

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Case No. FHP24ON0465095

AFFIDAVIT AND COMPLAINT IN SUPPORT OF ARREST WARRANT

COMES NOW, Investigator Nelson Tineo (#2999) from the Florida Highway Patrol, herein after referred to as “Affiant” being first duly sworn, deposes and makes this Affidavit in support of probable cause to support the arrest of the Subject described below. Based on Your Affiant’s personal knowledge, a review of the relevant records and other materials obtained during the course of this investigation, interviews of witnesses, and conversations with other members of law enforcement, Your Affiant avers the Subject identified below has committed the following offense(s):

**Attempted Felony Murder
Florida Statute § 782.051(1)
1st Degree Felony, PBL (LEVEL 9)**

In that, on or about September 15, 2024, in the Fifteenth and Nineteenth Judicial Circuits of Florida, to wit: Palm Beach and Martin Counties, as part of a related transaction occurring in two or more judicial circuits or in connection with an organized criminal conspiracy affecting two or more judicial circuits, Defendant **RYAN WESLEY ROUTH** did perpetrate or attempt to perpetrate a felony enumerated in Florida Statute § 782.04(3), to wit: a Felony that is an Act of Terrorism or is in furtherance of Terrorism, and did commit, aid, or abet an intentional act that is not an essential element of the felony and that could, but did not cause the death of [REDACTED], a child.

INTRODUCTION:

On September 17, 2024, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 24-197 directing the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) and the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) to investigate the attempted assassination of former President Donald Trump. Additionally, the Executive Order assigned the Attorney General’s Office of Statewide Prosecution to work with law enforcement to ensure that charges are brought for all violations of state law. Your Affiant was contacted by FHP’s Captain H. Head of the Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Intelligence

and was assigned to the investigative team.

TARGET:

NAME: **Ryan Wesley Routh**

LKA: [REDACTED]

RACE: **W** SEX: **M** DOB: [REDACTED] HEIGHT: **6'0** WEIGHT: **140**

SS#: [REDACTED] HAIR COLOR: **Blond** EYE COLOR: **Green**

YOUR AFFIANT:

Investigator Nelson Tineo, Your Affiant, is a duly appointed State Trooper for the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP). Your Affiant has been employed by the FHP since November 2010 and is currently assigned to the FHP Palm Beach County, Bureau of Criminal Investigations and Intelligence unit, as an Investigator since February 3, 2017. Your affiant graduated from the FHP Training Academy with 770 hours of police training fulfilling all of the requirements prescribed in Chapter 943, of the Florida Statues.

Your Affiant has completed over 500 hours of advanced training including, but not limited to Criminal Investigations, Subconscious Communication for Interview and Interrogations, Drug Recognition Expert School, Commercial Motor Vehicle Criminal Interdiction, FDLE alcohol testing program, Financial Fraud, and Injury and Death Investigations. In addition, your Affiant has been exposed to and made numerous arrests related to D.U.I. (alcohol and illegal narcotics), warrants, burglaries, firearms, possession of narcotics, fraud, and other criminal activity.

PROBABLE CAUSE:

On September 15, 2024, at approximately 1:30 p.m., the United States Secret Service (USSS) and the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO) reported a shooting at the Trump International Golf Club, which is located at 3505 Summit Boulevard, West Palm Beach, FL 33406. Law enforcement agencies obtained a suspect and vehicle description, along with a Florida tag number, from eyewitness T.M. T.M. stated that he was traveling northbound on Congress Avenue and was stopped at the red traffic signal waiting to make a left turn onto Summit Boulevard, when he heard

gunshots. He did not witness anyone to be in any sense of urgency and proceeded to turn left towards where he heard the gunshots. He observed a white, blond male emerge from the Trump International Golf Club shrubbery and run across the road in front of his vehicle. The male appeared to have been “involved in something that he did not have any business doing” and was disheveled. T.M. and the white male locked eyes before he continued running to a Nissan Xterra that was parked on the southside of Summit Boulevard. The white male entered the Xterra and drove away at a high rate of speed. T.M. was able to take a few photographs of the vehicle and write down the tag number. He followed it to Forest Hill Boulevard, before returning to the crime scene, where he shared the photos and tag number with law enforcement.

This information was broadcasted by dispatch as a BOLO (Be On the Look Out) and communicated to multiple law enforcement agencies in the region. The vehicle was described as a black Nissan Xterra with an unassigned Florida tag of 97EEED.

At approximately 2:09 p.m., Martin County Sheriff’s Office (“MCSO”) Deputy N. Shaw located the sought-out vehicle northbound on Interstate 95 in Martin County at around mile marker 110. He followed the vehicle and waited for backup to arrive. Thereafter, a felony stop was conducted. Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) Trooper A. Fernandez arrived on scene at approximately 2:13 p.m. and witnessed the traffic stop as it unfolded.

At this point, the information known to law enforcement was that the driver of the Xterra had been involved in an apparent assassination attempt of former president and current Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump. On the southeast corner of the golf club law enforcement had located a sniper’s nest that was hidden within the dense shrubbery bordering the golf course. An SKS Semi-Auto style rifle was leaning against the fence, and next to it, two backpacks and a camera were tied hanging on the fence. Also present at the scene were what appeared to be Vienna sausages. PBSO Detective S. Householder and Crime Scene Investigator J. Chehab documented the crime scene and collected evidence.

At this point in time, law enforcement did not know whether the driver had acted alone or whether there were other potential targets. Law enforcement also did not know whether there were

weapons or explosive devices in the Xterra or on the driver's person. As such, due to the high-risk potential of the traffic stop, all northbound traffic was stopped for the safety of the motoring public. During this time, the driver of the Xterra was ordered to remain in the vehicle with his hands outside the window. After northbound traffic was stopped, law enforcement ordered the driver out of the vehicle and took him into custody. This occurred at approximately 2:23 p.m. After being detained, the driver identified himself as Ryan Wesley Routh (DOB [REDACTED]). He indicated that he was from North Carolina but currently lived in Hawaii and had recently travelled to Florida. While he was waiting in a deputy's vehicle, Routh expressed concern over the traffic problems caused by the stop and brought up this concern on more than one occasion.

During this time, additional information was received from USSS and PBSO alerting law enforcement to remain away from the vehicle due to a potential bomb or explosive device being inside of the vehicle. This information was deemed credible, as the suspect identified as Matthew Crooks, the shooter in the prior attempt on President Trump's life in Butler, Pennsylvania just two months earlier, was also in possession of explosive devices. Widely circulated remarks from authorities investigating that assassination attempt stated that two explosive devices were recovered from that subject's vehicle and one explosive device was later found at the subject's home. The improvised explosive devices found in the subject's car consisted of ammunition boxes filled with explosive material with wires, receivers, and ignition devices connected to them. Furthermore, law enforcement officers working a protective detail are trained to be cognizant of the potential presence of explosive devices, especially during any critical incident deemed a threat to the protectee.

Upon receiving this warning from USSS and PBSO, a St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office (SLCSO) bomb detection K-9 was summoned to the traffic stop location, and MCSO and other law enforcement stopped southbound traffic on Interstate 95 as well. Back at the scene where shots were fired, as later documented in PBSO reports, PBSO tasked a detective with X-raying the backpacks located hanging on the fence line of the golf course to ensure that there were no explosives inside.

Deputies and other law enforcement officers at the felony stop at this point were instructed to wait for a bomb tech to clear the Xterra. They were also advised that PBSO was bringing an eyewitness from the area of Trump International Golf Course to Martin in an effort to identify Routh as the person who fled the area where shots were fired. Because of the nature of I-95 as a major traffic artery for the region and the distance between exits at that specific area, law enforcement had very limited options for rerouting traffic to alternate routes. As such, traffic began to back up in both directions on I-95 for miles, affecting traffic in both Martin County and St. Lucie County.

Because of the traffic stoppage caused by Routh, at approximately 3:00 p.m., a multivehicle crash took place resulting in serious bodily injury to a small child, [REDACTED]. The crash occurred approximately 3 or 4 miles south of the felony stop at Mile Marker 108, which is approximately 1.4 miles south of Martin Highway. A 911 call recording from [REDACTED]'s mother's phone revealed that, after the crash, the family could not immediately tell whether [REDACTED]. was breathing. They attempted to brace her neck as they waited for paramedics to arrive. Eventually the sound of choking or gagging can be heard on the recording. Paramedics arrived and cut [REDACTED]. out of her seat belt, then transported her to Lawnwood Medical Center as a trauma alert. [REDACTED]. was in critical condition, with severe injuries. Since that date, medical records for [REDACTED]. show that she has remained in hospital care and that her injuries were life-threatening.

The initial crash investigation was conducted by Trooper M. Green and a review of that report revealed the following:

- Vehicle 01 (V01) 2017 BMW X3
- Vehicle 02 (V02) [REDACTED]
- Vehicle 03 (V03) 2014 Kia Soul
- Vehicle 04 (V04) 2024 Kia K5
- Vehicle 05 (V05) 2019 Chevrolet Corvette

V01 was traveling northbound in the outside lane on Interstate 95. V02, V03 and V05 began to slow for stopped traffic as they traveled northbound in the outside lane of Interstate 95. V04 was also slowing for traffic as it traveled north in the center lane. The driver of V01 told Trooper Green that she looked down for her water bottle and failed to account for traffic stopping ahead. The front

of V01 collided with the rear of V02, this caused V02 to rotate clockwise, and V01 to rotate counterclockwise. The front left of V02 collided with the right rear of V03, causing V03 to rotate counterclockwise. As V03 continued its counterclockwise rotation the right rear of V03 struck the rear of V05. The front right of V02 struck the rear right of V01, as it completed its 180-degree clockwise rotation. The front of V01 entered the center lane and collided with the right rear of V04.

On September 25, 2024, at 11:53 a.m., FHP Corporal M. DeLeeuw conducted a digitally recorded sworn interview with the driver of V02, █████ identified himself as the driver of V2 and was traveling with his family. At the time of the crash the vehicle was occupied by █████. (Front right seat), minor child █████. (Left seat in second row), and minor child █████. (second row right seat). All occupants within V-2 were utilizing their seat belts. The children were in a forward position child restraint seat and a booster seat, respectively. The family departed the Bush Wildlife Sanctuary at approximately 2:50- 2:55 p.m. and were en route back to their residence. █████ recalled the weather was nice, partly cloudy and no rain and that the traffic was light until they reached the area where traffic gradually slowed and then stopped on I-95. █████ changed lanes to the outside right lane and was established in that lane for at least a minute prior to the impact.

On October 14, 2024, at 3:37 p.m., Corporal M. DeLeeuw conducted a digitally recorded sworn interview with the driver of V01, C.C. C.C. stated that on the date of the incident she had departed her place of work (Home Depot/ Donald Ross) at approximately 2:30 p.m. and was en route to her residence. She could not recall her speed but stated that she was traveling northbound on Interstate 95, in the right lane and was going with the flow of traffic. C.C. stated traffic ahead was slowing down and she began to slow before the crash occurred. She stated that she was not talking or texting on her phone and that her cell phone was on the passenger seat. C.C. did not remember making any spontaneous statements of being distracted after the crash.

Per FHP CAD notes, at 3:13 p.m. a bomb detection K-9 arrived on scene and cleared the vehicle of explosives. That K-9 officer, SLCSO Deputy Wise responded to the northbound lanes of Interstate 95 with K-9 Odie and performed an explosives sweep of the vehicle for public safety

and the safety of all those involved in this incident. K-9 Odie did not alert to the vehicle during two passes.

At approximately 3:35 p.m., PBSO arrived at the scene of the traffic stop with eyewitness T.M. T.M. identified Routh as the same white male he saw running from the area of the golf course and fleeing in the black Xterra. When asked how sure he was about this identification, T.M. responded, “99.9%.”

At approximately 3:43 p.m., CAD reports indicate that Air Rescue responded to the scene of the crash and airlifted [REDACTED] to Lawnwood Hospital in Fort Pierce.

Interviews of Other Civilian Witnesses:

Body worn camera (“BWC”) footage obtained from PBSO revealed more details about the shooting incident at Trump International Golf Club. The BWC footage reveals sworn interviews with several individuals who were accompanying President Trump on the golf course that day. According to their statements, the course was closed to the public that day. President Trump and his group were the only players allowed on the course. One witness noted that, as the group played, the USSS lead detail proceeded to the next hole ahead of the group to clear the area and ensure President Trump’s safety.

As the golfing group was proceeding with their game on the 5th hole, they heard four shots fired, coming from the direction of the 6th hole and the hedge line bordering the golf course and abutting Congress Avenue. Each member of the golfing party testified that they noted USSS’s immediate reaction; they shielded the former president and took defensive positions. One member of the golfing party stated that he also tried to shield President Trump from any danger. USSS counter snipers responded immediately, yelling at the golfing group to get on the ground, and taking positions aiming their firearms towards the corner of Congress Avenue. One witness heard an agent state that the shooter was in the tree line and noted that USSS agents began running in that direction. President Trump was quickly removed from the golf course. Thereafter, the golfing

group witnesses eventually left the course as well and met President Trump at the clubhouse, where he expressed concern for their safety, asking if everyone was ok.

Subsequent investigation of Routh revealed the following information:

Routh Appears to Have Travelled from North Carolina to Commit this Offense:

Flight records obtained via subpoena confirm Routh travelled from Honolulu, Hawaii several times during the calendar year of 2024. These records show that Routh travelled to San Francisco, California; Phoenix, Arizona; St. Louis, Missouri; Atlanta, Georgia; and Greensboro North Carolina. Several records show that airline tickets were purchased by Kathleen Shaffer, Routh's fiancé (who is also listed as the editor for his book). Ms. Shaffer travelled with Routh as a passenger on some of these flights but on other flights Routh travelled alone. Each flight from Hawaii cost an average of approximately \$1,000.

Routh travelled from Greensboro, North Carolina to Palm Beach County, Florida after obtaining an extra key for the black Nissan Xterra, which is titled to his daughter. A subpoena to Greensboro Nissan revealed that, on August 6, 2024, a duplicate key was produced at Greensboro Nissan in North Carolina. The dealership produced emails between Routh, his daughter, and the dealership, coordinating Routh's purchase of a duplicate key. Routh's email communications are sent from the address [REDACTED] and list [REDACTED] as his cell phone/contact number. The emails also indicate that Routh's daughter was in Hawaii and that he was in sole possession of the vehicle in North Carolina. Routh claims in the emails to have previously purchased the vehicle. A query of the vehicle's VIN through FCIC revealed it to have an assigned NC tag of HKY4343, registered to Sarah Routh, Routh's daughter. As previously discussed, this tag was not attached to the vehicle at the time T.M. witnessed Routh fleeing the scene of Trump International Golf Course or at the time Routh was detained by law enforcement in Martin County.

Routh Lived for Weeks at a Truck Stop in Rural Western Palm Beach County:

On September 6, 2024, PBSO deputies were called to GRS Truck Stop located at 890 US 27 North in South Bay, FL to conduct a welfare check on a person in a black Nissan Xterra located behind the truck stop. BWC footage from the incident reveals that, during this encounter, Routh can be seen standing next to the black Nissan Xterra. He identifies himself as Ryan and says that he has been in the area for a couple of weeks. The BWC footage shows that the car is packed with clothes and other items, and it appears as though Routh is living in the car. This seems to be confirmed by his conversation with deputies. Routh says he is there temporarily and that he just “found a shady spot.” Routh, who Your Affiant’s investigation revealed owns homes in North Carolina and Hawaii, appeared to be living in his vehicle behind the truck stop. Your Affiant notes that GRS Truck Stop is approximately 45 miles from Trump International Golf Course. South Bay is a small rural community with only about 4,800 residents. The GRS Truck Stop is one of the closest truck stops of its kind to West Palm Beach, where Trump International Golf Club is located. The truck stop is large, with numerous trucks and trailers parked on the premises, abutting agricultural fields in an otherwise isolated area.

Also seen in the BWC footage is a tree trimming truck equipped with a hydraulic bucket lift. Your affiant later learned that this truck belongs to Taurus Transportation, LLC, which is owned by Puja St. Louis. The assigned tag is Florida tag #97EEED. This is the same tag number T.M. wrote down and shared with law enforcement after witnessing Routh flee from the scene of shots fired by the golf course on September 15.

Mrs. St. Louis, in a sworn interview, acknowledged her ownership of the truck and an arrangement with the truck stop where her company was allowed to park it there in between jobs, to include the month of September 2024. Mrs. St. Louis also confirmed that she did not give anyone, including Routh, permission to remove the assigned tag, or attach it to another vehicle. Mrs. St. Louis’s husband, who helps operate the business, confirmed the same. They had previously reported the tag stolen after learning it had been used without their permission.

On September 2, 2024, the black Nissan Xterra began appearing on license plate readers (“LPRs”) in Palm Beach County with the tag stolen from Taurus Transportation LLC’s truck. Over the next several days, the Xterra was caught driving in various locations to include visiting eastern Palm Beach County and locations within a 2-to-10-mile radius of Trump International Golf Club.

Routh Conducted Surveillance:

On September 7, 2024, an LPR reader at the Palm Beach International Airport also captured Routh’s black Nissan Xterra with the stolen tag. According to the LPR, the Xterra enters the airport at 10:19 a.m. and exits at 11:01 a.m. Surveillance footage captures Routh, driving the Xterra, with its windows down, as the sole occupant. He goes into short term parking, which is a parking garage, and exits the vehicle. The video shows Routh walking around the airport terminals alone. He does not appear to have contact with anyone or communicate with anyone at this time. Eventually he returns to the parking garage. At one point, he is outside the viewpoint of the surveillance camera within the terminal area. When Routh appears back in view of the camera, he proceeds to leave the terminal and return to the parking deck. Your Affiant visited the same spot and noted that the parking garage area where Routh was seen on surveillance provides a vantage point where the tarmac is clearly visible, including the area where President Trump’s plane lands and is stored when he is in Palm Beach County.

On September 17, 2024, PBSO Deputy S. Barge, having learned of the September 6, 2024, welfare check involving Routh at the GRS Truck Stop in South Bay, visited the scene. BWC from Dep. Barge revealed that there were several empty cans of Armour brand Vienna sausages located in the exact spot where Routh had previously had the Xterra parked and was apparently living. This is noteworthy because deputies who located Routh’s sniper’s nest after the shots were fired on September 15, 2024, also located Vienna sausages along with the rifle, the backpacks, and the camera. Deputy Barge can be heard on the BWC stating that there are several empty cans of the Armour brand sausages, which he notes is a Dollar General brand.

The Sniper’s Nest and the Rifle:

As previously discussed, PBSO located Routh's "sniper's nest" outside the fence but within the tree line bordering the Trump International Golf Club. They located a rifle, two backpacks, a GoPro type camera (brand name Akaso), and a bag containing Vienna sausages. The backpacks and camera are zip-tied to the fence and left hanging there with the aid of bungee cords. The Akaso camera is pointed through the fence towards the 6th hole of the golf course. Your Affiant is familiar with this type of camera. They are known for being able to record and store large video files. Many cameras like this are equipped with Wi-Fi, which would allow the user to livestream, or broadcast a video in real time over the internet.

A closer examination of PBSO Crime Scene Investigator photos reveal that an empty tin is also in the black plastic bag containing the sausages. Your Affiant notes that the label has been removed from the tin and discarded, which is typically not how such food items are sold. Additional examination of the CSI photos shows a label that was not discarded. Around the scope attached to the rifle is a label that reads "mint flossers," "Dollar General," and "50" when viewed from various angles. A search of Dollar General's online inventory revealed that the label matches the packaging for a 50-count pack of Rexall mint flossers, which cost \$1.00. Routh's possession and use of this product is consistent with Dep. Barge's observation that Routh had purchased, consumed, and left empty cans of Armour brand Vienna sausages, another Dollar General brand, at the GRS Truck Stop after September 6, 2024. The presence of the Vienna sausages at the scene of Routh's sniper's nest outside Trump International Golf Course further ties him to the scene.

As part of Your Affiant's investigation, records for a cell phone number associated with Routh were obtained via subpoena and a search warrant. These records confirmed that the phone number was registered to account holder Kathleen Shaffer, Routh's fiancé. The Mobile Station International Subscriber Directory Number ("MSISDN") for the phone number in question listed Ryan Routh as the user. Cell site location information for this cell phone number showed that Routh was in the immediate area of Trump International Golf Club on September 15, 2024. Specifically, at 2:55 a.m. on September 15, 2024, the cell phone initiated a data session in the area of the Trump International Golf Club. The phone initiates another data session at approximately 1:40 p.m. between 45th and Palm Beach Lakes Blvd, which is consistent with Routh fleeing the

area. This evidence shows that Routh waited for his target in the area of President Trump's golf course for approximately ten hours. Email records obtained for one of Routh's email addresses show that he accessed his email account towards the end of his ten-hour surveillance, at approximately 12:35 p.m.

Your Affiant also notes from the CSI photos that the chain link fence appears to have been cut in several places. Two of these cut sections are held together with new Masterlock padlocks. The locks do not show any apparent signs of rust or wear and tear, indicating they were recently purchased. This is consistent with the idea that Routh may have laid in wait for hours, and possibly visited the site previously. The cut fence indicates that he made entry onto the property. When reviewing CSI photos of the scene, it is apparent that the area of the sniper's nest is the only area on the fence line that is not covered by dense shrubbery. The photos show that some of the vegetation, including a thick branch, around the sniper's nest had been recently trimmed. Yet no cutting tool was located or recovered. The photos also show a small blue flashlight found on a path just inside the property. Your Affiant notes that a Surefire 123A battery was found in the roadway where Routh had fled the scene, which corresponds to the size of the flashlight located inside the fence line. All of this indicates that Routh made entry into the property, cleared bushes to give himself an ideal line of sight to his target, and then closed up the hole behind him. The PBSO reports indicate that the backpacks Routh hung on the fence contained black tile, which can serve as a makeshift bullet shield if made from certain materials. Routh carefully chose his spot for this sniper's nest and went to great lengths to prepare it.

Apart from depicting the sniper's nest the CSI photos also contain closeup photos of the rifle. These photos show that the serial number had been scratched out or destroyed. There is a scope attached to the rifle using black electrical tape. There is also a magazine and ammunition. Additional photos of the rifle were provided to PBSO Detective Barborini, who has been certified as a firearms expert and testified as such in numerous felony trials both with PBSO and as a special agent with the ATF. Det. Barborini, after examining the photos, authored a supplemental report. In his supplement, Det. Barborini identified the rifle depicted in the photos as a Chinese SKS with a fixed 10 round magazine (military configuration). Det. Barborini confirmed that, in his expert opinion, the SKS depicted in the photos is a firearm as that term is defined by Florida Statute. He

noted that the stock and the magazine of the SKS had been changed out for an after-market, “combat exchange” stock and detachable magazine, as is commonly seen with this model. Det. Barborini also noted the rifle had an aftermarket scope and mounts. He observed that the photos depict the correct caliber of ammunition consistent with the Chinese model of the SKS. In Det. Barborini’s opinion, the rifle Routh dropped outside of Trump International Golf Club had the capability to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive. In other words, this was a real gun with the ability to shoot live rounds and inflict serious bodily injury or cause death.

Routh’s Flight from the Scene was Calculated:

BWC footage from after Routh’s arrest shows law enforcement taking note of and photographing green stickers or sandburs stuck to Routh’s socks. The stickers appear to be from a relatively recent interaction with vegetation similar to that seen along the fence line bordering Trump International Golf Club. Your Affiant also noted in the BWC footage of this and other law enforcement interactions with Routh that he is dressed in army green pants, with camouflage leggings underneath, along with thick socks and high-top black hiking or all-terrain shoes. The long sleeve t-shirt Routh is wearing at the time of his arrest is pink/orange in hue. T.M., the eyewitness who identified Routh, indicated that, at the time he saw Routh fleeing from the area of the golf course, Routh was wearing a “light-colored black shirt.” This would indicate that Routh changed shirts as he was driving, attempting to disguise himself and evade detection.

Your Affiant notes that the photos taken by eyewitness T.M. and T.M.’s description of where Routh’s car was parked also evinces careful planning on the part of Routh. Your Affiant has visited this location. From the intersection of Congress Avenue and Summit Blvd., the area where the Xterra was parked is not visible because of a dense wooded area. However, the parking area is easily accessible from Summit Blvd., and likewise from the area where Routh’s sniper’s nest was located. There are other parking lots in the area, including that of a post office and a gas station, but those parking areas are more exposed to public view.

MCSO Dep. Shaw can be heard on BWC footage telling other officers at the scene of the felony stop that, when he located Routh and effected the traffic stop, Routh was not speeding or driving

erratically. This indicates that Routh was attempting to blend in to the regular flow of traffic and avoid detection.

After being taken into custody, Routh did not appear surprised, angry, or very upset. He smiles for the camera as a law enforcement officer takes his photo for purposes of confirming his identity. He jokes around with Deputy Shaw about how beautiful Hawaii is with all the girls in bikinis. Routh had no weapons on his person when arrested and advises the deputies that some boxcutters in a bag are the only weapons or devices in his car.

Routh's Agenda:

Additional investigation into Routh's background, state of mind, and possible agenda revealed the following:

On February 28, 2023, Routh published a book entitled, "Ukraine's Unwinnable War: The Fatal Flaw of Democracy, World Abandonment and the Global Citizen-Tawain, Afghanistan, North Korea and the End of Humanity," by Ryan Routh (Author) Kathleen Shaffer (Editor). As noted above, Kathleen Shaffer is Routh's fiancé and appears on several of the airline records obtained via subpoena as both a person purchasing airline tickets for Routh and a passenger travelling with Routh. Routh's book on Ukraine is self-published in electronic format and is available via Amazon/Kindle. In the book, Routh describes his time in Ukraine, where he attempted to volunteer to fight for the Ukrainian military. Much of the text contains Routh's stated beliefs about international and national politics and government. Within those sections, Routh refers to President Trump, often denigrating President Trump and at one point even calling for his assassination. Relevant portions of the text are set forth below.

p. 82: "We made a tremendous blunder with Iran that Trump started and Biden has foolishly not fixed and we have rendered another ally for Russia, so this war is plainly showing how we have failed over the last decades not to be the example of humanity and kindness around the globe."

P. 124: "Where have all the strong bold leaders gone that we so desperately need? (I am not speaking of idiots like Trump or Bulsanaro)[sic] What happened to the selfless leaders of days gone by."

p. 134: “Sadly the US and the world has likewise failed Venezuela and Juan Guaido and democracy has dissolved quickly under our watchful eye and yet we have failed yet again. Furthermore we have mirrored their devastating events with our own catastrophe on January 6th perpetrated by Donald Trump and his undemocratic posse. It seems that the Putin mindset is winning across the globe as even the supporters of Bolsonaro in Brazil behaved like uncivilized brats as well with no regard for law and order and the system that their forefathers and majority established. What type of world do we live in when we have no respect for the institutions that we ourselves establish and do not have the decency to admit defeat when the majority of the population votes for their will? What childish egomaniac have we become to put our selfish agendas above that of the desire of the whole?”

p. 141: [re: Kim Jon-Un] “Even a fool such as Trump has the wherewithal to realize that we should talk and build a friendship.”

p. 184: “Granted it is the biggest mistake the US has ever made when we withdrew from Afghanistan; it was a major blunder of colossal proportions and I think that we all had the outside slim chance that the Taliban would be older and smarter and wiser, but we were fooled, just like with Trump; we hoped that ego would be set aside and the greater good of the whole would be put first, but we were wrong in both cases. It seems that the totality of the world’s problems revolves around men with massive insecurity and childlike intelligence and behavior.”

p. 189: “It saddens me deeply that we fail to have the leadership ability from any country to repair the world’s relationship with North Korea. How can a basketball player like Dennis Rodman have more charisma and wisdom than any other human and leader on the planet; and a buffoon like Trump running a close second?”

p. 192: [again, re: North Korea] “In all of Trump’s misguided ignorance, at least he tried. Imagine that groundbreaking work that could be done with not only a brave leader but one with half a brain (where do we find that person.)”

p. 284: “Again it is unfortunate that Trump abandoned the Syrian people just as Biden abandoned the Afghan people and it extremely unfortunate.”

p. 278: “I must take part of the blame for the retarded child we elected for our next president that ended up being brainless, but I am man enough to say that I misjudged and made a terrible mistake and Iran I apologize. ***You are free to assassinate Trump as well as me for that error in judgment*** and the dismantling of the deal. ***No one here in the US seems to have the balls to put natural selection to work or even unnatural selection.***”

(Emphasis added).

Social Media:

Social media analysis revealed that in July 2024, Routh posted on X and tagged @FrantzElbe saying “I wish that someone in Haiti would reach out to me so that I can supply thousands of NATO trained Afghan soldiers very cheaply. [REDACTED] I can send 1000 soldiers today to defend.”

This post confirms a phone number and email address that Your Affiant has connected with Routh through other means during this investigation. It also demonstrates Routh’s belief that he has the power to affect change in international politics and government conduct.

Social media analysis revealed that in July 2024 Routh posted on X and tagged @Kamala Harris writing “You and Biden should visit the injured people in the hospital from the Trump rally and attend the funeral of the murdered fireman. Trump will never do anything for them.... show the world what compassion and humanity is all about. [REDACTED]”.

This post again denigrates President Trump by referring to the victims injured and killed during the July 2024 attempt on the former president’s life in Butler, PA and saying that President Trump would never do anything for them. Here, Routh continues his pattern of displaying animus toward President Trump and simultaneously attempting to affect action by the government.

A social media analysis revealed that in April 2024 Routh posted on X and tagged @ElonMusk writing, “I would like to buy a rocket from you. I wish to load it with a warhead for Putin’s Black Sea mansion bunker to end him. Can you give me a price please. It can be old and used as not returning. [REDACTED]”.

This post demonstrates not only Routh’s exaggerated sense of importance in his ability to affect world political and government affairs, but it also shows his tendency towards removing an individual he sees as problematic through the use of violence.

This post somewhat echoes a letter that Routh left with a friend prior to September 15, 2024. The letter which has been widely publicized, was addressed “Dear World.” In the letter, Routh

characterizes his actions as a failed assassination attempt on Donald Trump and then offers \$150,000 to anyone who can finish the job. Clearly, Routh knew and intended that his criminal actions, whether successful or not, would make news. The letter represents a solicitation for others to continue his efforts to assassinate Donald Trump and thereby affect the conduct of the government, influence its policies, or intimidate, injure, or coerce the civilian population, millions of whom had already voted for President Trump in primary elections and planned to vote for him in the general election in November of this year.

Conclusion:

Evidence gathered in this investigation clearly indicates that Suspect Ryan Wesley Routh intended to commit an act of terrorism by assassinating former U.S. president and, at that time, presidential candidate Donald Trump. As described above, Routh carefully planned and committed numerous acts towards the commission of this intended assassination, including stalking the former president, lying in wait for him with a loaded firearm, and setting up a camera to capture the act and broadcast it to the civilian population. He had an agenda and a system of beliefs that motivated his actions and explain what he was trying to accomplish and how he hoped to affect the presidential election, the conduct of the U.S. government, and the American population as a whole. Routh failed in the perpetration of his intended crime. However, Routh committed another act, fleeing from the scene of this attempted act of terrorism, that resulted in severe injuries to the minor child, [REDACTED].

When Routh fled the scene and drove north into Martin County, it foreseeably caused law enforcement to shut down Interstate 95 to preserve the life and safety of others. Routh's actions were the cause of a horrific car crash that severely injured the minor child, [REDACTED]. Routh's intentional act of escaping the scene of his attempted act of terrorism could have easily resulted in the death of [REDACTED], but fortunately did not. As such, there is probable cause to believe Ryan Wesley Routh committed the criminal act of Attempted Felony Murder in violation of Florida State Statute 782.051(1).

The offense(s) set forth in the foregoing Affidavit are contrary to the statutes in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State of Florida.

This affidavit is hereby submitted bearing your Affiant's signature supported by oath or affirmation in compliance with F.S. 901.02.

I, Investigator Nelson Tineo, having been duly sworn, say that the facts contained herein, are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

**AFFIANT/ Investigator Nelson Tineo, ID # 2999
Florida Highway Patrol**

The foregoing instrument was duly sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of December, 2024, by Investigator Nelson Tineo who are personally known to me or who has produced (ID) as identification and who DID take an oath.

Officer Administering the Oath (Signature) _____