



**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
ERIC M. HOFFMAN, PROSECUTOR  
46TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
DELAWARE COUNTY, INDIANA**

3100 S. TILLOTSON AVE., SUITE 270  
MUNCIE, IN 47302-6548

TELEPHONE 765-747-7801  
FAX: 765-747-7830

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

From: Eric M. Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney  
ehoffman@co.delaware.in.us  
Date: April 7, 2022

**JURY CONVICTS CHASE ADAMS OF 2020 MURDER**

*Muncie Indiana* – A little after 11:00 p.m. tonight, a Delaware County jury convicted Chase Adams (DOB 4/12/1996) of Murder, a Felony, Obstruction of Justice, a Level 6 Felony, and two (2) counts of Criminal Mischief, Class B Misdemeanors after deliberating for approximately seven (7) hours.

The evidence indicated at trial that Adams fatally stabbed the victim in the back three times with an 11 inch knife. The victim died as a result of massive bleeding from his spleen. After the slaying, Adams fled from the scene, taking the knife with him. He later washed the blood off of it and hid it from law enforcement. At trial, Adams claimed he acted in self-defense. A copy of the Affidavit of Probable Cause for Arrest is attached. The Honorable John M. Feick, Judge of the Delaware Circuit Court No. 4 set sentencing for May 25, 2022. Pursuant to Indiana law:



Chase Adams

- Murder is punishable by 45 – 65 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- A Level 6 Felony is punishable by 6 months – 2.5 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- A Class B Misdemeanor is punishable by up to 180 days in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

After the verdict was returned, Delaware County Prosecuting Attorney Eric Hoffman said “Another violent felon taken off the streets. I am proud of Deputy Prosecutors Jagen Arnold and Andrew Ramirez for their hard work and dedication in this case. As Deputy Prosecutor Andrew Ramirez told the jury in final argument, a verdict of guilty is the only verdict that is dictated by the law and demanded by the facts.”

###

STATE OF INDIANA )  
 )  
DELAWARE COUNTY )

IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURTS

2020 TERM

2324

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

COMES NOW, Bryan Ashton, a police officer of the Muncie Police Department, and being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that the following described person was arrested, without Warrant, upon the charge(s) and circumstances hereinafter stated, and makes this affidavit for the purpose of establishing probable cause for said arrest.

MPD Case Report # 20-0038113

NAME OF ARRESTEE: Chase E. Adams

D.O.B.: 04/12/1996

ADDRESS OF ARRESTEE: 2308 S. Hackley St. Muncie, IN 47302

DATE OF ARREST: 10/04/2020

TIME OF ARREST: 0159 hours

CHARGE 1 Murder

CHARGE 2 Obstruction of Justice - Level 6 Felony

CHARGE 3 Criminal Mischief - Class A Misdemeanor

The basis and reasons why this officer believes that said Arrestee committed the aforesaid offense (s) are as follows:

On 10/4/2020 at approximately 0005 hours, Officers were dispatched to 2310 S. Hackley St. in reference to a reported shooting. Officers located Rex Morrison at this address bleeding profusely from the back of his head and upper back from what was later determined to be three stab wounds. Morrison was transported to Ball Memorial Hospital and pronounced dead shortly after his arrival. Other residents of 2310 S. Hackley and nearby neighbors informed responding officers of an on-going conflict between Morrison and Chase Adams, the resident of 2308 S. Hackley St., and of a physical altercation between them tonight.

Detectives interviewed Edward Dines, Morrison's roommate, who described previous issues of criminal mischief to their vehicles by their neighbor, C. Adams, and reported that tonight he had observed someone in their back yard through security cameras. Dines told Detectives that he informed Morrison of C. Adams in their backyard. Morrison then went out to confront C. Adams. Shortly thereafter, Dines joined Morrison outside and found him alert but bleeding from the back of the head and observed C. Adams running back into his residence at 2308 S. Hackley St.

STATE OF INDIANA )  
 )  
DELAWARE COUNTY )

IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURTS

2020 TERM

C. Adams and his two roommates, William Adams (brother) and Kendra Dodd (girlfriend) were located on a traffic stop in New Castle, IN and transported to Muncie Police Department Criminal Investigations Division. Detectives interviewed C. Adams who stated there was a verbal altercation between himself and Morrison tonight. C. Adams then went to the front of Morrison’s property and slashed the tires on a vehicle there. After slashing the vehicle’s tires, C. Adams then returned home. C. Adams reported that shortly thereafter he heard glass breaking and observed Morrison and Dines walking away from his Dodge Durango’s shattered windows carrying baseball bats. C. Adams stated he armed himself with a kitchen knife then went over to 2310 S. Hackley St. to slash more of their tires but expected Morrison would not let him get away with it. Morrison, armed with a baseball bat, confronted C. Adams on Morrison’s property and C. Adams moved back to an adjacent alley where a fight ensued. C. Adams stated that during this fight he stabbed Morrison at least two times. C. Adams stated he then returned to 2308 S. Hackley, changed his shirt, washed his hands and the knife, and told Dodd as well as W. Adams they needed to leave the house. Dodd and C. Adams then drove to New Castle to his mother’s residence but parked the vehicle a street over from his mother’s house. C. Adams stated he did not remember where he had put the knife used in the homicide.

Detectives also interviewed Kendra Dodd, who stated she witnessed the fight from a distance and saw C. Adams “punch” Morrison. She reported that when C. Adams returned to the 2308 S. Hackley residence, he told her he had stabbed Morrison and may have killed him. She reported he cleaned the knife and they drove to New Castle together. Dodd confirmed that they parked C. Adam’s vehicle a block away from his mother’s house and left the knife inside the mother’s home. Dodd stated that they then went to a bar because she and C. Adams “needed a beer.”

Detectives interviewed C. Adams’s mother, Trava Shumaker, who reported C. Adams told Shumaker he had been in a fight with his neighbor and may have killed him. Shumaker then told Detectives that C. Adams hid the knife in a chimney flue; detectives recovered the knife, which matches the engraved set inside of C. Adams’s house, from this hiding place.

At no time did C. Adams or any member of his household contact the police to report the fight.

I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my information and belief.

STATE OF INDIANA )  
 )  
DELAWARE COUNTY )

IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURTS  
  
2020 TERM

/s/ Officer Bryan Ashton #1501

DATE: 10/4/2020

JUDICIAL DETERMINATION

The undersigned, being a Judicial officer of Delaware County, and having reviewed the foregoing affidavit, now determines that probable cause existed for the arrest of said arrestee, and now fixes bond in the penal sum of \$ NO BOND.

DATED: 10/05/2020

SIGNED: [Signature], Judge

CHARGES TO BE FILED BY: October 12, 2020 @ 8:30 am

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT