

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN

DISTRICT COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

State of Minnesota,)	STATE’S DISMISSAL PURSUANT
)	TO MINN. R.CRIM. P. 30.01
Plaintiff,)	
)	MNCIS No: 27-CR-19-15442
vs.)	C.A. File No: 18A14612
)	
Chris Welch,)	
)	
)	
Defendant.)	

* * * * *

The State of Minnesota hereby dismisses the above-captioned case on the following grounds:

This case was charged based on the statements and expected testimony of five key witnesses. Each of the five key witnesses’ testimony was vital to proving Defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and all five key witnesses are no longer available to testify against Defendant for the following reasons:

Witness D who was the State’s most credible and crucial eyewitness is now deceased. Witness D died in 2020, in an unrelated incident.

Witness H is the State’s primary eyewitness and victim. Witness H was the intended target and father of the deceased child victim. Witness H has repeatedly refused to cooperate with the investigation and prosecution of Defendant. Witness H has remained uncooperative since the date of the incident and has provided numerous inconsistent versions of the events of that day. Additionally, the State has not had any contact with Witness H since 2019 and has been unable to locate or subpoena Witness H for trial.

Witness B is an out-of-state witness and Witness B’s whereabouts are currently unknown. The State has extensively looked for Witness B but the State has been unable to locate

or serve Witness B for trial. The State does not believe it will be able to locate and subpoena Witness B in time for the October 4, 2021, trial date.

Witness E has been charged with Murder in an unrelated incident and is now unavailable to the State for testimony.

Witness G is an uncooperative and hostile witness. Witness G has told prosecutors that he/she will not testify and/or cooperate with the State. Witness G stated that if arrested and forced to appear in Court, he/she would still not cooperate and testify.

Additionally, less critical witnesses but important witnesses are also unavailable to the State.

Without these key witnesses, the State does not have any evidence to present at trial to identify Defendant as the person who committed the crime. Therefore, the State has insufficient evidence to prove Defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt of the alleged offense.

Accordingly, the State has no other option left but to dismiss the charges.

Respectfully submitted,

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