

Michael Carrasco Sontoya Co. Atty Complaint No: 2074643-1 Court File No.:

DISTRICT COURT

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

COURT FILE NO.:
PROSECUTOR FILE NO.: 2074643STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

v.
Michael Carrasco Sontoya
(DOB: 03/25/1977)
778 S. Robert
St. Paul, MN 55107,FELONY
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT
☐ Summons ☒ Warrant
☒ Order of Detention☐ Amended
☐ Certified Juvenile

Defendant.

The Complainant, being duly sworn, makes complaint to the above-named Court and states that there is probable cause to believe that the Defendant committed the following offense(s):

COUNT 1

On or about the 30th day of September, 2008, in Ramsey County, Minnesota, the defendant, **MICHAEL CARRASCO SONTOYA** did wrongfully and unlawfully cause the death of Gabriela Patricia Romo without intent to effect the death of any person, while committing or attempting to commit a felony.

Said acts constituting the offense of **Murder in the Second Degree** in violation of MN Statute: §609.19.2(1)
Maximum Sentence: 40 years.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Your complainant is an investigator with the St. Paul Police Department and he bases this complaint upon a review of reports and upon his own investigation.

Officer Morgan and Rantilla of the St. Paul Police Department report that on September 30, 2008 at approximately 7:00 a.m., they were dispatched to 780 Robert Street (Up), St. Paul, Ramsey County, Minnesota, on a call of an unconscious female. Upon arrival officers found the actual address to be 778 Robert Street. Medics were on scene and attending to a 31 year old female, G.P.R., who is a single mother of 4 children ranging from ages 4 to 13. Officers observed large blood smears and splatters inside of the room where G.P.R. was laying. Medics told officers that Sontoya had told them that G.P.R. had been bleeding from the vagina. Officers also observed a small piece of what appeared to be human or animal flesh lying on the floor near the bathroom.

Police at the scene questioned the 911 caller, the man who lived at that apartment, who identified himself as **MICHAEL CARRASCO SONTOYA**, d.o.b. 03/25/1977. Sontoya said that he and G.P.R. had drunk several beers at Fern's Bar in St. Paul and that they both got intoxicated. Sontoya said they left Fern's between 1:30 a.m. and 2:00 a.m. on September 30, 2008 going to his residence and had consensual sex in the bed. Sontoya said he awoke in the morning to find G.P.R. unconscious and called his brother who is a Ramsey County Deputy Sheriff who told him to call police. When asked how he could account for the large amount of blood in the room Sontoya stated that it's possible he may have torn G.P.R.'s vaginal walls while they were having sex. Medics pronounced G.P.R. dead at the scene. Officers at the scene believed that the incident was suspicious because of the large amount of blood and that G.P.R.'s underwear nor her inner thighs were not bloody as they would have been had she been bleeding profusely through her vagina as Sontoya told them.

Officers noted that when they observed the victim G.P.R. she was laying on her back on the carpet in the bedroom and only had on her underpants, two nylon socks and one shoe. Police also observed handprints and blood near the victim, what looked like handprints on the wall, and blood on the bathroom floor which was smeared. Officers noted that there was blood on other walls in the bedroom and in the hallway and cleaning items in the kitchen sink such as a sponge and bucket with the sponge being wet.

Your complainant, an investigator for the St. Paul Police Department Homicide Unit, was contacted and went to 778 South Robert. Your complainant observed G.P.R. and saw obvious amounts of dried blood under the fingernails of her hands. However, both her hands and palms were clean and did not have blood on them. G.P.R. also had dried blood in her belly button area but her stomach itself as well as her hands had appeared to be wiped clean. Your complainant also noted what appeared to be a piece of human flesh on the floor. Your complainant observed blood spattering on the walls and smears of blood on the walls that had been wiped. Your complainant also observed a white tennis shoe in the closet that had blood on the shoelaces but the shoes appeared as if someone had tried to wipe the blood off of them.

Your complainant interviewed Michael Sontoya at the Ramsey County LEC after arrest and Miranda. Sontoya stated that when he and G.P.R. returned to his house from Fern's Bar they went to the bedroom and undressed each other. Sontoya said that he put two fingers into G.P.R.'s vagina but she pushed them further in and that he put his fist in but only up to the furthest point of his hand. Sontoya said that he thinks he had anal and vaginal sex inserting his penis into G.P.R. Sontoya said after 1 ½ hours of sex they got up and saw blood all over the place and that he cleaned himself up in the bathroom and that she cleaned up her vomit on the floor. Sontoya said he wiped down some of the walls that had his bloody handprints on it. Sontoya said that it was about 3:30 a.m. and G.P.R. was okay with spending the night. She put on her shirt and pants and they went to sleep.

V. 8/07

Sontoya said when he woke up at 6:30 a.m. G.P.R. was on the floor and he went in the bathroom and cleaned up some more of the blood from the bathroom and then tried to wake up G.P.R. who was unconscious, called his brother, and then called 911.

Doctor McGee, the Ramsey County Medical Examiner, reports in his provisional report of the autopsy of G.P.R. that he observed extensive traumatic injuries to the external genitalia, perineum and anal regions of G.P.R. consistent with a sexual assault. His internal examination revealed extensive trauma to the pelvic and abdominal regions. A large laceration was observed to the vaginal wall that extended as a large gaping perforation wound into the soft tissue of the pelvis before entering the abdominal cavity. Doctor McGee also observed laceration to the splenic and hepatic capsule of G.P.R. with scattered subgaleal hemorrhages. Doctor McGee concluded that G.P.R. dies from exsanguination due to traumatic injuries to her pelvic and abdominal cavity regions due to sexual assault and that the manner of death is a homicide.

FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE

From the above sworn facts, and any supporting affidavits or supplemental sworn testimony, I, the Issuing Officer, have determined that probable cause exists to support, subject to bail or conditions of release where applicable, Defendant's arrest or other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court, or Defendant's detention, if already in custody, pending further proceedings. Defendant is therefore charged with the above-stated offense.

☐ **SUMMONS**

THEREFORE YOU, THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT, ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear on the ____ day of _____, 20__ at _____ before the above-named court at _____ to answer this complaint.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR in response to this SUMMONS, a WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST shall be issued.

☒ **WARRANT**

☐ *Execute in MN Only* ☐ *Execute Nationwide* ☐ *Execute in Border States*

To the Sheriff of the above-named county; or other person authorized to execute this warrant: I hereby order, in the name of the State of Minnesota, that the above-named Defendant be apprehended and arrested without delay and brought promptly before the above-named court (if in session), and if not, before a Judge or Judicial Officer of such court without unnecessary delay, and in any event not later than 36 hours after the arrest or as soon as such Judge or Judicial Officer is available to be dealt with according to law.

☒ **ORDER OF DETENTION**

Since the above-named Defendant is already in custody, I hereby order, subject to bail or conditions of release, that the above-named Defendant continue to be detained pending further proceedings.

Bail: \$250,000.00

Conditions of Release:

This complaint, duly subscribed and sworn to, is issued by the undersigned Judicial Officer this ____ day of _____, 20__.

JUDICIAL OFFICER:

NAME:

TITLE:

SIGNATURE:

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

COUNTY OF RAMSEY
STATE OF MINNESOTA

Clerk's Signature or File Stamp:

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Plaintiff,

vs.

MICHAEL CARRASCO SONTOYA

Defendant.

RETURN OF SERVICE

I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this COMPLAINT - WARRANT AND ORDER OF DETENTION upon the Defendant herein named.

Signature of Authorized Service Agent:

Complainant requests that Defendant, subject to bail or conditions of release, be:

- (1) arrested or that other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court; or
(2) detained, if already in custody, pending further proceedings; and that said Defendant otherwise be dealt with according to law.

COMPLAINANT'S NAME:

Scott Payne

COMPLAINANT'S SIGNATURE:

Subscribed and sworn to before the undersigned this _____ day of _____, 20____.

NAME/TITLE:

SIGNATURE:

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

Date: 10/02/2008

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S SIGNATURE:

Name: Robert A. Plesha
Assistant Ramsey County Attorney
50 West Kellogg Blvd, #315
St. Paul, MN 55102
651-266-3222/da
Attorney Registration #87178