

AFFIDAVIT

Sheriff's

Office

FORM #9013 - Revised 01/02/03

Agency ORI Number
FLO5300000

Polk County



Bartow, FL

INCIDENT NUMBER
2008-067185

JUVENILE

ADULT

BOOKING #

CBTS #

IN CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY, FL.

SUBMITTING MEMBER DEPUTY SHERIFF RICKY NEWMAN

MEMBER # 4707

DATE/TIME OF ARREST/INCIDENT 04/02/2008 18:00

EVIDENCE COLLECTED YES NO

LOCATION OF INCIDENT 6124 WEST CALENDER COURT

CROSS STREET CR540A

COMPLAINT AFFIDAVIT

ARREST REPORT

CITY OF POLK COUNTY

COUNTY OF POLK, STATE OF FLORIDA.

THE UNDERSIGNED AFFIANT SWEARS SHE/HIS HAS JUST AND REASONABLE GROUNDS TO BELIEVE THAT ON 03/30/2008 AT

APPROXIMATELY 08:30 PM IN THE VICINITY OF LAKE LAND, POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA.

SCHUMAKER STEPHEN THOMAS ALIAS N/A

LAST FIRST MIDDLE

ADDRESS 6020 CALENDER COURT WEST LAKE LAND FL 33812

PHONE

RACE WHITE SEX MALE DOB 10/20/1989 HT 5-07 WT 120 EYE BLUE HAIR BROWN

COMPLEXION FAIR/LIGHT BUILD SLENDER SPEECH NORMAL POB FLORIDA

SCARS/MARKS/TATTOOS TATTOOS MARITAL STATUS SINGLE

DL# ST FL SS# OCCUPATION NONE

EMPLOYER/SCHOOL NONE

PHONE NONE

JUV-PARENT'S

PHONE

PROBABLE CAUSE TO FOLLOW VICTIM/WITNESS INFORMATION

COMMITTED THE OFFENSE(S) OF:

- 1) FALSE IMPRISONMENT-ADULT FSS 787.02(1A) LEVEL/DEGREE F/3
- 2) FELONY BATT RESULT FROM BODILY HARM/DISABILITY FSS 784.041(1) LEVEL/DEGREE F/3
- 3) FSS ~~775.06~~ LEVEL/DEGREE -/-

CO-DEFENDANTS: ASHLEY - ZACHARY

APRIL - COOPER

CARA - MURPHY

MERCADES - NICHOLS

BRITTANY - MAYES

KAYLA - HASSELL

BRITNI - HARDCASTLE

VICTIM:

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

**IN CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA**

PROBABLE CAUSE:

- 1) ON 03-30-08 AT APPROXIMATELY 2030 HOURS VICTIM ARRIVED AT HER TEMPORARY PLACE OF RESIDENCE LOCATED AT 6124 WEST CALENDER COURT IN LAKE LAND, FLORIDA.
- 2) THE VICTIM WAS TEMPORARILY STAYING AT THIS RESIDENCE WITH HER FRIEND MERCADES NICHOLS DUE TO THE FACT SHE WAS HAVING PROBLEMS AT HOME WITH HER PARENTS.
- 3) ONCE AT THE RESIDENCE THE VICTIM WALKED INSIDE THE HOME AND WAS MET BY SUSPECTS MERCADES AND NICHOLS BRITINI HARDCASTLE WHO BEGAN TO YELL AND THREATEN HER.

- 4) THE VICTIM WALKED INSIDE HER ROOM AND WAS MET BY SUSPECT APRIL COOPER WHO HAD CLINCHED FISTS AND BEGAN TO INSULT AND THREATEN HER.
- 5) THE VICTIM WAS THEN STRUCK IN THE FACE SEVERAL TIMES BY SUSPECT APRIL COOPER.
- 6) APRIL COOPER SLAMMED THE VICTIM'S HEAD INTO THE BEDROOM WALL THUS KNOCKING THE VICTIM UNCONSCIOUS.
- 7) WHEN THE VICTIM WOKE UP SHE WAS ON COUCH IN THE LIVING ROOM SURROUNDED BY SUSPECTS APRIL COOPER, CARA MURPHY, BRITNEY MAYES, BRITTINI HARDCASTLE, KAYLA HASSELL, AND MERCADES NICHOLS.
- 8) ACCORDING TO THE VICTIM, ALL SIX GIRLS THEN TOOK TURN HITTING AND KICKING HER WHILE THE OTHERS VIDEO TAPED THE BEATING.
- 9) THE VICTIM PROVIDED A SWORN TAPED STATEMENT ATTESTING TO THE FACT THE SIX SUSPECTS BLOCKED THE DOOR, HELD HER DOWN, AND PREVENTED HER ESCAPE DURING THE INCIDENT WHICH LASTED APPROXIMATELY THIRTY MINUTES.
- 10) THE VICTIM ADVISED THE SUSPECTS BRAGGED, AS THEY BEAT HER AND VIDEO TAPED IT, THAT THEY WERE GOING TO POST THE BEATING ON MYSPACE AND YOU TUBE.
- 11) AFTER THE THIRTY MINUTE BEATING THEY FORCED THE VICTIM INTO MERCADES' GRANDMOTHER'S CAR AND DROVE HER TO ANOTHER FRIEND'S HOUSE WHERE THEY ALLOWED HER TO GET OUT OF THE CAR BUT TOLD HER "IF YOU GO TO THE POLICE THE NEXT BEATING WILL BE WORSE".
- 12) ONCE FREE FROM THE SUSPECTS THE VICTIM WAS TAKEN BY AMBULANCE TO THE HOSPITAL WHERE SHE WAS TREATED FOR A CONCUSSION, DAMAGE TO HER LEFT EYE AND LEFT EAR, AND NUMEROUS BRUISES.
- 13) ON 04-02-08 I CAME INTO POSSESSION OF THE VIDEO FOOTAGE SHOT OF THE BEATING.
- 14) ON THE VIDEO THE VICTIM IS SEVERELY BEATEN AND HER MULTIPLE ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE THE HOME WERE BLOCKED.
- 15) THROUGH MY INVESTIGATION I LEARNED SUSPECT MERCADES NICHOLS NEIGHBOR, ZACHARY ASHLEY, ACTED AS A LOOKOUT WHILE THE BEATING OCCURRED.
- 16) SUSPECT ASHLEY ALSO OBSTRUCTED MY INVESTIGATION DUE TO THE FACT WHEN I ATTEMPTED TO LOCATE SUSPECT NICHOLS AND PLACE HER UNDER ARREST ZACHARY CALLED HER AND TOLD HER I WAS AT HER HOME SO AS TO ASSIST HER IN AVOIDING CAPTURE.
- 17) THROUGH FURTHER INVESTIGATION I FOUND THERE TO BE ANOTHER SUSPECT, STEPHEN SCHUMAKER, WHO STOOD AS A LOOKOUT, OUTSIDE THE FRONT OF THE HOME, AS THE VICTIM WAS BEATEN.
- 18) THE VICTIM PROVIDED A SWORN TAPED STATEMENT ATTESTING TO THE FACT SUSPECTS SCHUMAKER AND ASHLEY, WHILE ACTING AS DESIGNATED LOOKOUTS, KNOCKED ON THE FRONT DOOR OF THE HOME AND WARNED THE OTHER SUSPECTS THEY WERE MAKING TOO MUCH NOISE AND NEIGHBORS WERE BEGINNING TO QUESTION WHAT WAS GOING ON IN THE HOME.
- 19) SUSPECTS COOPER, MURPHY, MAYES, HARDCASTLE, NICHOLS, HASSELL, AND ASHLEY WERE ALL PLACED UNDER ARREST AND TRANSPORTED TO THE JUVENILE ASSESSMENT CENTER WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT.
- 20) SUSPECT SCHUMAKER WAS LOCATED THE FOLLOWING MORNING AND TRANSPORTED TO THE POLK COUNTY JAIL WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT.