CASE NUMBER: 02D04-2506-F5-000211 FILED: 6/11/2025

FELONY AND/OR MISDEMEANOR

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF ALLEN \S:

IN THE ALLEN SUPERIOR/CIRCUIT COURT

CONTROL NO. <u>25A019476</u>

STATE OF INDIANA VS. Justin L. Wert



AFFIDAVIT FOR PROBABLE CAUSE

1. The undersigned swears and affirms, under the penalties for perjury, that he has good cause to believe that:

On or about the 30th, day of May, 2025 in the County of Allen and in the State of Indiana said Defendant did knowingly commit the crime(s) of Battery Resulting in Serious Bodily Injury, a Level 5 Felony; Strangulation, a Level 6 Felony; and Criminal Recklessness, a Class B Misdemeanor.

- 2. The Defendant, *Justin L. Wert*, is described as being: Male/White; DOB: 05/31/1990
- 1. The Affiant, *Det/Cpl. Keith Wallin*, is an officer of the *Allen County Police Department*. The Affiant believes and has good cause to believe that the Defendant committed the aforesaid offense(s). The Affiant bases his belief on the fact that on or about May 30, 2025 at approximately 23:06 hours, Allen County Police Department responded to a disturbance call at Pike's Pub located at REDACTED, Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana. Upon arrival officers learned there had been a battery inside Pike's Pub involving multiple individuals battering a male black. Officers were able to locate the victim, James. James was seen by the medics who responded to the scene. The victim was later identified as James Simmons III.

On May 31, 2025, Officer Doug Schroeder followed up with Kelley Ruse, the owner of Pike's Pub. During that call Officer D. Schroeder was able to speak with Kelley Ruse and Doug Zuber. Kelley advised she had left the Pub prior to the incident taking place. Doug advised he was at the Pub when the battery occurred. Doug advised the victim, James, approached him about shutting the bar down for him on a Wednesday or Thursday for James to have a private karaoke night. Doug stated he told James "no." Doug advised James continued to "badger" him continuously for another hour and wasn't getting the hint. Doug advised "I told him to pay and leave the bar." Doug stated the bartender had already cut James off at this point due to his intoxication level. Doug stated that James insisted he get him another drink. Doug stated that James started walking towards the door instead of paying his tab. Doug stated, "I told him he needed to pay his tab." This is when the battery occurred.

The Affiant was made aware of a video posted on social media that showed the battery.

The video shows the involvement of Ryan Minick in the battery. Minick appears as a shorter, male/white, with dark hair, with no noticeable beard, and wearing an "Outlaw" biker jacket. This individual was later identified as Ryan Minick by REDACTED or WITNESS 1, by Crime Stoppers tip #833-M4285, and by WITNESS 2, who knew Minick prior to the battery. The Crime Stoppers tip stated the following: "Ryan Anthony Minick is that short white man with the Outlaw jacket on that is standing between the two other Outlaws that are berating the black man and is the main one that assaulted, punched, kicked in the face, kicked in the side, that black man at Pike's Pub." Minick is seen in the video confronting James at the bar. Minick is seen aggressively pointing his finger at James and appears to be telling James something. James attempts to walk past Minick, but Minick stands in his way. Minick begins to push James. James turns his back to Minick and begins talking to other males with "Outlaw" jackets on. As the battery begins, Minick is seen jumping into the middle of the battery and starts throwing punches. As the battery progresses and James goes to the ground Minick is seen punching James, then at the end of the video Minick is seen placing his hands on or near James' neck. The video then cuts out.

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On June 3, 2025, Ryan Minick arrived at the Allen County Probation Department for a scheduled appointment. The Affiant requested the Defendant to come to his office for an interview regarding the incident at Pikes Pub. Minick was read his advice of rights and he requested time to speak with an attorney.

The video shows involvement by Douglas Zuber in the battery. Zuber is a male/white, with a black cap/hat and glasses on is head, a long grayish beard and wearing an "Outlaw" t-shirt. Zuber is seen grabbing James and saying "Hey, you're paying your tab. You're paying your fucking bill! You get your ass up there and pay your tab." James turns his back on Zuber and Zuber shoves James in the back towards the bar. During the fight you can hear Zuber state "Beat that mother fucker! Beat that fucking n****r up! Beat him! Beat him! Beat that n****r's ass!" Zuber was identified by Crime Stoppers tip #833-M4284 stating the following: "Doug Zuber is the man with beard and sunglasses being held back by WITNESS 3 in the Pikes Pub video. Doug's girlfriend is the owner of Pikes and Doug is the money behind the bar." Additionally, Doug acknowledges in his interview with Officer D. Schroeder on May 31, 2025, that he was at the bar the night of the incident. Zuber was also identified by WITNESS 4, who was in the bar that night and who knew him prior to May 30. The Affiant identified Doug as being involved and depicted in the video after meeting with him and Kelley at Pike's Pub on June 3, 2025.

The video shows involvement by Justin Wert in the battery. Wert is a bald headed, male/white, with a full beard also wearing an "Outlaw" t-shirt. The Affiant was assisted in identifying Justin Wert by Crime Stoppers tip #833-M4267 that included a picture of Justin at an outdoor gathering posing with a female. The tip read as follows: "I saw a video on the nosey neighbor page from a fight last night in a bar involving the Outlaw biker gang. The bald man that threw the first punch is Justin Wert. He lives in Avilla and is a member of the Outlaws." Wert was also identified from the video by WITNESS 5, REDACTED. Wert appears to get right in James' face and aggressively speaks to James. Wert then appears to punch James in the face and the battery begins. The battery eventually ends up going to the ground where Wert has James in a headlock while other members wearing "Outlaw" attire kick and punch James. James was interviewed and said that his breathing was impaired as a result of the pressure applied to his neck by Wert.

Your Affiant made contact with Fort Wayne Police Department Officer Jeff Ripley, due to his experience and expertise with the Outlaw gang members. Officer J. Ripley viewed the video footage of the battery and was able to positively identify Justin Wert as the male/white with a bald head, long beard, wearing Outlaw gear that is seen throwing the first punch and having James on the ground in the headlock. Officer J. Ripley was able to name the other suspects in this case that are also seen in the video.

The video shows involvement by Christopher Yoho in the battery. Yoho is a male/white, with a long reddish beard, wearing a gray cap and an "Outlaw" vest. Yoho grabs James from behind ripping James' yellow safety vest from his torso. Yoho was identified from the video by WITNESS 6 who called in the information after viewing the video on social media. Yoho also throws a chair at James while other suspects engaged James on the ground.

The video shows involvement by James Impton in the battery. He is a male/white, also wearing an "Outlaw" vest or shirt. Impton was identified from the "Nosey Neighbors" social media video through a tip sent in by WITNESS 7 stating "I see you Jerrad Impton." The Affiant received another Crime Stoppers tip #833-M4293 stating the following: "Pikes Pub incident, one of the Outlaws is Jerrad Impton. He's REDACTED, has two Harley's one black and one orange and a red crotch rocket." Impton is seen at the beginning of the battery throwing a punch at the back of James' head.

Your Affiant made contact with Fort Wayne Police Department Office Nicholas L. Lichtsinn, due to an involvement he had with Jerrad Impton. Officer N. Lichtsinn viewed the video footage of the battery and was able to positively identify Jerrad Impton as the male/white who is balding with grayish hair, a short beard and wearing a black shirt with the white patch on his right breast standing behind the victim, James.

The video shows involvement by Kent Adamonis in the battery. He is a male/white, with gray hair, a "handle bar" mustache and wearing "Outlaw" attire. Adamonis is seen on top of James throwing punches. Adamonis was identified by WITNESS 8 who was at the bar the night of the incident. WITNESS 8 stated she has known

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Kent, Doug, and Kelley Ruse for years. Kent Adamonis is seen in the video standing up kicking James while he is being held down.

James Simmons III was interviewed on June 5, 2025. His injuries consist of a broken blood vessel in his eye, a significant cut on his tongue, several contusions, and a head injury. James was taken to a local hospital the night of the incident and had to go back to seek additional medical attention for the cut on his tongue. During the interview James stated he couldn't breathe due to the chokehold. James stated he was sore on his back and legs. James took the bandage off his right forearm to show the Affiant his injury. The Affiant observed a large patch of skin scraped off from the elbow almost to the wrist. James advised that he had to follow up with an eye doctor for the broken blood vessel in his eye.

The battery traveled from the bar area across the floor of the bar. There were patrons in the bar at the time of the battery, and several of those patrons were in the path of the ongoing battery. At one point when the suspects took James to the ground, they crashed into a table. The violence on the part of the suspects created a substantial risk of bodily injury to others in the bar who were not involved in the battery.

I (we) affirm, under the penalties for perjury, that the foregoing representation(s) is (are) true.

6/10/2025	Keith Wallin
Date	Affiant: Det/Cpl. Keith Wallin, #257
Probable cause found. Arrest Warrant Issued.	
Defendant to be held NO BOND pending ini	tial hearing.
Court finds probable cause does exist for arre	est of Defendant, and orders Clerk to issue a warrant for arrest of
	erious Bodily Injury, a Level 5 Felony; Strangulation, a Level 6
Felony; and Criminal Recklessness, a Class B Misde	emeanor. Bond set in the amount of
Defendant subject to all conditions listed in the Pretr	ial Supervision Order.
count 1 10.000/pts.	count 2 2.500/pts, count 3 or

So found this_

Judge, Allen Circuit/Superior Court

6/11/2025