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3 AUG 11 2014  
4 DAVID W. PETERSON  
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9 IN THE KITSAP COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

10 STATE OF WASHINGTON, )  
11 ) No. 14 1 00786 6  
12 Plaintiff, )  
13 v. ) NOTICE OF ARREST OFFENSE AND  
14 ) ORDER SETTING BAIL  
15 GABRIEL ZEBEDIAH GAETA, ) (PRELIMINARY APPEARANCE)  
16 Age: 17; DOB: 12/23/1996, )  
17 Defendant. )

18 A R R E S T

19 A. You are advised as follows-

20 GABRIEL ZEBEDIAH GAETA, you are under arrest for the offenses of:

21 Murder in the First Degree - Aggravating Circumstance - Concealing Commission of  
22 RCW 9A.32.030(1)(a) Crime;

23 Aggravating Circumstance - Sexual Motivation;  
24 Aggravating Circumstance - Particularly Vulnerable  
25 Victim

26 Murder in the First Degree - Aggravating Circumstance - Sexual Motivation;  
27 RCW 9A.32.030(1)(c) Aggravating Circumstance - Particularly Vulnerable  
28 Victim

29 Rape of a Child in the First Degree - Aggravating Circumstance - Particularly Vulnerable  
30 RCW 9A.44.073 Victim

31 alleged to have been committed by you on or about August 2, 2014 through August 7, 2014, in

NOTICE OF ARREST OFFENSE AND  
ORDER SETTING BAIL (PRELIMINARY APPEARANCE);  
Page 1 of 2



Russell D. Hauge, Prosecuting Attorney  
Adult Criminal and Administrative Divisions  
614 Division Street, MS-35  
Port Orchard, WA 98366-4681  
(360) 337-7174; Fax (360) 337-4949  
www.kitsapgov.com/pros

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the County of Kitsap, State of Washington.

Time that Detention in Jail Began: 12:30 A.M.

Date that Detention in Jail Began: August 10, 2014

Arresting Officers: Elizabeth M. Gundrum; Aaron Baker

Law Enforcement Agency: Kitsap County Sheriff's Office - WA0180000

B. Upon posting bail of \$1,000,000 you will be immediately released.

C. If you are not charged by Information or Criminal Complaint in this Court you shall not be detained in jail or subjected to conditions of release for more than seventy-two (72) hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays or holidays, unless you agree to it. If conditions of your release are imposed, they will expire at the end of the seventy-two (72) hour period, excluding Saturdays, Sundays or holidays, unless you agree to abide by the conditions for a longer period of time.

D. Date of Preliminary Appearance: August 11, 2014


Time of Preliminary Appearance: 3:00 P.M.

DONE IN OPEN COURT this 11th day of August, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_  
JUDGE

PRESENTED BY-

STATE OF WASHINGTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
KELLY M. MONTGOMERY, WSBA No 28296  
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

Prosecutor's File Number-14-221110-1





CERTIFICATE OF PROBABLE CAUSE



ORIGINAL

REPORT NUMBER:

K14-007709

CLERK CODE:

SUSPECT NAME: GAETA, Gabriel Zebediah

BIRTH DATE: 12/23/96

COURT: [X] SUPERIOR COURT [ ] DISTRICT COURT [ ] JUVENILE COURT [ ] MUNICIPAL COURT

(Name of City)

ARREST CRIMES:

Murder in the first degree

REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON: 9A.32.030

Rape of a child in the first degree

9A.44.073

ARREST DATE:

08/09/2014

ARREST TIME:

@ 1450

LOCATION OF CRIME:

1355 NE Steele Creek Drive Bremerton, WA 98311

On Sunday August 3, 2014 at approximately 2153 hours, Kitsap County Sheriff Office (KCSO) patrol deputies were dispatched to a detail involving the disappearance of JPW (DOB: 11/17/07), a six-year old female, in the area of the Steele Creek Mobile Home Park in East Bremerton. JPW resided at 1438 NE Steele Creek Drive Bremerton, WA. 98311. Her residence is a single-wide mobile home, located within the noted mobile home park. JPW was described as an Asian female human being about 3'00" with dark hair.

When KCSO arrived in the area of the Steele Creek address at about 2234 hours, several persons on foot were observed with flashlights walking in the neighborhood. They appeared to be looking for JPW.

I CERTIFY OR DECLARE UNDER THE PENALTY OF PERJURY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON THAT THE FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF.

Signature of Detective E. Gundrum #37, Kitsap County, WA



## CERTIFICATE OF PROBABLE CAUSE

People were sporadically calling JPW's name. KCSO observed a group of people going door to door on the same street at the entrance and another group was knocking on doors on one of the side streets.

KCSO spoke with JPW's biological father identified as James A. Wright, (DOB: 07/03/68). James lives in the residence with his wife Denise M. Wright (DOB: 02/28/72) and their four minor children, to include JPW. There are two adult children who do not live in the area. JPW was last seen by her father, in bed, on August 2, 2014 around 2200 hours. James told KCSO on August 3, 2014 at 0700 hours, he noticed JPW was not home. It is not unusual for JPW to play outside with friends for extended periods of time, and normally JPW checks in with family every 2-4 hours. It was however, unusual for JPW to be gone from the house that early in the morning. James did not become concerned until JPW did not check with family within the usual time frame. At about 2030 hours on August 3, 2014, JPW's siblings began checking with the neighbors and talking to the families of JPW's friends in an effort to locate her.

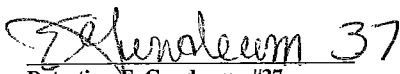
KCSO coordinated a call out for Search and Rescue and Detectives to assist. KCSO checked inside the residence and the surrounding area for JPW but were unable to locate her. A short time later Detective Blankenship and I arrived on scene with Search and Rescue Coordinator Deputy Adams. We were briefed on the situation and then assumed the scene and began to re-interview the parents and other involved parties.

Search and Rescue personnel continued to search the area and contact persons in the neighborhood door to door in a coordinated effort to help locate JPW. Over the next couple of days law enforcement assets and search and rescue personnel were continually deployed. On Monday August 4, 2014, while conducting a search in the heavily wooded area of the southeast perimeter of the Steele Creek mobile home park, searchers located a pair of little girl's underwear (size 5) and a pair of young girls' shorts. There were red stains in the crotch area of the underwear and the shorts. Detectives conducted a presumptive test on the staining in the underwear and a positive result for blood was obtained. Denise Wright, JPW's mother, identified the underwear as being consistent in appearance to underwear worn by JPW.

Further forensic examination of the bloody underwear and shorts located in the woods near the trailer park was conducted by the Washington State Patrol (WSP) Crime Lab. On August 6, 2014 the Crime Lab advised that DNA analysis of the blood located on the shorts indicated the blood belonged to a female biological child of James and Denise Wright. WSP Crime Lab forensic analysis also located semen on the crotch area of the underpants and they were able to extract an identifiable male DNA profile from that area of the crotch for later comparison. A partial female blood type profile was obtained from the underwear that was consistent with the female DNA typing profile obtained from the blood on the shorts.

On 08/07/2014 at approximately 1100 hours, searchers working with the task force located the body of a deceased child. The body was almost entirely submerged in a muddy bog in the woods adjacent to the trailer park, approximately 15 – 20 feet from where the underwear and shorts were located. The mud in

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Detective E. Gundrum #37  
Kitsap County, WA



## CERTIFICATE OF PROBABLE CAUSE

the area in which the body was located, was approximately 3 to 4 feet deep. A small wood pallet was lying over and further concealing the body in the mud. On top of the pallet, searchers located a black nylon duffle bag, luggage, and/or laptop bag style shoulder strap. The body has since been positively identified by the Kitsap County Coroner to be that of JPW. The FBI Evidence Response Team (ERT) began the process of excavating and searching that scene, along with the assistance of the Kitsap County Coroner's Office, King County Medical Examiner's Office, and the WSP crime scene unit.

On 08/08/2014, the Kitsap County Coroner's Office was able to positively identify the body as being JPW. An autopsy was conducted and the death was ruled a homicide. There was evidence of blunt force trauma to the head resulting in multiple skull fractures, evidence of sexual assault (pre-mortem vaginal tearing and genital trauma), and evidence of strangulation by ligature. It was also determined that JPW had lividity on both her abdominal area and her back, believed to be caused by JPW's body being moved a half an hour to 3 hours after her death.

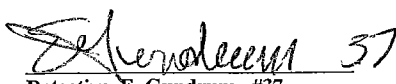
On 08-04-14 Special Agents Matt Yeager and Mike Baldino with the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) contacted 1355 NE Steele Creek Drive during a neighborhood canvass. They contacted Steve Kugler DOB 07-08-1957, the resident. He advised 17 year-old GABRIEL GAETA (DOB: 12-23-1996) and Tina Wright (DOB 07-09-1962) also live in the home. According to the Agent's notes from the contact, GABRIEL had seen JPW before in the past. Kugler advised agents that GABRIEL was home all weekend. GABRIEL was present during the Agents contact at the residence and the parents explained GABRIEL was too upset to really speak with or collect voluntary DNA samples. They asked that law enforcement come back later.

On 08-08-14 Special Agent Spencer Walker with the FBI was assigned a follow-up contact to speak with GABRIEL and collect voluntary DNA samples as part of our normal investigation in this case. Agent Walker made contact with GABRIEL at his residence. Agent Walker described GABRIEL as leaning against the wall, barely able to get out of bed and emotionally upset. He was able to collect a voluntary DNA saliva sample from GABRIEL with his consent. During the contact, GABRIEL's parents explained that GABRIEL was very upset over the disappearance of JPW. They further explained GABRIEL had similar behavior when his mother's sister died.

It should be noted the GABRIEL's residence is located two mobile homes just west of the wooded trail access way leading to where the body was found.

On 08/09/2014 the Washington State Patrol Crime Lab advised investigators that they had a DNA profile match to the male DNA located in the above noted underwear. The written crime laboratory report submitted by Forensic Scientist, Denise Rodier, was provided to Task Force investigators. The report conclusions read: "The male DNA typing profile (Individual B) previously obtained from the front of the underpants [bloody underpants located near the body] matches the DNA typing profile of GABRIEL GAETA. The estimated probability of selecting an unrelated individual at random from the U.S. population with a matching profile is 1 in 9.1 quintillion."

On 08/09/2014 Detective Baker and I responded to 1355 NE Steele Creek Dr., with Detective Stroble and Agent Halla, along with other law enforcement officers. Detective Stroble and Agent Halla  
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Detective E. Gundrum #37  
Kitsap County, WA



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contacted GABRIEL at his residence and asked if he would consent to go with law enforcement regarding further follow up on the case, which he agreed to do. GABRIEL was walked to my vehicle, where Detective Baker and I were waiting. We introduced ourselves and I told GABRIEL we were going to the Bremerton Police Department to speak. GABRIEL was seated in the front passenger seat, Detective Baker was in the rear passenger seat and I was in the driver's seat. Before I began driving, I read GABRIEL the Miranda Warning, including the juvenile waiver, from a card that I carry. GABRIEL stated he understood his rights and agreed to speak to us. He was not secured in handcuffs.

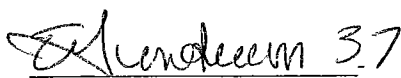
As we drove to the Bremerton Police Department, GABRIEL was quiet and reserved however, we did discuss what school he attended, wrestling, and his family.

Upon arriving at the Bremerton Police Department, GABRIEL was escorted into an interview room that was video and audio recorded. I advised GABRIEL of the recordings and Detective Baker again read GABRIEL the Miranda Warning, including the juvenile clause. GABRIEL stated he understood his rights and agreed to speak to us.

Although GABRIEL was quiet, he spoke freely about his interest in wrestling, his family members and friends. As we began asking him questions about Saturday 08/02/14 and Sunday 08/03/14, GABRIEL began to appear uncomfortable by moving around in his chair and speaking more quietly. When we asked how he felt when JPW'S body was found, he said something similar to "it wasn't right" and eventually he stopped talking altogether. GABRIEL was crying and had tears streaming down his face, his nose was running and he focused on a spot in the room and did not divert his gaze. Detective Baker and I continued to try and speak to GABRIEL but he would not speak to us. He continued staring at a specific spot, but periodically I would ask him a question or tell him to look at me and he would turn his attention to me, looking straight at me for a few seconds and then look away again. GABRIEL also allowed the discharge from his nose to hang from his nose to his shirt and would not use the Kleenex provided to wipe it away. Detective Baker and I later left the room and were advised, by other officers watching the interview in a nearby room, that GABRIEL had been holding that position for over an hour. We watched the live video of GABRIEL alone in the room and noticed moments after we left the room, he began moving around, stretching, yawning, wiping his nose, and drinking water from the bottled water we had previously provided to him.

Detective Baker and I re-entered the interview room and GABRIEL immediately went right back to staring at a specific spot in the room and not answering questions. He was provided with food, soda, and asked numerous times if he needed to use the bathroom. GABRIEL chose to blink rapidly throughout our attempts to speak to him. After trying to speak to GABRIEL for a period of time, we again exited and gave GABRIEL some time alone. We again watched his actions on the video and noticed he began stretching and moving about once we left the room. He also rolled up a piece of Kleenex in what appeared to be a flower. Detective Baker and I entered the room as he was doing so, in order to catch him while he was moving around. This time GABRIEL did not seem to focus on one specific spot in the room, but did not look at either Detective Baker or I, unless asked to do so. I placed a photograph of JPW on the table, which he would not look at.

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Kitsap County, WA



## CERTIFICATE OF PROBABLE CAUSE

We asked GABRIEL if he needed to take his (anti-depression) medication and he shook his head no. We told him we did not know the frequency he took the medication, so we asked him to let us know when that needed to occur. We again asked if he needed to use the bathroom and he shook his head no.

As we continued interviewing GABRIEL, he began to shake his head or nod in the affirmative to some questions but not all of them. Not knowing if he was the only one involved in the rape and death of JPW, we questioned him about his close friend in the neighborhood. We asked if his friend was responsible for putting JPW in the mud, if his friend was responsible for JPW's head trauma, and if his friend had sex with JPW, and GABRIEL shook his head no for each question. GABRIEL had another close friend in the neighborhood and we asked the same questions about that friend. GABRIEL again shook his head no for each question. I asked GABRIEL if he was the only one involved and he did not answer. I explained to GABRIEL I needed to know if there was someone else in the mobile home park we needed to be concerned about. I again asked him if he was the only one involved with JPW's death and he slightly rocked back and forth. I told him I did not know if he was answering my question and I did not want to interpret his movements. I asked him again if he was the only one involved and GABRIEL clearly nodded yes.

GABRIEL was interviewed further and subsequently arrested. He was transported to the Kitsap County Juvenile Detention Center. It is known that JPW was not married to, nor has ever been married to, GABRIEL GAETA.

On 08/09/2014 FBI Evidence Response Team (ERT) and detectives served a search warrant on GABRIEL'S residence. Blood stained underwear, a blood and mud covered shirt, blood stained shorts and a bloody towel were located in GABRIEL'S bedroom.

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E. Gundrum", followed by the number "37".

Detective E. Gundrum #37  
Kitsap County, WA