

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT
RANDOLPH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

I, Sergeant Nicholas Berry, the undersigned, am a law enforcement officer employed by the Randolph County Sheriff's Office. I have probable cause to believe that **Skyler Wyatt Powell** committed one or more criminal offenses.

Age: 24

Sex: Male

Race: White

Height: 5' 06"

Weight: 150

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

SSN: [REDACTED]

Arrest: 0949 hours, May 16, 2026

Suspect Address: Homeless, Moberly, MO

Employer: Unemployed

OCN: VQ001616

Report #: 26-05-000505

The facts supporting this belief occurred on or about May 7, 2026, in Randolph County, Missouri, as follows:

On May 7, 2026, Suspect 1 was detained by members of the Randolph County Sheriff's Office during an investigation involving a juvenile reported missing on May 6, 2026. Suspect 1 was secured with department-issued handcuffs behind her back and placed in the front passenger seat of a marked Randolph County Sheriff's Office patrol vehicle. While in custody, Suspect 1 unlawfully took the patrol vehicle and fled from law enforcement before abandoning the vehicle a short distance away.

While still restrained in handcuffs, Suspect 1 entered the residence located at 523 South Clark Street, Apartment 1, in Moberly, Missouri. At that time, Skyler Powell, who stated he was an overnight guest at the residence, was the only person present. **Powell admitted that Suspect 1 informed him she had stolen a patrol vehicle**, and he acknowledged observing that Suspect 1 remained handcuffed behind her back. Powell stated he **permitted Suspect 1 to conceal herself in the basement area of the residence**, which was accessible only through a rear exterior door.

Powell further admitted he **used a cutting instrument to sever the chain connecting the handcuffs** and provided a description of the tool used. By doing so, Powell enabled Suspect 1 to regain unrestricted use of her hands and arms. Powell's actions assisted Suspect 1 in avoiding detection and apprehension by numerous law enforcement officers actively searching the area for her location. He described the cutting instrument as being "red and black."

At approximately 2105 hours, on May 7, 2026, law enforcement officers located Suspect 1 inside the residence, where she was actively concealing herself and refusing to comply with lawful commands. Suspect 1 was found wearing department-issued handcuffs on each wrist; however, the connecting chain had been severed, rendering the restraints inoperable. Examination of the chain revealed markings consistent with having been cut by a pincer-type tool capable of severing hardened metal.

On May 16, 2026, the tenant of the residence subsequently provided consent for officers to search the basement area. During the search, a pair of black wire cutters, with a red stripe on each handle, was located in the basement as Powell indicated. The cutting blades, located near the pivot point was shiny while the rest of the tool was dirty, with portions of rust/corrosion. Half-round indentations were observed near the shiny areas of the blades, which seemed consistent with the cutting of a handcuff chain. The tool was seized as evidence.

Probable Cause Statement as if herein stated verbatim. This statement sets forth only a minimum amount of facts necessary to establish probable cause that the defendant committed one or more criminal offense(s). Additional facts regarding those criminal offenses may not have been included in this statement. The facts contained in this Probable Cause Statement are true to the best of my knowledge.

NOTICE

Any false statements herein that are made with the purpose to deceive and knowingly made as to a material fact, with the purpose to mislead and sworn to for the purpose of establishing probable cause, or with the purpose to mislead and submitted in writing for the purpose of establishing probable cause are punishable by law.

Dated: 05/16/2026

Print: Sergeant Nicholas Berry

Signature: /s/ Sergeant Nicholas Berry