

# OFFICE OF THE ANOKA COUNTY ATTORNEY

Tony Palumbo, County Attorney

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2100 3rd Avenue, Suite 720, Anoka, MN 55303  
763-324-5550  
anokacounty.us/attorney  
twitter.com/AnokaCountyAtty  
facebook.com/AnokaCountyAttorneysOffice

## **Media Contact:**

Elizabeth Mohr, ACAO Community Relations Coordinator  
elizabeth.mohr@co.anoka.mn.us  
763-324-5471 (desk)  
612-619-8345 (cell)

**Sept. 1, 2020**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Man charged with murder in Lino Lakes homicide**

The Anoka County Attorney's Office today charged one person in connection with the Aug. 27 shooting death of a Lino Lakes man.

Nicholas Walter Zielinski, 43, is charged with one count of second-degree intentional murder.

Zielinski made his first appearance today in Anoka County District Court. Bail was set at \$1 million with no conditions, or \$750,000 with conditions.

According to the criminal complaint, a Lino Lakes man came home Aug. 27 to find two unknown individuals in his residence; one was later identified as Zielinski. After the individuals left, the man found his gravely injured 22-year-old son lying on the floor. The victim, Karl Mitchell Henderson, had been shot in the abdomen and was declared dead by first responders.

The second individual has not been charged. The case remains under investigation. Any questions about the investigation should be directed to the Anoka County Sheriff's Office's Community Relations Coordinator, Tierney Peters, at 763-324-5006.

The criminal complaint is attached for reference.

State of Minnesota  
County of Anoka

District Court  
10th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. CA-2020-01749  
Court File No. 02-CR-20-5227

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**State of Minnesota,**  
Plaintiff,

**COMPLAINT**  
Order of Detention

vs.

**NICHOLAS WALTER ZIELINSKI DOB: 06/05/1977**

4932 Matthew Blvd  
Hermantown, MN 55811

Defendant.

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The Complainant submits this complaint to the Court and states that there is probable cause to believe Defendant committed the following offense(s):

**COUNT I**

**Charge: Murder in the 2nd Degree (With Intent) (Not Premeditated)**

Minnesota Statute: 609.19.1(1), with reference to: 609.11.5

Maximum Sentence: 3-40 Years Imprisonment

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 08/27/2020

Control #(ICR#): 20211535

Charge Description: On or about August 27, 2020, in the County of Anoka, Minnesota, NICHOLAS WALTER ZIELINSKI, did cause the death of a human being, namely KMH, with intent to effect the death of that person or another, but without premeditation and at the time of offense, the Defendant or an accomplice did use or possess a firearm, to wit: a 9mm Hi-Point semi-automatic handgun.

## STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

At approximately 2:35 PM on August 27, 2020, officers from the Lino Lakes Police Department and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a shooting at a residence located at 6987 West Shadow Lake Drive, in the City of Lino Lakes, within Anoka County.

Upon arrival, officers spoke with TMH (an adult male, fully identified in the reports) who stated that within the past few minutes he had arrived at his home at the above address from grocery shopping. TMH indicated that as he pulled in, he noticed an unfamiliar black SUV in the driveway. TMH then entered into the kitchen, where he encountered two unknown individuals, a male and a female. TMH reported that he followed them outside, asking who they were and what they were doing. The male stated words to effect of "your son stole on me" and "I'll take you out, too." The male and female then drove away in the black SUV. TMH told officers that he then went downstairs and observed that his son, Karl Mitchell Henderson, DOB 1-15-1998, was face down in a large pool of blood in his bedroom. First responders confirmed that Mr. Henderson had been shot in the abdomen and was deceased.

During the initial stages of the investigation, several neighbors with "Ring" doorbells captured images of the black SUV leaving the area. Preliminary analysis of the images suggested that the vehicle was potentially a GMC Terrain or similarly-sized General Motors SUV.

While processing the decedent's bedroom, Anoka County Sheriff's Office Crime Scene Unit recovered a Hi-Point 9mm handgun on the floor near the deceased that was not known to have been possessed by anyone at the home. The Midwest Regional Forensic Laboratory conducted DNA testing on swabbings from the grip of the Hi-Point, and developed a major male DNA profile that matched to a NICHOLAS WALTER ZIELINSKI (DOB 6-5-1977), the defendant. The defendant's address was determined, and officers learned that a female at the same address was the owner of a black GMC Terrain SUV.

TMH was then shown a photo-lineup which included the defendant. TMH positively identified the defendant as the male he confronted leaving his home.

## SIGNATURES AND APPROVALS

Complainant requests that Defendant, subject to bail or conditions of release, be:  
(1) arrested or that other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court; or  
(2) detained, if already in custody, pending further proceedings; and that said Defendant otherwise be dealt with according to law.

Complainant declares under penalty of perjury that everything stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat. § 358.116; Minn. R. Crim. P. 2.01, subds. 1, 2.

**Complainant**

Bill Jacobson  
Detective  
13301 Hanson Boulevard NW  
Andover, MN 55304  
Badge: 333

Electronically Signed:  
09/01/2020 08:45 AM  
Anoka County, Minnesota

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

**Prosecuting Attorney**

Wade A. Kish  
Assistant County Attorney  
2100 3rd Ave  
Anoka, MN 55303-2265  
(763) 324-5550

Electronically Signed:  
09/01/2020 08:43 AM

**FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

From the above sworn facts, and any supporting affidavits or supplemental sworn testimony, I, the Issuing Officer, have determined that probable cause exists to support, subject to bail or conditions of release where applicable, Defendant's arrest or other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court, or Defendant's detention, if already in custody, pending further proceedings. Defendant is therefore charged with the above-stated offense(s).

**SUMMONS**

THEREFORE YOU, THE DEFENDANT, ARE SUMMONED to appear on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ AM/PM before the above-named court at 2100 Third Avenue, Anoka, MN 55303 to answer this complaint.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR in response to this SUMMONS, a WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST shall be issued.

**WARRANT**

To the Sheriff of the above-named county; or other person authorized to execute this warrant: I order, in the name of the State of Minnesota, that the Defendant be apprehended and arrested without delay and brought promptly before the court (if in session), and if not, before a Judge or Judicial Officer of such court without unnecessary delay, and in any event not later than 36 hours after the arrest or as soon as such Judge or Judicial Officer is available to be dealt with according to law.

*Execute in MN Only*

*Execute Nationwide*

*Execute in Border States*

**ORDER OF DETENTION**

Since the Defendant is already in custody, I order, subject to bail or conditions of release, that the Defendant continue to be detained pending further proceedings.

Bail: \$  
Conditions of Release:

This complaint, duly subscribed and sworn to or signed under penalty of perjury, is issued by the undersigned Judicial Officer as of the following date: September 1, 2020.

**Judicial Officer**

Melissa M. Saterbak

Electronically Signed: 09/01/2020 09:01 AM

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

**COUNTY OF ANOKA  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**State of Minnesota**

Plaintiff

vs.

**Nicholas Walter Zielinski**

Defendant

*LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RETURN OF SERVICE  
I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Order of  
Detention upon the Defendant herein named.*

Signature of Authorized Service Agent: