

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF MCLEAN)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE

ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

PETITION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING
USE OF EAVESDROPPING DEVICE

Dan Katz, Petitioner, being duly authorized by the State's Attorney of McLean County, Charles G. Reynard, to make this request, now appears before the undersigned Circuit Judge of the Circuit Court of McLean County and requests the issuance of an Order Authorizing the Use of an Eavesdropping Device and states as follows:

1. (a) On March 31, 1991, William Little was shot and killed during an armed robbery at the Clark Station on Empire Street in Bloomington, IL. In September, 1999, James Snow and Susan Powell Claycomb were indicted for the murder of William Little. Charges against James Snow and Susan Powell Claycomb are pending at this time. As part of the Grand Jury investigation into the murder of William Little, Karen Ballenger Strong testified before the Grand Jury in August, 1999. Karen Ballenger testified that in March, 1991, she was living with Mark McCown and that James Snow was a friend of McCown's and she knew him. She also testified that she was vaguely acquainted with Susan Powell. Karen stated that sometime shortly after the murder happened in March, 1991, Mark McCown told her that James Snow had shot the guy at the Clark Station and Susan Powell had driven the car and McCown wanted Karen to agree to hide out James Snow at their residence and Karen refused that request. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2. The nature and location of the facilities from which, or the place where the conversation is to take place or be monitored, is [REDACTED] residence at 7(1)(b) Private Information

██████████ Bloomington Police Department, Karen Ballenger's residence in Willow Creek Trailer Court, or any other location which may be agreed upon by ██████████ and Karen..

3. The type of communication to be monitored is in person or in telephone conversations..

4. ██████████ is the party of the expected conversation consenting to the use of the eavesdropping device.

5. Karen Ballenger Strong, Stacy Soule and possible unknown others is the party whose conversations are to be overheard by the eavesdropping device.

6. The time period required for the use of the eavesdropping device is from 5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2000 to 5:00 p.m. on June 18, 2000.

7. (a) Petitioner knows of no previous applications requesting permission to use an eavesdropping device involving the same persons or circumstances as in the instant application.

8. (b) The nature of this investigation is such that any authorization granted pursuant to this Petition should not terminate automatically: .

Respectfully submitted,

7(1)(c) Invasion Personal Privacy

Petitioner

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Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9 day of June, 2000.

4:38 PM

7(1)(c) Invasion Personal Privacy

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF MCLEAN)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDER

On this day Dan Katz, Petitioner, has subscribed and sworn to a petition for authorizing use of an eavesdropping device before me. Upon examination of the petition I find that:

1. [REDACTED] has consented to the use of an eavesdropping device and will participate in the conversation or conversations.
2. There is reasonable cause to believe that the other party participating in said conversation or conversations is committing, has committed, or is about to commit a felony under Illinois law and/or has knowledge of the commission of a felony.
3. There is reasonable cause for believing that particular conversations concerning that felony offense will be obtained through such use; and

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED; That authorization to use an eavesdropping device is hereby granted to the Bloomington Police Department for the purpose of overhearing and/or recording a conversation or conversations which is/are going to occur between 5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2000 and 5:00 p.m. on June 18, 2000 to which [REDACTED] a consenting person and Karen Ballenger Strong, Stacy Soule, and possible unknown others will be parties to, and that this authorization shall (not) automatically terminate.

That any recordings made shall be brought before me immediately.

**7(1)(c) Invasion
Personal Privacy**

JUDGE

Time and date of issuance: 4:38 PM 6-9-00

CONSENT BY PARTY TO CONVERSATION TO BE SUBJECT TO
ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE BY USE OF AN EAVESDROPPING DEVICE

I, [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] 7(1)(b) Private Information Bloomington, IL hereby voluntarily give my consent to the Bloomington Police Department and any and all agents they might designate to conduct electronic surveillance by the use of an eavesdropping device, of a conversation or conversations occurring between myself and others expected to occur between 5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2000 and 5:00 p.m. on June 18, 2000. I hereby certify that there have been no threats nor coercion to induce me to sign this consent, and I do so knowingly and voluntarily.

DATED: June 9, 2000.

7(1)(c) Invasion Personal
Privacy

STATE'S ATTORNEY'S AUTHORIZATION FOR A PETITION
AND ORDER APPROVING THE USE OF AN EAVESDROPPING DEVICE

Special Agent Dan Katz, an agent of the Bloomington Police Department, having the responsibility for the investigation of felonies under Illinois law, is hereby authorized to make application to a Circuit Judge of McLean County for an Order authorizing or approving the use of an eavesdropping device to overhear (and record) a conversation or conversations occurring between [REDACTED] a consenting party, and Karen Ballenger Strong, Stacy Soule and possible unknown others, which is expected to occur between 5:00 p.m. on June 9, 2000 and 5:00 p.m. on June 18, 2000.

The contents of any conversation learned through this electronic surveillance shall only be released or divulged according to Chapter 38, Section 108A-Z, Illinois Revised Statutes.

DATED: 6/9, 2000.

BY: [REDACTED]
State's Attorney of McLean County

[REDACTED]
WITNESS

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF MCLEAN)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE

ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

PETITION FOR ORDER AUTHORIZING
USE OF EAVESDROPPING DEVICE

Dan Katz, Petitioner, being duly authorized by the State's Attorney of McLean County, Charles G. Reynard, to make this request, now appears before the undersigned Circuit Judge of the Circuit Court of McLean County and requests the issuance of an Order Authorizing the Use of an Eavesdropping Device and states as follows:

1. (a) See Petition For Order Authorizing Use of Eavesdropping Device signed and sworn to by Dan Katz on June 9,2000, for details regarding probable cause. Since the overhear order was obtained on June 9, 2000, there have been two recorded conversations between Karen Ballenger Strong and [REDACTED] wherein Karen Strong has discussed details and information she possesses regarding the murder of William Little. During the last conversation on June 16, 2000, Karen advised [REDACTED] that she could give [REDACTED] the additional name of someone who knew specific details about the William Little homicide including what car was used by those involved in the shooting. Karen advised [REDACTED] to call Karen later when Karen's husband was not around so that Karen could talk more freely.

(b) Karen Ballenger Strong has discussed details concerning the murder of William Little wit [REDACTED] and has indicated to [REDACTED] that Karen will discuss more information with [REDACTED] if [REDACTED] will call her (Karen) again.

2. The nature and location of the facilities from which, or the place where the conversation is to take place or be monitored, is [REDACTED] residence at [REDACTED] 7(1)(b) Private Information [REDACTED] Bloomington Police Department, Karen Ballenger Strong's residence in Willow Creek Trailer Court or any other location which may be agreed upon by Danielle and Karen..

3. The type of communication to be monitored is in person or in telephone conversations.

4. [REDACTED] is the party of the expected conversation consenting to the use of the eavesdropping device.

5. Karen Ballenger Strong and possible unknown others is the party whose conversations are to be overheard by the eavesdropping device.

6. The time period required for the use of the eavesdropping device is from 3:00 p.m. on June 21, 2000 to 3:00 p.m. on June 30, 2000.

7. The following applications have previously been made to a Judge requesting permission to use an eavesdropping device involving the same persons or circumstances as in the instant application and the Judge's actions taken on the previous applications are as follows:

Complete Statement of Previous Applications: Application was made on June 9, 2000 by Dan Katz and an order was entered allowing the use of an eavesdropping device.

Judicial Action: Judge Bernardi entered an order authorizing the use of an eavesdropping device to record conversations between [REDACTED] and Karen Ballenger Strong on June 9, 2000.

8. The nature of this investigation is such that any authorization granted pursuant to this Petition should not terminate automatically because additional conversations may occur..

9. This Petition is presented for an extension of a previous Order Authorizing the Use of an Eavesdropping device dated June 9, 2000 and issued by Judge Donald Bernardi to extend from June 21, 2000 until June 30, 2000 and the results obtained so far from the use of the eavesdropping device are as follows: .

(a) A conversation was recorded on June 9, 2000 between [REDACTED] and Karen Ballenger Strong. An additional conversation was recorded on June 16, 2000, between [REDACTED] and Karen Ballenger Strong.

Respectfully submitted,

7(1)(c) Invasion
Personal Privacy

Petitioner

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21 day of June 2000.

Time: 2:24 PM

7(1)(c) Invasion
Personal Privacy

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF MCLEAN)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDER

On this day Dan Katz, Petitioner, has subscribed and sworn to a petition for authorizing use of an eavesdropping device before me. Upon examination of the petition I find that:

1. [REDACTED] has consented to the use of an eavesdropping device and will participate in the conversation or conversations.
2. There is reasonable cause to believe that the other party participating in said conversation or conversations is committing, has committed, or is about to commit a felony under Illinois law.
3. There is reasonable cause for believing that particular conversations concerning that felony offense will be obtained through such use; and

THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED; That authorization to use an eavesdropping device is hereby granted to the Bloomington Police Department for the purpose of overhearing and/or recording a conversation or conversations which is/are going to occur between 3:00 p.m. on June 21, 2000 and 3:00 p.m. on June 30, 2000 to which [REDACTED], a consenting person and Karen Ballenger Strong and possible unknown others will be parties to, and that this authorization shall (not) automatically terminate.

That any recordings made shall be brought before me immediately.

**7(1)(c) Invasion
Personal Privacy**

JUDGE

Time and date of issuance: 6-21-00 at 2:24 PM

STATE'S ATTORNEY'S AUTHORIZATION FOR A PETITION
AND ORDER APPROVING THE USE OF AN EAVESDROPPING DEVICE

Special Agent Dan Katz, an agent of the Bloomington Police Department, having the responsibility for the investigation of felonies under Illinois law, is hereby authorized to make application to a Circuit Judge of McLean County for an Order authorizing or approving the use of an eavesdropping device to overhear (and record) a conversation or conversations occurring between [REDACTED] a consenting party, and Karen Ballenger Strong and possible unknown others, which is expected to occur between 3:00 p.m. on June 21, 2000 and 3:00 p.m. on June 30, 2000.

The contents of any conversation learned through this electronic surveillance shall only be released or divulged according to Chapter 38, Section 108A-Z, Illinois Revised Statutes.

DATED: 21 June, 2000.

BY: [REDACTED]
State's Attorney of McLean County

for
Charles Reynolds

[REDACTED]
7(1)(c) Invasion
Personal Privacy

WITNESS

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