



NEWS RELEASE
GREENE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
DAN PATTERSON

Contact: Rhonda Ogden, Office Manager – (417) 868-4061
1010 Boonville
Springfield, MO 65802

09/03/2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAN CHARGED WITH MURDERING WIFE

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Greene County Prosecuting Attorney Dan Patterson announces that Daniel O. Mauldin, 36, of Springfield, Missouri, has been charged today with murder in the second degree for killing his wife, Tara Mauldin. These events occurred yesterday, September 2, 2014, at 1619 S. Kentwood, Springfield, Missouri. The defendant is being held in the Greene County Jail on a \$500,000 bond.

Mr. Patterson cautions that the charges contained in the felony complaint are merely allegations and that the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in court.

Copies of the felony complaint and probable statement filed in this case are attached to this release. The Missouri Supreme Court ethics rules prohibit comments on the facts or investigation of this case beyond those contained in the felony complaint and probable cause statement that are part of the public record.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Nathan Chapman. It is being investigated by the Springfield Police Dept. and Detective Brian Smith is the lead investigator assigned to the case.

###

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF GREENE COUNTY, MISSOURI

Associate Division _____

STATE OF MISSOURI,)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
)	
vs.)	Case No. 1431-CR04835
)	
DANIEL O MAULDIN ,)	OCN#
)	
Defendant.)	PA File No. 077331962
State of Missouri)	
)	ss.
County of Greene)	

FELONY COMPLAINT

COUNT I

(Missouri Charge Code: 1003199.)

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Greene, State of Missouri, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 565.021, RSMo, committed the class A felony of murder in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Section 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about September 2, 2014, in the County of Greene, State of Missouri, the defendant knowingly or with the purpose of causing serious physical injury to Tara Mauldin caused the death of Tara Mauldin by striking her.

The facts that form the basis for this information and belief are contained in the attached probable cause statement concerning this matter, which statement is made a part hereof and is submitted herewith as a basis upon which this court may find the existence of probable cause for the issuance of the warrant.

WHEREFORE, the Prosecuting Attorney prays that an arrest warrant be issued as provided by law.

DAN PATTERSON
Prosecuting Attorney of the County of
Greene, State of Missouri, by



Electronically signed;
09/03/2014

Nathan L. Chapman
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Missouri Bar No. 60978
1010 Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802
(417) 868-4061
FAX (417) 868-4160

Nathan L. Chapman, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Greene, State of Missouri, being duly sworn, upon oath says that the facts stated in the above information are true, according to his or her best information, knowledge and belief.



Electronically signed;
09/03/2014

Nathan L. Chapman
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney



SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT



FELONY PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

Date: 09/03/2014 Case #: SPD140902034165

I, BRIAN SMITH, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law state as follows:

1. I have probable cause to believe that DANIEL O. MAULDIN, White/Male, DOB 05/23/1978, committed one or more criminal offenses.
2. The following crime(s) happened on 2014/09/01 15:00 - 2014/09/02 10:20 at 1619 S KENTWOOD AVE in Springfield, Greene County, Missouri.
3. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

I, Detective Brian Smith, am the follow up investigator assigned to this case and have learned the following from police reports and my own investigation.

On September 2, 2014 around 1012 hours, Springfield Police Officer R. Russell #1172 was dispatched to 1619 S. Kentwood, Springfield, Missouri to check the well being of the resident. Officer Russell was provided with information, relayed via the 911 caller Paula Mauldin, her son "Daniel" had arrived at her residence in Fair Grove, Missouri and told her his wife "Tara" was at the residence and believed to be deceased. Paula had reported to the 911 call taker she was driving to the residence from Fair Grove, Missouri.

When Officer Russell arrived he located an unsecured door on the back of the residence. Officers were not able to get a response from anyone inside and made entry to the residence to check the well being of any occupants. Officers entered the residence and located a deceased female, later identified as Tara Mauldin. Tara was found in the living room of the residence on the floor, lying on her back. Tara was obviously deceased and had visible injuries to her body indicating she was the victim of a physical assault. During the crime scene investigation, stains consistent with blood were found in multiple areas of the residence.

Paula reported she was at her residence in Fair Grove, Missouri around 1000 hours. Daniel Mauldin, her son, arrived at the residence and appeared distraught. Paula stated Daniel appeared "out of his mind" and he told her "Tara's dead." Paula then left Daniel at the residence with her husband, Daniel W. Mauldin (Dan), and drove to the residence in Springfield while contacting 911. Dan arrived at 1619 S. Kentwood a short time later, accompanied by Daniel. Daniel provided consent for officers to search the residence upon his arrival.

I responded to the residence along with Detective N. McAmis #1102 around 1200 hours on September 2, 2014. Detective McAmis talked to Daniel about what had occurred. As Detective McAmis was talking to Daniel he appeared to be hysterical and crying, but he did not have any tears in his eyes. Detective McAmis asked Daniel what had happened to Tara and Daniel indicated it appeared she had been beaten. Daniel agreed to accompany officers to Springfield Police

Headquarters to make a statement reference the incident. While talking to Daniel, I noticed he had a swollen right hand and bruising on his elbows and legs. Daniel also had a swollen upper lip.

I interviewed Daniel at Police Headquarters and he provided a post Miranda statement reference the incident. Daniel told me he had been in a physical altercation with Tara on the night of September 1, 2014 or the early morning hours of September 2, 2014. Daniel stated Tara received some injuries during the altercation which included him punching, kicking, and choking her. Daniel stated he left the residence and while he was away an unidentified guest came to the residence and "finished her off." Daniel claimed he returned to the residence and found Tara deceased in the living room of the residence. Daniel stated he attempted to clean up the residence after finding Tara deceased. Daniel also made the statement he had taken clothing when he left the residence because he was thinking about fleeing. During a follow up investigation a suitcase belonging to Daniel was seized from Paula's residence and was found to contain clothing and other items with what appeared to be stains consistent with blood. During the interview Daniel claimed to have left the residence and returned after finding Tara deceased, but never attempted to contact 911.

The Greene County Medical Examiner's Office was contacted during the course of the investigation and an autopsy is pending.

The facts contained above are true.


Signature

1364

DSN

Officer

Title