulted in the death of a human being. Your Affiant Thomas' reasons for this belief are as follows:

1. On December 18, 2007, Susan Gardner, counsel for Samuel Stockdale, who has been charged with DUI Manslaughter in the case of State v. Stockdale, case # CRC0604502CFAWS-4, and J.D. Thomas, Investigator for the Public Defender's office, met with Ms. Moriah Bartlett, who had knowledge of the events which lead to Mr. Stockdale's arrest. Ms. Bartlett had spoken to Ms. Gardner on several occasions prior to her meeting with Affiant, and conveyed knowledge about the vehicle crash in which Mr. Stockdale was the driver of a small, yellow sports car in which his friend Quinton Knox was a passenger. According to the records of the Florida Highway Patrol, the crash occurred on Rogerland Road in Spring Hill, Pasco County, Florida, on June 27, 2006, at approximately 3:45 in the afternoon and involved the yellow vehicle driven by Mr. Stockdale and a semi tractor trailer rock hauler. The two vehicles were traveling towards each other on opposite sides of Rogerland Road coming around a blind curve when Mr. Stockdale's car inexplicably swerved into the path of the semi truck. The yellow car was crushed and Mr. Knox died at the scene. Ms. Bartlett stated to Affiant that there was another car behind Mr. Stockdale at the time of the accident, and the other car rammed Mr. Stockdale's car and caused him to swerve into the oncoming semi truck. Ms. Bartlett stated to Affiant that

she knew this because the driver of the car that rammed Mr. Stockdale's car, Anthony Rowand, and his half-brother and passenger, Ronald Neu, confessed to her and some of her friends about what they had done. Ms. Bartlett was able to give an accurate description of the vehicle that was driven – she said it was a full-sized, older model white Ford Bronco. She stated she thought it was "Tony's" (Anthony's) vehicle, and she could also identify who was driving and the names and identities of all of the passengers in the vehicle. Ms. Bartlett also described one of the reasons given why the occupants of the Bronco did not stop to render aid – because one of the passengers in the back seat, Richard "Pops" Fleming had a probation appointment.

2. The driver of the rock truck, Richard Fischer, stated in his sworn, taped interview immediately following the accident that there was a car "right on the yellow car's bumper – there may not have been any space between them at all." He said the other car did not stop, and he focused his attention on the yellow car and did not get a good look at the other car.

3. Your Affiant Thomas investigated the registration records of vehicles registered to Anthony Rowand, and Ronald Neu. Your Affiant discovered through Dept. of Motor Vehicle records that Ronald Neu had a 1993 white Ford Bronco registered in his name with a VIN # 1FMEU15H5PLB19245. Affiant also discovered through Fla. Dept. of Corrections that Ronald Neu is currently incarcerated. Affiant discovered through a public records check that a current address listed for Anthony Rowand is 10401 Hazel Avenue, Hudson, Florida, which is owned by Alice Neu, Anthony's mother. Ms. Bartlett confirmed to Affiant that "Ron and Tony's parents lived over off the street right before you get to Hudson High". (Cobra Way is a short street that runs north and south from Hudson Avenue and leads into Hudson High School. Hazel Avenue intersects Cobra Way about half-way between Hudson Avenue and the entrance to the high school parking lot. Alice Neu's house is at the corner of Cobra Way and Hazel Avenue).

4. On Monday, December 10, 2007, Affiant and Ms. Gardner traveled to the address of 10401 Hazel Avenue, Hudson, Florida, and observed a white, older model Ford Bronco sitting in disrepair toward the northeast corner of the property.

Your Affiant believes that Anthony Rowand and Ronald Neu were involved and perhaps caused the crash on June 27, 2006, which killed Quinton Knox and for which Samuel Stockdale has been charged with DUI Manslaughter. Your Affiant believes that the white Ford Bronco was the vehicle driven by Anthony Rowand and is the vehicle which rammed the yellow car driven by Samuel Stockdale, causing it to veer into the path of the rock truck. Your Affiant further believes that there may be physical evidence still remaining on the white Bronco which will corroborate Ms. Bartlett's statements and those of the truck driver, Mr. Richard Fisher.

WHEREFORE, your Affiant prays that a Search Warrant be issued according to the laws commanding all and singular the Sheriff and/or Deputy Sheriffs of Pasco County, Florida, or a Trooper of the Florida Highway Patrol, either in the daytime or the nighttime, with the proper and necessary assistance, to search the property described herein, for the vehicle reasonably suspected of being involved in the illegal activity which is the subject of this warrant, and seize as evidence herein described in order that the evidence may be procured to be used in the prosecution of such person or persons to be involved in the illegal activity as alleged.

DATED THIS _____ day of December, 2007.

J. D. THOMAS, Investigator
Public Defender's Office

Sixth Judicial Circuit

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME this _____ day of December, 2007.

Notary public

My Commission expires:

Documents submitted in support of this affidavit and application for search warrant are as follows:

1. Property Appraiser website record pertaining to parcel #30-24-17-0010-00000-0640.
2. DAVID Individual summary page regarding Alice Neu.
3. DAVID Individual summary page regarding Anthony Thomas Rowand.
4. Vehicle owner information for white Ford Bronco.
5. Lexis Information summary relating associations between Alice Neu, Ronald Neu, and Anthony Rowand. *****

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

SEARCH WARRANT

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF PASCO

TO THE SHERIFF AND/OR DEPUTY SHERIFF OF PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND ANY TROOPER OF THE FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL

The attached Affidavit for Search Warrant coming on to be heard and the Court having examined the Affiant under oath and having been satisfied that the facts as alleged do exist and that the law is being violated as alleged, a Search Warrant is hereby allowed and issued to search the premises described in the Affidavit for Search Warrant: to wit:

10401 Hazel Avenue, Hudson, Pasco County, Florida, and is further described as a single story, single family dwelling house located at the northeast corner of the intersection of Hazel Avenue and Cobra Way in an unincorporated area of Pasco County. The structure is a cream-colored brick dwelling with a white garage door and a brownish-colored roof. The property is enclosed by a six-foot tall chainlink fence which runs along the southern, western, and northern boundaries of the property. Along the eastern property line is a chainlink fence and overgrown with weeds and shrubs. The driveway is paved, and there are gates for access at the driveway, as well as a gate at the sidewalk leading to the front door. The house faces Hazel Avenue, and the attached garage is at the southeast corner of the dwelling, also facing Hazel Avenue. There is a mailbox on Hazel Avenue in front of the property with the numbers "10401" on it. The property consists of the dwelling situated towards the southwest corner of the 2.14 acres. There are four utility buildings also on the property, three of which are made of wood and one is metal. A fifth-wheel camper/trailer is parked along the eastern fence line, toward the southern edge of the property. There is a white Ford Bronco near the northeast corner of the property which does not appear to be operable and does not have a license plate attached. It is facing west. There is a dirt driveway which runs north and south immediately to the east of the eastern property line of the subject property. This dwelling is in the care, custody and control of Alice Neu, according to the tax rolls of Pasco County and is further described as parcel identification number 30-24-17-0010-00000-0640, Pasco County, Florida. According to the Pasco County Property Appraiser's records, the subject property also has a second address listed as 10339 Hazel Avenue.

THESE PRESENTS, THEREFORE, are to command you with the necessary and proper assistance as the exigencies of the occasion may demand or require, either in the daytime or the nighttime, and on any day of the week, including Sunday, in or on said premises and the curtilages thereof, there to diligently search for the herein described WHITE FORD BRONCO, VIN # 1FMEU15H5PLB19245, and to seize said vehicle in order to obtain paint scrapings and measurements and to photograph and examine the vehicle.

YOU ARE ORDERED to allow representatives from the Public Defender's Office, Sixth Judicial Circuit to be present during the execution of the warrant.

YOU ARE FURTHER ORDERED to deliver a true copy of this Search Warrant with an inventory of the property seized to any person to be in control of the above described residence, and in the absence of such person, to leave a copy of this Search Warrant with an inventory of the property seized at the above described residence.

DONE AND ORDERED THIS _____ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2007.

CIRCUIT JUDGE THANE B. COVERT