

Probable Cause Statement
Case No. HM-0036-16-07/2016-09717
State of New Jersey v. Michael Disporto, Jr.
Warrant No. #: W-2016-000376-0414

On Sunday, July 3, 2016, emergency personnel reported to 108A South King Street in Gloucester City, New Jersey in response to a 911 call for a non-responsive two-year-old with bruises on her head. Upon their arrival, medical personnel were presented with A.S. [REDACTED], who was unconscious in her mother's arms. She had obvious injuries to her head and face and was transported to Cooper University Hospital.

Detectives spoke with Amber Bobo, A.S.'s mother, who reported that she picked up A.S. from A.S.'s natural father in Cape May County the previous day, July 2, 2016, at approximately 6 pm. Bobo was accompanied on the trip by Michael Disporto, who Bobo had been dating for approximately two weeks. Bobo stated she observed no injuries on A.S. at that time.

According to Bobo, she, A.S. and Disporto arrived at her residence on South King Street at approximately 8 pm. Disporto asked to take A.S. to a nearby park because "he wanted to get to know her better." They were gone for approximately 10-15 minutes. Disporto returned with A.S. and asked Bobo if she would like to watch the fireworks. Bobo said she was too tired and Disporto took A.S. to a field across the street from the residence to watch fireworks. They were gone for approximately 30 minutes. A.S. was wearing a black and white summer dress at that time.

Upon their return from the fireworks, Disporto put A.S. in bed wearing a diaper and her dress. According to Bobo, A.S. always slept in Bobo's bed with Bobo in Bobo's bedroom. It is the only air conditioned room in the residence.

Bobo and Disporto watched television on the couch in the living room. At approximately 11 pm, Bobo began to fall asleep. She got up and went to bed in her bedroom with A.S. Disporto stayed in the living room watching television. He spent the night on the couch in the living room. The only occupants of the residence that night were Disporto, Bobo and A.S.

Bobo slept through the night until approximately 7 am, at which time she awoke to find A.S. no longer in her bed. Bobo stated that A.S. had never before left the bedroom on her own without first waking Bobo. Bobo got up to

look for A.S. and observed A.S. apparently sleeping on the couch wrapped in a blue blanket. Bobo observed Disporto outside in front of the residence smoking a cigarette.

Bobo left A.S. sleeping on the couch and went back to bed in her bedroom until approximately 9 am. Upon waking, she returned to the living room and observed A.S. still sleeping on the couch wrapped in the blue blanket. Bobo began to unwrap A.S. from the blanket at which time she noticed A.S. was wearing a different outfit from that which she had been wearing when she was put to bed the night before. Bobo also observed bruises on both sides of A.S.'s forehead. When Bobo asked Disporto about these bruises, he first stated he didn't know anything about them. He then claimed that A.S. fell in the park the night before. Bobo suggested they take A.S. to the hospital; Disporto stated they should put ice on the bruises and let A.S. sleep because she was hurt.

At approximately 11 am, Bobo prepared to bathe A.S. At that time, she noticed A.S. had bruises on her back and genital area. Bobo did not notice these injuries earlier because Disporto, at his request, had changed A.S.'s diaper. Bobo called Disporto into the bathroom and questioned him regarding the genital bruises. Disporto denied causing the injuries and convinced Bobo not to take A.S. to the hospital because he was concerned with what people would think.

At approximately 12 pm, Bobo and Disporto took A.S. to the Deptford Mall, where she began vomiting. Video surveillance footage shows that A.S. was in a stroller, and despite the hot weather, had been dressed in a hat. Bobo told detectives this was done intentionally to conceal the injuries to A.S.'s forehead.

At approximately 2 pm, Bobo and Disporto returned to Bobo's residence at which time Bobo bathed A.S. A.S. vomited a second time in the bathroom. Bobo dressed A.S. and, with Disporto, returned to Deptford to continue shopping until approximately 3:30pm.

Upon their return to Bobo's residence, Bobo laid A.S. down on the couch, then later in the air conditioned bedroom. Bobo checked on A.S. and noticed that her eyes were rolling back in her head and she had vomited a third time. A.S. was completely motionless at this time. Bobo told Disporto she wanted to take A.S. to the hospital; Disporto opined that A.S. was "just tired." When

Bobo insisted on making sure A.S. was okay, Disporto said, "I'm never going to see you again."

Bobo called 911 at 6:04 pm. When EMS arrived at the residence, A.S. was completely unresponsive. A.S. was transported to Cooper University Hospital, where she was diagnosed with a subdural hemorrhage and cerebral edema, which required immediate brain surgery. She also had bilateral bruising and swelling to her labia, a complete fracture of her right humerus, bilateral pulmonary contusions and there was both urine and blood present in her abdomen.

On July 5, 2016, A.S. was examined for brain activity at 12 pm and again at 6 pm. There was no activity during either exam. Life support was discontinued and A.S. was pronounced deceased at 6:26 pm by Dr. Tara Smith.

On July 6, 2016, Dr. Gerald Feigin, MD of the Gloucester/Camden/Salem County Medical Examiner's Office conducted a post mortem examination of A.S. He determined the cause of her death to be blunt force trauma to the head and ruled the manner of her death to be homicide.