

01/25/2023
18:34

State of Colorado, County of Mesa
Affidavit In Support of Warrantless Arrest

2023-00003846 Detective Bryce Raber #18-5 January 25th, 2023

On January 25th, 2023 around 1230 hours, emergency alarms and lights began to sound at the Grand Junction Police Department, 555 Ute Ave, City of Grand Junction and County of Mesa, after a full size pickup truck plowed through the front doors of the Police Department's public lobby and came to rest after it collided with a retaining wall which divides Police Department employees from the public lobby.

Officers and Detectives quickly ran to the lobby to search for any injured citizens or employees and to locate and contact the driver of the pickup truck.

When the initial Officers arrived in the lobby the single male occupant of the truck was quickly addressed at gun point, ordered out of the truck from the driver's seat and placed into custody without further incident.

This male driver was identified as NATHAN CHACON (03-19-1977) and the vehicle which was now parked entirely within the public lobby of the Police Department was bearing a Colorado plate of BQV782, which registers to Nathan.

Once in custody, Nathan was evaluated by paramedics who determined that he did not need to be transported to the hospital for a more in depth medical evaluation. Once cleared by paramedics, Nathan was escorted to a secure holding cell within the Police Department.

It should be noted that I also ran to assist in the lobby after the crash, and when I arrived, Nathan had just been taken into custody.

When I arrived in the lobby, I was completely shocked and taken aback by the state of the lobby. Nathan's truck had come to rest against the southwest corner wall of the lobby. Both sides of the corner are windowed walls that look into a secure area of the police department, where Police Service Technicians (PST) and Record Technicians work and assist the public. The south wall, was now pushed several feet into the offices of the PST's. Miraculously, this wall stopped Nathan's truck and did not allow it to go any further into the offices where numerous employees were working and going about their general daily duties.

I examined the area further and realized that the location of where Nathan's truck was currently located used to contain benches for citizens who would have been waiting to report being a victim of a crime or obtain assistance of any kind from the Police Department. These benches were now destroyed. Luckily no one had been utilizing the benches or was in the lobby at the time of this crash, which would be normal activity on a weekday around 1230.

I was eventually able to review video footage of the incident and watched Nathan's truck turn from west bound Ute Ave into the public parking lot of the Police Department. As the truck made this turn, it was evident that there was no hesitation, stopping, or slowing before the truck turned directly towards the main lobby doors, accelerated and drove through two sets of metal doors with bullet proof window panes. Damages to the lobby, entrance doors and bullet proof window panes are estimated to be over \$100,000 but less than \$1,000,000.

There were a total of eleven employees of the Police Department behind these windowed walls at the, all of which were in placed in grave risk of injury or death.

I later met with Nathan and advised him of his Miranda Rights verbatim off of my department issued pocket card. Nathan told me that he understood these rights and agreed to speak with me without an attorney being present.

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Law enforcement records show there are at least 90 calls for service involving Nathan over the last few years where he is reporting strange happenings that have been unfounded. Some of these calls for service in the recent days leading up to this event insinuate a pattern that Nathan was becoming frustrated with Deputies as he would hang up on them and swear at them over the phone.

As my conversation progressed with Nathan he told me that last night (1/24) at his house located at 426 ½ Saxon Ct,

Nathan went on and said this morning (1/25) he left his address and began to leave the Grand Junction area but realized he was "being followed" by several cars. Nathan advised he became paranoid of these vehicles and began making erratic turns and turning down side streets in order to avoid these vehicles. Nathan advised, his driving in this fashion, went on from his residence, to Palisade, to Clifton and finally to Grand Junction.

Eventually, Nathan told me about when he arrived at the Police Department. He advised when he drove into the parking lot, he did not want to be killed, so he chose to drive into the lobby. As Nathan told me this, he advised he knew it was dumb but he knew what he needed to do in order to be heard.

After hearing this, I clarified with Nathan what he had just said. I asked him if he knew the lobby was a public lobby and he knew it could have been occupied by people. I asked if he knew that his actions could have killed or injured someone. Finally, I asked if he had done this in order to generate a police response.

Based on the above information, there is probable cause to charge Nathan with attempted murder in the first degree, as Nathan clearly, by his own admittance, had an attitude of universal malice and extreme indifference to the value of human life as he chose to drive his truck into the public lobby, at 1230 hours during a weekday, where he knew there could be innocent citizens just to generate a police response. There is also probable cause to charge Nathan with attempted assault in the first degree, as Nathan completed the action of driving his truck into the lobby while knowing that this could cause serious bodily injury to someone inside the lobby. There is also probable cause to charge Nathan with attempted vehicular homicide as Nathan was operating a motor vehicle in a reckless manner with conduct that could have resulted in the death of another. There is also probable cause to charge Nathan with attempted vehicular assault, as the reckless manner Nathan drove in could have caused serious bodily injury to another. There is also probable cause to charge Nathan with criminal mischief as his actions caused more than \$100,000 but less than \$1,000,000 in damages to the Grand Junction Police Department. There is also probable cause to charge reckless endangerment as the reckless actions of Nathan put several in risk of serious bodily injury or death.

Nathan was transported to the Mesa County Jail where he was booked and remanded on the above noted charges.

Nothing Further.

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Officer

Sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 201__

Notary

Probable Cause Determination

() Approved () Rejected

Judge