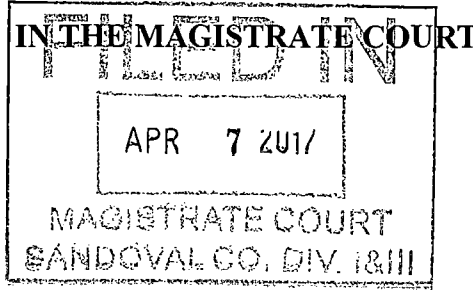


STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Vs.
JOSEPH GABRIEL VARGAS

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



NO. M-4S-FR-2017-0024C

DATE FILED: _____

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The undersigned, being duly sworn, on his oath, states that he has reason to believe that on 31st day of March 2017, in the County of SANDOVAL, State of New Mexico, the above-named defendant(s) did commit the crime of: Murder (Open Count), and Tampering with Evidence.

To Wit:

On March 31st, 2017 at approximately 2213 hours tow subjects were stabbed following an altercation. One of the subjects was identified as Kenneth Torres. Kenneth died as a result of his injuries.

During the course of the investigation a suspect was identified as Joseph Vargas. On April 6, 2017 the whereabouts of Joseph Vargas was identified. Through surveillance conducted by officers with the Rio Rancho Police Department at 2400 Yale Blvd SE in Albuquerque, Joseph was observed and detained. Joseph had an outstanding warrant for absconding from probation.

At approximately 0800 hours Joseph was transported to 500 Quantum Road NE. Joseph was placed in the interview room within the criminal investigations section. Joseph was advised of his Miranda rights and agreed to speak with Detective Sergeant E. Guevara and I, as it pertained to the homicide investigation.

During the interview Joseph stated that he was at 95 Eventide Road SE in Rio Rancho on March 31st, 2017 hanging out with his friends who he identified as his family. Joseph stated that he was hanging out in the upstairs apartment: 95 Eventide Road SE Apt B. Joseph stated he went downstairs to where he observed two subjects involved in an altercation. Joseph was able to identify the two subjects as "dead guy" and "Juelz." Kenneth Torres was identified as the "dead guy." Joseph stated that Juelz had a handgun which was then handed over to Kenneth. Joseph said that he stabbed Kenneth and then observed Juelz going to a car. Joseph said that he was not sure if Juelz was going to get a bigger gun and stabbed Juelz as he was getting into the car.

Joseph said that he took the gun from Kenneth and left the area in Kenneth's vehicle as the passenger. Joseph stated he remembered waking up the next morning with the gun and the knife however could not account for the whereabouts of the weapons at this time.

I SWEAR OR AFFIRM UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH ABOVE ARE TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY INFORMATION AND BELIEF. I UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE, SUBJECT TO THE PENALTY OF IMPRISONMENT TO MAKE A FALSE STATEMENT IN A CRIMINAL COMPLAINT.

If Probable Cause Determination is required:

Probable Cause Found _____; Not Found _____
(If not found, complaint dismissed & defendant released)

Date: _____

Judge: _____

Signature of Complainant

Shawn Ginn
Printed Name of Complainant

Title: **Detective**

Approved: _____
Title: _____