

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

COUNTY OF Dauphin

APPLICATION FOR
SEARCH WARRANT
AND AUTHORIZATIONDocket Number
(Issuing Authority):Police Incident
Number: PA2025-437604Warrant Control
Number:

Michael GRAGG

PA State Police

(717) 671-7500

04/14/25

AFFIANT NAME

AGENCY

PHONE NUMBER

DATE OF APPLICATION

IDENTIFY ITEMS/PERSONS TO BE SEARCHED FOR AND SEIZED (Be as specific as possible):

See Continuation Page.

SPECIFIC DESCRIPTION OF PREMISES AND/OR PERSON TO BE SEARCHED (Street and No., Apt. No., Vehicle, Safe Deposit Box, etc.):

509 South 29 Street, Pennbrook Borough, Dauphin County, PA. Storage locker S9.

NAME OF OWNER, OCCUPANT OR POSSESSOR OF SAID PREMISES TO BE SEARCHED (If proper name is unknown, give alias and/or description):

Cody BALMER

VIOLATION OF (Describe conduct or specify statute):

Title 18: 2717 Terrorism

DATE(S) OF VIOLATION:

04/13/2024

☒ Warrant Application Approved by District Attorney – DA File No. For CHAD - # FTC-2025-002
(If DA approval required per Pa.R.Crim.P. 202(A) with assigned File No. per Pa.R.Crim.P. 507)☐ Additional Pages Attached (Other than Affidavit of Probable Cause)☒ Probable Cause Affidavit(s) MUST be attached (unless sealed below) Total number of pages: _____

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES IS SUM OF ALL APPLICATION, PROBABLE CAUSE AND CONTINUATION PAGES EVEN IF ANY OF THE PAGES ARE SEALED

The below named Affiant, being duly sworn (or affirmed) before the Issuing Authority according to law, deposes and says that there is probable cause to believe that the items or property or person identified are evidence or the fruit of a crime, or are contraband, or are expected to be otherwise unlawfully possessed or subject to seizure, or is a victim of a crime or whom a bench or arrest warrant has been issued and that these items or property or persons are or are expected to be located on the particular person or at the particular place described above. I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Case Records Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Signature of Affiant

Agency or Address if Private Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 14 day of April, 2025. Mag. Dist. No. 12-3-05

Signature of Issuing Authority

Office Address

SEARCH WARRANT
TO LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER:

WHEREAS, facts have been sworn to or affirmed before me by written affidavits (attached hereto from which I have found probable cause, I do authorize you to search the premises of person identified and to seize, secure, inventory and make return according to the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure.

☒ This Warrant shall be served as soon as practicable and shall be served only between the hours of 6AM to 10PM but in no event later than: *☐ This Warrant shall be served as soon as practicable and may be served any time during the day or night but in no event later than: **6:44 pM, o'clock April 16, 2025☒ This Warrant shall be returned to judicial officer 12-3-05

* The issuing authority should specify a date not later than two (2) days after issuance. Pa.R.Crim.P. 205(4).

** If the issuing authority finds reasonable cause for issuing a nighttime warrant on the basis of additional reasonable cause set forth in the affidavit(s) and wishes to issue a nighttime warrant, then this block shall be checked. Pa.R.Crim.P. 206(7).

Issued under my hand this 14 day of April, 2025 at 6:44 p M.

Signature of Issuing Authority

Mag. Dist. or Judicial Dist. No. 12-3-05

Date Commission Expires

Title of Issuing Authority: ☒ Magisterial District Judge ☐ Common Pleas Judge ☐☐ For good cause stated in the affidavit(s) the Search Warrant Affidavit(s) are sealed for _____ days by my certification and signature. (Pa.R.Crim.P. 211)

(Date) (SEAL)

Signature of Issuing Authority (Judge of the Court of Common Pleas or Appellate Court Justice or Judge).

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE ISSUING AUTHORITY



COUNTY OF Dauphin

Docket Number
(Issuing Authority):Police Incident
Number: PA2025-437604Warrant Control
Number:**Continuation of:**Items to be searched
and seizedDescription of premises/person(s)
to be searched

Owner/ Occupant



Violations

Item/person

Any and all cell phones, laptops, tablets, or any electronic device that could store or transmit data. Any writings or notes that contain any of the following: the name of Josh Shapiro; reference to Palestine, Gaza, Israel or the current conflict in Gaza. Your affiant is also requesting to photograph the scene and any seized evidence.



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

COUNTY OF Dauphin

AFFIDAVIT OF
PROBABLE CAUSEDocket Number
(Issuing Authority):Police Incident
Number: PA2025-437604Warrant Control
Number:**PROBABLE CAUSE BELIEF IS BASED UPON THE FOLLOWING FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES:**

Your affiant, Trooper Michael GRAGG, is a member of the Pennsylvania State Police Harrisburg Criminal Investigation Unit. I, Trooper Michael J. GRAGG, Pennsylvania State Police, have been employed as a State Trooper in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania since January 2020. Prior to my current position, I was a local law enforcement officer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from 2017 up until I began employment with the Pennsylvania State Police. I am currently assigned to the Criminal Investigation Unit, Troop H/Harrisburg. During my employment as a law enforcement officer, I have investigated numerous types of crimes including thefts, assaults, sexual assaults, burglaries, homicides, drug possession, child abuse and sexual abuse against children's cases. I have also attended numerous trainings to include basic criminal investigation, basic homicide investigation, advanced homicide investigation and child abuse death investigation, amongst several others. All of the information contained herein was gained through information relayed to your affiant by fellow law enforcement officers, and through your affiant's investigation itself.

On 04/13/25, the Pennsylvania State Police were advised of a fire that occurred at the Governor's Residence located at 2035 North Front Street, Dauphin County, PA. This address falls within the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania State Police. Upon arrival, it was learned that numerous security cameras captured footage depicting an individual forcing entry into the residence and intentionally igniting the fire. Further, it was learned that Governor Joshua SHAPIRO and First Lady Lori SHAPIRO were inside the residence at the time as well as additional guests and staff members.

Video footage was obtained from security cameras positioned both within and outside the residence. Upon review of the footage the defendant, later identified as Cody BALMER, was observed climbing over an exterior perimeter fence, which parallels Geiger Street. The defendant was observed wearing a black "Snap-On" jacket, black boots, and carrying a bag. The defendant approached the piano room windows on the south side of the Governor's Residence and proceeded to break an exterior window. The defendant then threw an incendiary device into the residence through the broken window. After throwing the device, flames were observed on the interior of the residence. The defendant then moved to an adjacent window and again, broke the glass. The defendant proceeded through the broken window and entered the residence. Once inside, the defendant deployed a second incendiary device in the dining room, resulting in additional areas of the residence catching fire. After throwing the second incendiary device, the defendant approached the dining room exit. Upon reviewing video footage captured by a surveillance camera at this location it became apparent that the defendant was wearing two different colored gloves, one orange and one yellow. The defendant kicked the dining room door open and exited the residence. The defendant was observed leaving the property toward the same direction he had entered, and by climbing over the perimeter fence along Geiger St. The defendant was finally observed running through a parking lot and away from the Governor's Residence in a southeast direction.

I, THE AFFIANT, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF. I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Case Records Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

Trooper Michael J. GRAGG (GRAGG) 04/14/25 Jan E. [Signature] (SEAL)
Affiant Signature Date Issuing Authority Signature Date

Docket Number
(Issuing Authority):Police Incident
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Number:

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE CONTINUATION

As part of the subsequent investigation, investigators performed a search of the Governor's Residence for evidence associated with this incident. Significant fire damage was observed throughout both the piano room and dining room. Additionally, two broken glass bottles were found in the dining room, both of which were identified members of the Pennsylvania State Police Fire Marshal Unit as Heineken beer bottles containing gasoline. Additionally, investigators performed a canvass of the area surrounding the Governor's Residence. By way of collecting a number of videos captured by privately-owned security cameras, members identified the path taken by the defendant after fleeing the residence. More specifically, the defendant was observed traveling east on Pepper St. As a result, members conducted a sweep of Pepper St. and located two gloves, matching those worn by the defendant as depicted in surveillance footage, were located in a trash receptacle. The gloves were seized and described as having a strong smell of gasoline emanating from them.

During this investigation, PSP Harrisburg was contacted by a female who advised that her ex-paramour, Cody BALMER (DOB:03/23/1987) was the individual responsible for setting the fire at the Governor's Residence. When asked why this individual believed BALMER set the fire, this individual related BALMER confessed to the act and wanted her to call police to turn him in. A short time later a member of the Pennsylvania State Police was approached outside Department Headquarters, located on Elmerton Avenue, by a male identified as Cody BALMER. BALMER informed the Trooper he was responsible for the fire in the governor's residence, and wished to turn himself in. BALMER was then transported to PSP-Harrisburg where he was interviewed in relation to this investigation.

Prior to interviewing BALMER, he was advised of Miranda Warnings. BALMER advised that he understood his rights and agreed to speak with Troopers. During this interview, BALMER admitted to harboring hatred towards Governor SHAPIRO. He advised on the date in question he removed gasoline from a lawn mower and poured it into Heineken Bottles he found at his residence. BALMER advised he walked for approximately one hour from his residence to the Governor's Residence with the intention of throwing his homemade Molotov cocktails into the residence. BALMER admitted that, once at the residence, he scaled the perimeter fence, broke two windows with a hammer, and threw the Molotov cocktails inside. BALMER also advised that prior to committing these acts, he was aware his actions would result in negative consequences. When asked if he was aware that Governor SHAPIRO and others were home at the time of this act, BALMER advised that he was aware this was a possibility. BALMER also admitted that he knew it was a possibility people could be injured by his actions. BALMER was asked specifically what he would have done if Governor SHAPIRO found him inside of his residence to which he advised he would have beaten him with his hammer. BALMER also advised that after leaving the Governor's Residence, he returned to his residence where he removed his clothing worn during the commission of these acts. As a result, Troopers responded to BALMER's residence and seized a "Snap-On" Jacket, black bag, and a small sledgehammer which were identical to those observed in the surveillance at the Governor's Residence. At the conclusion of this interview, BALMER was processed and transported to Dauphin County Prison for arraignment.



Tp. [Signature] (GRASS)
Affiant Signature

Docket Number
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Number:**AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE CONTINUATION**

After distributing tips through the PSP Tips, Russell HORNUNG, owner of Hornung's True Value, related that BALMER was a former employee of his and that BALMER had a current storage locker at his facility located at 509 South 29 Street, Pennbrook Borough, Dauphin County, PA. BALMER's storage locate is S9 and that storage locker is a 5x10 unit.

A call log provided by Dauphin County 911 after the fact showed that BALMER made contact with them on 04/13/25 at approximately 0250 hours via 17173157247. During this phone call, BALMER identified himself by name and related that Governor Josh SHAPIRO needs to know that he "...will not take part in his plans for what he wants to do to the Palestinian people." BALMER continues saying he needs to stop having my friends killed, and "...our people have been put through too much by that monster." Furthermore, BALMER states "all he has is a banquet hall to clean up." Prior to ending this phone call, BALMER advised "you all know where to find me. I'm not hiding, and I will confess to everything that I had done." Through prior contact with BALMER, BALMER expressed face-to-face that he had placed this call to Dauphin County 911, and advised verbally that the number he used was 7173157247. This demonstrates BALMER's political motivation for his conduct.

Your affiant is requesting to seize any and all cell phones, laptops, tablets, or any electronic device that could store or transmit data. Your affiant is also requesting to seize any writings or notes that contain any of the following: the name of Josh Shapiro; reference to Palestine, Gaza, Israel or the current conflict in Gaza. Your affiant is also requesting to photograph the scene and any seized evidence.



Tom [Signature] (GLASS)
Affiant Signature

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

RECEIPT / INVENTORY
OF SEIZED PROPERTY

COUNTY OF

Docket Number
(Issuing Authority):

Police Incident Number:

Warrant Control
Number:

Date of Search:

Time of Search:

Inventory Page Number:

09/14/25

1934

1 of 1 Pages

CPL. [Signature]

PA STATE POLICE

12050

Affiant

Agency or Address if private affiant

Badge No.

The following property was taken / seized and a copy of this Receipt / Inventory with a copy of the Search Warrant and affidavit(s) (if not sealed) was

☐ personally served on (name of person)☒ was left at (describe the location)

HORWINGS STORAGE SR

Item
Number

Quantity

Item
Description

Make, Model, Serial No., Color, etc.

NOTHING

FOLLOW

[Signature]

I/we do hereby state that this inventory is to the best of my/our knowledge and belief a true and correct listing of all items seized, and that I/we sign this Receipt / Inventory subject to the penalties and provisions of Title 18 Pa.C.S. 4904(b)—Unsworn Falsification to Authorities.

Signature of person Issuing Receipt / Inventory

Printed Name

Affiliation

Badge or Title

[Signature]

CPL. JAMES NEWCOMER

PSP

12050

Signature of Witness

Printed Name

Affiliation

Badge or Title

Signature of person making Search

Printed Name

Affiliation

Badge or Title

[Signature]

CPL. JAMES NEWCOMER

PSP

12050

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

COUNTY OF

RETURN of SERVICE
AND INVENTORY

Docket Number: (Issuing Authority):	Police Incident Number: 2025-437604	Warrant Control Number:
Date of Search: 04/14/25	Time of Search: 1934	Property Seized as result of Search (Y/N) (N)
Date of Return: 04/15/25	Time of Return: 0800	Officer Making Return: [Signature]
Signature of Person Seizing Property: [Signature] N/A		
Other Officers Participating in Search: AL CORRIE, TPR. BLAZONIS, TPR. REED, TPR. LAWRENCE, TPR. E. ARHARD, CPL. DUKST, SGT. DULANT		

Pa.R.Crim.P. Chapter 2, Part A. SEARCH WARRANTS

Rule 202. Approval of Search Warrant Applications by Attorney for the Commonwealth - Local Option.

- (a) The District Attorney of any county may require that search warrant applications filed in the county have the approval of an attorney for the Commonwealth prior to filing.

Rule 204. Person To Serve Warrant.

A search warrant shall be served by a law enforcement officer.

Rule 205. Contents of Search Warrant.

Each search warrant shall be signed by the issuing authority and shall:

- (1) specify the date and time of issuance;
- (2) identify specifically the property or persons to be seized;
- (3) name or describe with particularity the person or place to be searched;
- (4) direct that the search be executed either: (i) within a specified period of time, not to exceed 2 days from the time of issuance, or; (ii) when the warrant is issued for a prospective event, only after the specified event has occurred.
- (5) direct that the warrant be served in the daytime unless otherwise authorized on the warrant, PROVIDED THAT, for purposes of the Rules of Chapter 2, Part A., the term "daytime" shall be used to mean the hours of 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.;
- (6) designate by title the judicial officer to whom the warrant shall be returned;
- (7) certify that the issuing authority has found probable cause based upon the facts sworn to or affirmed before the issuing authority by written affidavit(s) attached to the warrant; and
- (8) when applicable, certify on the face of the warrant that for good cause shown the affidavit(s) is sealed pursuant to Rule 211 and state the length of time the affidavit(s) will be sealed.

Rule 206. Contents of Application for Search Warrant.

Each application for a search warrant shall be supported by written affidavit(s) signed and sworn to or affirmed before an issuing authority, which affidavit(s) shall:

- (1) state the name and department, agency, or address of the affiant;
- (2) identify specifically the items, or property, or persons to be searched for and seized;
- (3) name or describe with particularity the person or place to be searched;
- (4) identify the owner, occupant, or possessor of the place to be searched;
- (5) specify or describe the crime which has been or is being committed;
- (6) set forth specifically the facts and circumstances which form the basis for the affiant's conclusion that there is probable cause to believe that the items, property, or persons identified are evidence or the fruit of a crime, or are contraband, or are or are expected to be otherwise unlawfully possessed or subject to seizure, and that these items, property, or persons are or are expected to be located on the particular person or at the particular place described;
- (7) if a "nighttime" search is requested (i.e., 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.), state additional reasonable cause for seeking permission to search in the nighttime; and
- (8) when the attorney for the Commonwealth is requesting that the affidavit(s) be sealed pursuant to Rule 211, state the facts and circumstances which are alleged to establish good cause for the sealing of the affidavit(s).

Rule 208. Copy of Warrant; Receipt for Seized Property.

- (a) A law enforcement officer, upon taking property or person pursuant to a search warrant, shall leave with the person from whom or from whose premises the property or person was taken a copy of the warrant and affidavit(s) in support thereof, and a receipt for the property seized. A copy of the warrant and affidavit(s) must be left whether or not any property or person(s) are seized.
- (b) If no one is present on the premises when the warrant is executed, the officer shall leave the documents specified in paragraph (a) at a conspicuous location in the said premises. A copy of the warrant and affidavit(s) must be left whether or not any property/person(s) is seized.
- (c) Notwithstanding the requirements in paragraphs (a) and (b), the officer shall not leave a copy of an affidavit that has been sealed pursuant to Rule 211.

Rule 209. Return with Inventory.

- (a) An inventory of items/persons seized shall be made by the law enforcement officer serving a search warrant. The inventory shall be made in the presence of the person from whose possession or premises the property was taken, when feasible, or otherwise in the presence of at least one witness. The officer shall sign a statement on the inventory that it is a true and correct listing of all items/persons seized, and that the signer is subject to the penalties and provisions of 18 Pa.C.S. Section 4904(b) - Unsworn Falsification to Authorities. The inventory shall be returned to and filed with the issuing authority.
- (b) The judicial officer to whom the return was made shall upon request cause a copy of the inventory to be delivered to the applicant for the warrant and to the person from whom, or from whose premises, the property/person(s) was taken.
- (c) When the search warrant affidavit(s) is sealed pursuant to Rule 211, the return shall be made to the justice or judge who issued the warrant.

**THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHALL MAKE ALL RETURNS TO THE ISSUING AUTHORITY
DESIGNATED ON THE SEARCH WARRANT.**