

Affidavit of Probable Cause [Redacted Copy for Public Access]

State of Indiana)
) SS:
County of Decatur)

In the Decatur Superior / Circuit Court

Cause No. 16__01-2508-MR-_____

The State of Indiana
Vs.

Wyatt J. Taylor
DOB: 09/29/1996
Tracking No.: 1009
Report No: D25-06894

The undersigned, being first sworn upon his/her oath says that he/she is a duly-appointed Sheriff's Deputy, has completed an investigation in this matter, and believes the gathered information establishes probable cause to believe that on or about 08-04-2025, in the County of Decatur, State of Indiana, that the below listed offenses were committed by: Wyatt J. Taylor

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Address: 3301 South County Road 60 Southwest
 Greensburg, Indiana 47240

Ct. 1: Murder, a felony, contrary to Indiana Code 35-42-1-1 (1).

I am a law enforcement officer with the Decatur County Sheriff's Department, acting within the course and scope of my official duties. This affidavit is not my entire report, but rather a recitation of sufficient facts to establish probable cause. For more detail, see my full report.

At approximately 00:05 on August 5, 2025, Jeremy Taylor called 911 to request a well-check at 3301 S. CR 60 SW, Greensburg, IN 47240. Jeremy had received a phone call from his nephew, Wyatt Taylor asking "should I do it or should I go to bed?" Additionally, Jeremy was unable to get in touch with his brother, now known to be Joshua Taylor who was believed to be at that home at that time. A short time later Wyatt called Jeremy again asking for a ride and Jeremy could hear smoke alarms going off in the background of the call. Wyatt declined to put Joshua on the phone with Jeremy then hung up. Jeremy called Wyatt back and requested to speak with Joshua and was told that Joshua was sleeping. Jeremy asked again about the smoke alarms, and Wyatt explained that he was just cooking a pizza. Jeremy asked again to speak to Joshua, and Wyatt again declined to put Joshua on the phone. Jeremy reported Wyatt to have a history of depression.

At approximately 00:21, Deputy Brandon Jones and then Corporal William Pruitt arrived at the residence in regard to the request for a well-check. Wyatt Taylor met Deputy Jones and Corporal Pruitt in the driveway and he re-asserted that he had cooked a pizza causing the smoke detectors to go off, but that no further assistance was needed. Jones and Pruitt departed at that time.

After consulting with Jeremy Taylor about the check, Jeremy indicated a preference that Jones and Pruitt go back to check on Joshua Taylor. Jones and Pruitt arrived back at the residence at approximately 00:43 where they were again met

by Wyatt in the driveway. Jones and Pruitt requested to speak with Joshua Taylor and Wyatt told them that Joshua was sleeping. Wyatt proceeded to lead Jones and Pruitt into the residence to a first story bedroom with the door open and the lights off. Wyatt turned the light on, looked in the direction of the decedent, gestured toward decedent, and said, "He's right there." Jones and Pruitt there found Joshua Taylor to be deceased, noting head and neck gunshot wounds. They also noted multiple spent bullet casings in plain view in the bedroom.

Corporal Pruitt asked if there was anybody else in the house, to which Wyatt answered, "No sir, there's not." Moments later he reiterated to Deputy Jones, "There's nobody in the house, sir." Wyatt also acknowledged having consumed alcohol that evening to Jones.

A protective sweep of the house was then conducted where Deputy Jones and Corporal Pruitt noted the presence of multiple firearms in plain view in bedrooms on the second floor. Deputy Jones and Corporal Pruitt secured the residence at that time and an unattended death investigation was initiated.

I obtained a search warrant for the property. I was then assisted by Indiana State Police, and other officers from the Decatur County Sheriff's Department in the search of the residence. Also present was the Decatur County Coroner.

During that search, we found a specific number of spent bullet casings in the vicinity of the decedent. The casings bear the manufacturer's markings and caliber.

We recovered numerous spent bullets of the same apparent caliber as the spent casings in the bedding and wall behind where decedent was lying in bed.

We also found a smoke detector on the ceiling of the bedroom in the vicinity of where the shots are believed to have been fired. The smoke alarms are hardwired into the house and have been tested as functioning. During the search, no evidence was found of any burnt pizza.

Upstairs in a bedroom, on the floor next to a mattress, we located a firearm of the same caliber as the spent casings. There was an empty magazine in the handgun that had the precise capacity as the number of spent casings. Also next to the firearm was a wallet with Wyatt Taylor's driver's license and a hat which was later identified as having been worn by Wyatt Taylor in the evening leading up to this event. Further, next to the firearm was a box of ammunition of the same caliber and manufacturer as the spent casings with in excess of the magazine capacity missing.

Sheriff Bill Meyerrose and Detective Ally Sullivan interviewed Wyatt Taylor at the Decatur County Jail. After Miranda warnings were given, Wyatt told them that he had only moved home from Utah approximately two weeks prior. Wyatt described that Joshua had been "throwing up gang signs" and that he was afraid for his life a few nights before. He described his father as "bipolar toward [Wyatt]", and "very suicidal" and "belligerent". He later said that he was "in fear of [his] life, extremely in fear of [his] life."

On August 6, 2025 I attended the autopsy of decedent at the Hamilton County Morgue in Ohio, conducted by Dr. Looman. During that autopsy, one bullet of the same style and apparent caliber as those recovered in the bedroom around the body of decedent was found in the body of decedent. Multiple entry and exit wounds were found. The doctor was able to ascertain that multiple of the gunshot wounds caused fatal injury. It was determined that the preliminary cause of death was multiple gunshot wounds to the head and neck.

Along with ISP Steve Weigel and DCSD Det. Ally Sullivan I returned to the home and there located additional spent bullets in the bedding, bringing the total to precisely match the number of spent casings and the magazine capacity. I also recovered a cardboard box for a pizza, but no evidence of any burnt pizza that would be consistent with Wyatt's purported explanation for the fire alarms going off.

Based on the above, I have probable cause to believe that Wyatt Taylor did intentionally kill Joshua Taylor, a human being, using a firearm, which in Indiana is the offense of Murder, a felony.

I affirm, under the penalties for perjury, that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned respectfully prays that the Court determine the existence of probable cause that Wyatt J. Taylor committed the aforementioned offense, and the Defendant shall appear and answer to such charges.

Dated: the 7th day of August, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/Eric N. Blodgett

AFFIANT