

West Goshen Township Police Department



1025 Paoli Pike ♦ West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380
WWW.WESTGOSHEN.ORG
(610) 696-7400
FAX (610) 696-3935

JOSEPH J. GLEASON
Chief of Police

MICHAEL P. CARROLL
Lieutenant

GREGORY M. STONE
Captain

JUSTIN E. DIMEDIO
Lieutenant

PRESS RELEASE

DATE/TIME OF INCIDENT:	PREPARED BY:	APPROVED BY:	INCIDENT #
08-08-2017 @0058hrs	Gleason	Gleason	2017-219811

At or about 0058hrs, West Goshen Department responded to the 300 block of Box Elder Drive for a reported shooting. On arrival, one person was pronounced dead at the scene. The victim is identified as George Brooks Jennings, 51 yrs of age of 314 Box Elder Drive.

One subject immediately taken into custody is identified as Clayton P. Carter, III. , 51 yrs of age of 312 Box Elder Drive.

The two involved parties were neighbors that have had disputes in the past. The firearm was recovered at the scene.

Carter was transported to the West Goshen Police Department and is charged with:

Murder of the First degree
Murder of the third degree
Criminal Homicide
Voluntary Manslaughter- Unreasonable Belief
Aggravated Assault
Possessing Instruments of Crime

The defendant Clayton P. Carter, III has been arraigned before District Judge William Kraut and was remanded to Chester County Prison.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COUNTY OF CHESTER

Magisterial District Number: 15-2-03

MDJ Hon. WILLIAM D. KRAUT

Address: 601 WESTTOWN ROAD
SUITE 110, PO BOX 2747
WEST CHESTER, PA 19380

Telephone: 610.436.5757

POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

VS.

DEFENDANT:

(NAME and ADDRESS)

CLAYTON

P

CARTER

III

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Gen.

312 BOX ELDER DR
PO BOX 491
WEST CHESTER, PA 19380

NCIC Extradition Code Type

☒ 1 - Felony Full☐ 5 - Felony Pend.☐ C - Misdemeanor Surrounding States☐ Distance: _____☐ 2 - Felony Ltd.☐ 6 - Felony Pend. Extradition Determ.☐ D - Misdemeanor No Extradition☐ 3 - Felony Surrounding States☐ A - Misdemeanor Full☐ E - Misdemeanor Pending☐ 4 - Felony No Ext.☐ B - Misdemeanor Limited☐ F - Misdemeanor Pending Extradition Determ.

DEFENDANT IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

Docket Number

Date Filed

OTN/LiveScan Number

Complaint/Incident Number

SID

Request Lab Service?

CR-193-17

08/08/2017

X 118511-1

2017-219811

17796968

☐ YES ☒ NO

GENDER

DOB

11/29/1965

POB

Add'l. DOB

Co-Defendants? ☐☒ Male☐ Female

AKA

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Gen.

RACE

☒ White☐ Asian☐ Black☐ Native American☐ Unknown

ETHNICITY

☐ Hispanic☒ Non-Hispanic☐ Unknown

HAIR COLOR

☐ Gry (Gray)☐ Red (Red/Aubn)☐ SDY (Sandy)☐ BLU (Blue)☐ PLE (Purple)☒ BRO (Brown)☐ Blk (Black)☐ Ong (Orange)☐ WHI (White)☐ XXX (Ink./Bald)☐ GRN (Green)☐ PNK (Pink)☐ Bln (Blonde / Strawberry)

EYE COLOR

☐ Blk (Black)☐ Blu (Blue)☒ BRO (Brown)☐ GRN (Green)☐ GRY (Gray)☐ HAZ (Hazel)☐ MAR (Maroon)☐ PNK (Pink)☐ MUL (Multicolored)☐ XXX (Unknowr)

Driver License

State PA

License Number

20991329

Expires

11/30/2017

WEIGHT (lbs.)

DNA

☐ YES ☒ NO

DNA Location

250

FBI Number

353330HAS

MNU Number

Ft. HEIGHT in.

Defendant Fingerprinted

☒ YES ☐ NO

6

01

Fingerprint Classification

DEFENDANT VEHICLE INFORMATION

Plate #

State

Hazmat

☐

Registration

Sticker (MM/YY)

Comm'l Veh

Ind.

School

Veh.

Oth. NCIC Veh. Code

Reg.

Same

as Def.

VIN

Year

Make

Model

Style

Color

☐

Office of the attorney for the Commonwealth

☒ Approved☐ Disapproved because: _____

(The attorney for the Commonwealth may require the complaint, arrest warrant affidavit, or both, be approved by the attorney for the Commonwealth prior to filing. See PA. R. Crim. P 507.)

(CHARLES GAZA

(Name of the attorney for the Commonwealth)

see Print or Type)

(Signature of the attorney for the Commonwealth)

(Date)

8/8/17

I, DET. DAVID S. MAURER DET. JOHN O'DONNELL

(Name of the Affiant)

38/ 17

PSP/HPOETC - Assigned Affiant ID Number & Badge #

of WEST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

(Identify Department or Agency Represented and Political Subdivision)

PA0/51400

(Police Agency ORI Number)

do hereby state:

CHESTER COUNTY DETECTIVES

1. ☒ I accuse the above named defendant who lives at the address set forth above
☐ I accuse the defendant whose name is unknown to me but who is described as

☐ I accuse the defendant whose name and popular designation are unknown to me and whom I have
therefore designated as John Doe or Jane Doe

with violating the penal laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at [247] WEST GOSHEN

314 BOX ELDER DR WEST CHESTER

(Subdivision Code)

(Place/Political Subdivision)

in CHESTER County [15] on or about 8 AUGUST 2017 AT 0058 HRS.

(County Code)

(Offense Date)



POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Docket Number	Date Filed 08/08/2017	OTN/LiveScan Number X 118511-1	Complaint/Incident Number 2017-219811
Defendant Name	First CLAYTON	Middle P	Last CARTER

The acts committed by the accused are described below with each Act of Assembly or statute allegedly violated, if appropriate. When there is more than one offense, each offense should be numbered chronologically.
(Set forth a **brief** summary of the facts sufficient to advise the defendant of the nature of the offense(s) charged. A citation to the statute(s) allegedly violated, without more, is not sufficient. In a summary case, you must cite the specific section(s) and subsection(s) of the statute(s) or ordinance(s) allegedly violated. The age of the victim at the time of the offense may be included if known. In addition, social security numbers and financial information (e.g. PINs) should not be listed. If the identity of an account must be established, list only the last four digits 204 PA §§ 213. - 213.7.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inchoate Offense	<input type="checkbox"/> Attempt 18 901 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitation 18 902 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Conspiracy 18 903
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lead?	1	2502	A of the 18 1 H1 0907 09A
Offense #	Section	Subsection	PA Statute (Title) Counts Grade NCIC Offense Code UCR/NIBRS Code
PennDOT Data (if applicable)	Accident Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Work Zone
Statute Description (Include the name of statute or ordinance): MURDER OF THE FIRST DEGREE			

Acts of the accused associated with this Offense:

Acts of the Accused Associated with this Offense: In that on August 8th, 2017 the Defendant, Clayton Carter III, did commit murder by killing Brooks Jennings. To Wit: Defendant did shoot Jennings with a firearm, killing Jennings.

<input type="checkbox"/> Inchoate Offense	<input type="checkbox"/> Attempt 18 901 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitation 18 902 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Conspiracy 18 903
<input type="checkbox"/> Lead?	2	2502	C of the 18 1 H1 0907 09A
Offense #	Section	Subsection	PA Statute (Title) Counts Grade NCIC Offense Code UCR/NIBRS Code
PennDOT Data (if applicable)	Accident Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Work Zone
Statute Description (Include the name of statute or ordinance): MURDER OF THE THIRD DEGREE			

Acts of the accused associated with this Offense:

Acts of the Accused Associated with this Offense: In that on August 8th, 2017 the Defendant, Clayton Carter III, did commit murder by killing Brooks Jennings. To Wit: Defendant did shoot Jennings with a firearm, killing Jennings.

<input type="checkbox"/> Inchoate Offense	<input type="checkbox"/> Attempt 18 901 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitation 18 902 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Conspiracy 18 903
<input type="checkbox"/> Lead?	3	2501	A of the 18 1 H1 0911 09A
Offense #	Section	Subsection	PA Statute (Title) Counts Grade NCIC Offense Code UCR/NIBRS Code
PennDOT Data (if applicable)	Accident Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Work Zone
Statute Description (Include the name of statute or ordinance): CRIMINAL HOMICIDE			

Acts of the accused associated with this Offense:

CRIMINAL HOMICIDE The Actor, Clayton Carter, on August 8th 2017 at 1258hrs in the County of Chester, is guilty of criminal homicide if he intentionally, knowingly, recklessly or negligently causes the death of another human being., that is to say the actor, Clayton Carter of Section 2501 á (A) of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, as amended, 18 Pa.C.S. 2501 á (A)

<input type="checkbox"/> Inchoate Offense	<input type="checkbox"/> Attempt 18 901 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitation 18 902 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Conspiracy 18 903
<input type="checkbox"/> Lead?	4	2503	B of the 18 1 F1 0903 09A
Offense #	Section	Subsection	PA Statute (Title) Counts Grade NCIC Offense Code UCR/NIBRS Code
PennDOT Data (if applicable)	Accident Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Work Zone
Statute Description (Include the name of statute or ordinance): VOLUNTARY MANS - UNREASONABLE BELIEF			

Acts of the accused associated with this Offense:

VOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER- UNREASONABLE BELIEF The Actor, Clayton Carter, in the County of Chester, Unreasonable belief killing justifiable. - A person who intentionally or knowingly kills an individual commits voluntary manslaughter if at the time of the killing he believes the circumstances to be such that, if they existed, would justify the killing under Chapter 5 of this title (relating to general principles of justification), but his belief is unreasonable., that is to say the actor, Clayton Carter, in violation of Section 2503 (B) of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, as amended, 18 Pa.C.S. 2503 (B)

**POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

Docket Number	Date Filed 08/08/2017	OTN/LiveScan Number X 118511-1	Complaint/Incident Number 2017-219811
Defendant Name	First CLAYTON	Middle P	Last CARTER

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inchoate Offense	<input type="checkbox"/> Attempt 18 901 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitation 18 902 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Conspiracy 18 903						
<input type="checkbox"/> Lead?	5	2702	A1	of the	18	1	F1	1304	13A
Offense # Section Subsection PA Statute (Title) Counts Grade NCIC Offense Code UCR/NIBRS Code									
PennDOT Data (if applicable)	Accident Number			<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Zone		<input type="checkbox"/> Work Zone			
Statute Description (Include the name of statute or ordinance): AGGRAVATED ASSAULT									

Acts of the accused associated with this Offense:
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT The Actor, Clayton Jennings on or about August 8th 2017, in the County of Chester, attempted to cause or intentionally, knowingly or recklessly caused serious bodily injury to, *, under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life, that is to say the actor, Clayton Jennings, in violation of Section 2702(a)(1) of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, Act of December 6, 1972, as amended, 18 Pa. C.S. 2702(a)(1)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inchoate Offense	<input type="checkbox"/> Attempt 18 901 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitation 18 902 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Conspiracy 18 903						
<input type="checkbox"/> Lead?	6	0907	A	of the	18	1	M1	0903	
Offense # Section Subsection PA Statute (Title) Counts Grade NCIC Offense Code UCR/NIBRS Code									
PennDOT Data (if applicable)	Accident Number			<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Zone		<input type="checkbox"/> Work Zone			
Statute Description (Include the name of statute or ordinance): POSSESSING INSTRUMENTS OF CRIME									

Acts of the accused associated with this Offense:
POSSESSING INSTRUMENTS OF CRIME The Actor, Clayton Jennings On August 8th 2017, in the County of Chester, possessed one or more instruments of crime, namely, .380 caliber semiauto handgun, in violation of Section 907(a) of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, Act of December 6, 1972, as amended, 18 Pa. C.S.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inchoate Offense	<input type="checkbox"/> Attempt 18 901 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitation 18 902 A	<input type="checkbox"/> Conspiracy 18 903						
<input type="checkbox"/> Lead?	7	0907	B	of the	18	1	M1	0911	
Offense # Section Subsection PA Statute (Title) Counts Grade NCIC Offense Code UCR/NIBRS Code									
PennDOT Data (if applicable)	Accident Number			<input type="checkbox"/> Safety Zone		<input type="checkbox"/> Work Zone			
Statute Description (Include the name of statute or ordinance): POSSESSING INSTRUMENTS OF CRIME									

Acts of the accused associated with this Offense:
POSSESSING INSTRUMENTS OF CRIME The Actor, Clayton Carter on August 8th 2017 0057hrs, in the County of Chester, possessed one or more firearms or other weapons, namely, .380 caliber semi auto matic handgun concealed upon said actor's person with the intent to employ it or them criminally, in violation of Section 907(b) of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, Act of December 6, 1972, as amended, 18 Pa. C.S. 907(b)



POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Docket Number	Date Filed 08/08/2017	OTN/LiveScan Number X 118511-1	Complaint/Incident Number 2017-219811
Defendant Name	First CLAYTON	Middle P	Last CARTER

2. I ask that a warrant of arrest or a summons be issued and that the defendant be required to answer the charges I have made.
3. I verify that the facts set forth in this complaint are true and correct to the best of my knowledge or information and belief. This verification is made subject to the penalties of section 4904 of the Crimes Code (18 PA C.C. 4904) relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.
4. This complaint is comprised of the preceding page(s) numbered 1 through 3.

The acts committed by the accused, as listed and hereafter, were against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and were contrary to the Act(s) of Assembly, or in violation of the statutes cited.

(Before a warrant of arrest can be issued, an affidavit of probable cause must be completed, sworn to before the issuing authority, and attached.)

Aug 8th, 2017
(Date)

[Signature]
(Signature of Affiant)

AND NOW, on this date 8/8/2017 I certify that the complaint has been properly completed and verified.
An affidavit of probable cause must be completed before a warrant can be issued.

15-2-03

(Magisterial District Court Number)

[Signature]

(Issuing Authority)



Introduction

At approximately 1:00 A.M. on August 8, 2017, defendant Clayton P. Carter III shot and killed his next-door neighbor, George Brooks Jennings, at the victim's residence, 314 Box Elder Drive, West Goshen Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. In a recorded and Mirandized interview, the defendant admitted to intentionally shooting the victim.

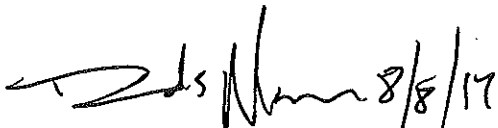
Affiants' Background

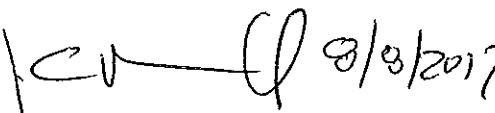
Affiant David S. Maurer is a sworn Police Officer with the West Goshen Township Police Department. Detective Maurer has been a Police Officer in Chester County, Pennsylvania for over Twenty Four Years and is currently assigned as a Detective in the Criminal Investigations Unit of the West Goshen Township Police Department. Detective Maurer has received advanced training in Criminal Investigations by the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the Pennsylvania State Police, and the Chester County District Attorney's Office.

Affiant John C. O'Donnell is a police detective employed by the Chester County District Attorney's Office, located at 201 West Market Street, West Chester, Pennsylvania. Detective O'Donnell has been a sworn law enforcement officer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for 31 years. Detective O'Donnell was sworn in as a Chester County Detective January 9th, 2017 and as such is empowered to conduct criminal investigations and make arrests for violations enumerated in the Pennsylvania Crimes Code (Title 18 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes as amended). Prior to employment as a Chester County Detective, Detective O'Donnell was employed by the West Chester Borough Police Department for over 26 years and the Upper Merion Police Department (Montgomery County Pennsylvania) for over 4 years. In that time, Detective O'Donnell served as a patrol officer, patrol supervisor, narcotics officer, criminal investigator, criminal investigations supervisor, and community relations supervisor.

Detective O'Donnell's education and training include a B.S Degree in Criminal Justice from West Chester University; graduation from The Pennsylvania State Police Municipal Police Training Academy in Worcester, Pennsylvania; and numerous schools on initial response to police incidents, contemporary forensics, including crime scene processing, and use of force. Detective O'Donnell also received specialized training in The Reid Method of Criminal Interviews and Interrogation, Narcotics Case and Informant Management, Advanced Criminal Investigative Techniques, Investigation and Prosecution of Child Abuse, Interviewing Sexually Exploited or Abused Children, and Sexual Assault and Sexual Violence. Detective O'Donnell received training in electronic surveillance from the Pennsylvania State Police, overseen by the Pennsylvania State Attorney General's Office. The training resulted in the issuance of a Class "A" Certification authorizing Detective O'Donnell to conduct investigations using various wiretapping equipment, as authorized by Chapter 57 of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code.

I, THE AFFIANT, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.


Affiant Signature Date


Issuing Authority Date

Docket Number:

West Goshen Township Police
West Chester, PA
2017-219811

Warrant Control #:

Detective O'Donnell has utilized numerous devices to conduct audio interceptions during criminal investigations. During the last 31 years Detective O'Donnell has conducted and participated in a wide range of criminal investigations, including homicide, aggravated and simple assault, rape, robbery, burglary, theft, arson, child sexual abuse, and fraud related offenses. Detective O'Donnell has authored numerous arrest warrants and search warrants related to these investigations during his career. Detective O'Donnell has participated in the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of over 500 defendants.

Factual Summary

The following information was collected by the West Goshen Police Department and Chester County Detectives:

At approximately 1:00 A.M. on August 8, 2017, the West Goshen Police Department responded to a shooting at 314 Box Elder Drive, West Goshen Township, Pennsylvania. At the scene, police discovered the body of George Brooks Jennings, dead from gunshot wounds. The victim resided at 314 Box Elder Drive with his wife and child. The victim's body was located on the front yard of his own property.

Also present at the scene was the defendant, Clayton P. Carter III. The defendant resides at 312 Box Elder Drive, next door to the victim. The defendant had shot the victim in the head. The defendant placed the gun he used in the shooting, a .380 caliber Ruger semiautomatic handgun, on a nearby car.

The defendant and the victim had a history of neighborhood disputes. These disputes included a previous incident where the defendant pulled a gun on the victim. The defendant also had a history of disputes with multiple other neighbors.

At approximately 7:50 P.M. on August 7, 2017, a few hours before the homicide, police were called to the address for another dispute between the defendant and the victim. The police resolved the dispute.

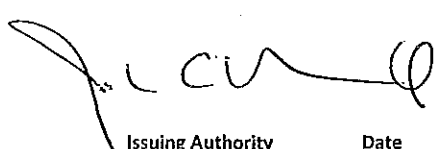
At approximately 1:00 A.M., the defendant returned home from running an errand and took grocery items inside of the residence. The defendant saw the victim outside. While inside of his residence, the defendant then retrieved his .380 caliber semi-automatic handgun and went back outside. Once outside, the defendant attempted to park his vehicle. An argument with the victim and the defendant started over an issue with a spot light. The defendant then drove his vehicle in to his front yard facing the victim with his high beams on. The defendant then exited his vehicle and further engaged in an argument with the victim. The defendant then shot the victim once and the victim fell to the ground. The victim was on his own

I, THE AFFIANT, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.

 8/8/17

Affiant Signature

Date

 8/8/2017

Issuing Authority

Date

property. The defendant then stood over the victim and fired another shot into the victim's head.

In a recorded interview, the defendant admitted that he shot the victim. The defendant admitted that he had a long running dispute with the victim and many other people in the neighborhood. In a prior incident, the defendant admitted that he pulled a gun on the victim. The defendant admitted that he had a dispute with the victim at approximately 8:00 P.M. on August 7, which was resolved by the police. The defendant admitted that he had another dispute with the victim after midnight on August 8, mainly over the victim shining a light at the defendant and the defendant parking a vehicle on the grass to shine his high beams at the victim. The defendant claimed that the victim had pulled out a knife. The defendant had no wounds on him. The defendant stated that he shot the victim once, then followed up and shot the victim again while the victim was down on the ground. The defendant did not call 911 or attempt to render aid to the victim.

Multiple witnesses heard the gunshots. The witnesses reported that there was a timing gap between the first gunshot and the second gunshot. The victim's wife looked out the window after hearing the first gunshot. She observed the victim lying motionless on the ground, then the defendant approached and shot the victim in the head.

At the scene, police recovered the firearm, two shell casings, and a knife. One shell casing was located on the defendant's property. One shell casing was located on the victim's property, in close proximity to the victim's body.

Based on all of the foregoing, there is probable cause to charge the defendant with the listed charges.

I, THE AFFIANT, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.

 8/8/17
Affiant Signature Date

 8/13/2017
Issuing Authority Date