

HENDERSON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**AFFIDAVIT FOR WARRANT**  
 Refer to DM-0430

DR#10-09225  
 ID#

STATE OF NEVADA )  
 )            ss:  
 COUNTY OF CLARK)

**Detective Felicia Benjamins #720**, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

THAT she is Affiant and a police officer with the Henderson Police Department, being so employed since February 21, 1995, assigned to investigate the below listed crime committed on or about Sunday, May 9, 2010 which investigation has developed Thomas Hess, dob [REDACTED], SSN [REDACTED], as the perpetrator thereof.

<u>CHARGE</u>	<u>N.R.S.</u>	<u>DEGREE</u>
Resisting Public Officer	199.280	M

That the above offense occurred at 2620 Hotel De Ville in the city of Henderson, County of Clark, State of Nevada. That Affiant learned the following facts in course of the investigation of said crime, to-wit;

That on Sunday, May 9, 2010, at approximately 1513 hours Henderson Police Department (HPD) Communications received a 9-1-1 call from [REDACTED], the residence of 2620 Hotel De Ville Terrace. The male person reporting identified himself as Thomas Hess. Hess stated he responded to 2620 Hotel De Ville Terrace to check on a friend, and she committed suicide. Hess relayed to the HPD Communications Operator his friend's name was Erica Blasberg.

That HPD Patrol Officers responded to the scene and contacted Hess outside the residence. The Henderson Fire Department (HFD) was also dispatched to the scene. Patrol Officers entered the residence, deemed it safe for HFD Personnel to enter and HFD Paramedic Ethlers confirmed the female was beyond resuscitation.

That due to the circumstances HPD Patrol Officers placed yellow crime scene tape around the residence and preserved the scene. Officer Tillmon began completing a crime scene log and posted himself immediately inside the front door, and Hess remained with Officer Tillmon.

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That HPD Officer in Charge (OIC) Shields briefly spoke with Hess. Hess completed a voluntary written statement while he was on scene with Officer Tillmon. OIC Shields then contacted HPD Investigations Sergeant McKenna. Sergeant McKenna notified Affiant, Detective Benjamins, of this incident and Affiant responded to investigate.

That Affiant briefly spoke with Thomas Hess on May 9, 2010 at approximately 1731 hours, at this time he stated the following: On Friday May 7, 2010 Hess and Blasberg played golf at Southern Highlands Golf Club. After they played golfed they met at the M Hotel and Casino and watched a game in the sports book. Hess stated they parted from the M Hotel and Casino around 2100 hours and each went home in separate vehicles. Hess stated he received a text message from Blasberg that she wanted him to follow her home. Hess stated he did not text her back but he called her and left a voice message stating: "Oh, you couldn't text me that, you know, a couple of minutes earlier, but, you know, that can't happen. You know, I've got to go home. Play well on your tournament." Hess stated he left the message around 2120 -2130 hours.

That Hess stated he called her on Saturday, May 8, 2010 at approximately 1800 hours. He stated he went to the Galleria Mall and purchased a T-Mobile phone to call Blasberg. Hess stated he called her and they got disconnected. Hess called her back and she sounded intoxicated.

That Hess stated he told Blasberg, "Erica, give me your address. I'll stop by and check on you."

That Hess continued she gave him her address, and he drove over to her home. Blasberg let him in, and Hess stated she was intoxicated. Hess said, "Hey, you can't do that." Stating she had some bottles of liquor, of vodka, and Hess dumped them out. Hess was not sure of what type of alcohol he dumped out, but he stated he thought it was Vodka and Southern Comfort.

That Hess stated he then made her go upstairs and take a shower, and he believed this was around 1945 hours.

That Hess stated they came back downstairs. He got her some water and they walked around a little bit around the house until they sat down on the couch downstairs and watched some TV. Hess stated they watched some TV and at approximately 9 o'clock 2100 hours, he told her he had to go home. Hess stated he asked her if she was okay. She said yes. Hess stated she was a little bit upset that she had not made her flight. Hess stated he thought she was supposed to be playing in Atlanta or Georgia or something like that this week.

That Hess again stated at around 2100 hours he told her he had to get going. Hess stated she was on the couch and he told her "hey make sure you lock this door", referring to the front door.

That Hess stated he attempted to call her once this morning, May 9, 2010, approximately 7 o'clock this morning and he received no answer.

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That Hess stated he then attempted to call her multiple times in the afternoon because I had not heard from her. Hess stated he called her multiple times at 3 o'clock (1500 ours and after)

That Hess stated after multiple calls with no answer he decided to stop by. Hess stated the front door was locked. He stated he thought maybe she had gotten in her car and gone to the airport.

That he stated he walked around the front of the house to see if he could see in the garage to see if her car was there, but he couldn't see. He stated there's no windows up front and there's no windows on the side. So he walked around the back of the house to the sliding glass door and he could see that her purse was on chair. Hess stated he tried the sliding glass door and it open. Hess continued it was not locked, so he was yelling her name, "Erica." He did not receive an answer so went upstairs. He first checked the couch and she wasn't there. He then went upstairs. Hess stated he thought she just went upstairs and passed out.

That Hess stated the bedroom door was closed so he knocked on it and he received no answer. He then opened the bedroom door and she was laying on the bed with a garbage bag over her head with a rubber band. Hess stated he grabbed the thing off right away and he checked her, but she was cold.

That Hess continued he literally called 911 right there.

That Affiant made observations of the decedent who rested in the master bedroom, supine on the bed. The description of the scene is as follows:

That the residence is a two (2) story, south facing home with a west facing front door. There was no apparent damage or forced entry to the front door. A closed black metal gate was located on the west side of the home and gained access to the west, north and east side of the house. A cinder block wall was located on the east side of the home.

That the victim, a deceased Caucasian female adult tentatively identified as Erica Blasberg (■■■■), was located on the bed against the west wall in the master bedroom. The victim's head was on pillows to the west and her feet were to the east. One (1) beige 'bright future 36x50' throw blanket was covering the victim's chest area and left arm. The victim's eyes were closed and her mouth was open.

That the victim was lying on her right side on top of one (1) white 'The Comphy Co. Cal-King' fitted sheet. One (1) white 'The Comphy Co. Cal-King' flat sheet was covering the victim's legs to the mid thigh area and one (1) white unknown brand duvet cover encasing a duvet was covering the victim's body to the chest area. Her right upper arm was extended to the south with the elbow bent and the right lower arm extended to the west. Her right hand was closed. Her left arm was resting on her torso, just below her chest, with the left hand resting on her right upper

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arm. Her left hand was closed. Her right leg was south of her left leg and both knees were bent. One (1) unknown brand white plastic bag approximately fourteen inches (14") in width and eighteen inches (18") in length with one (1) tan rubber band around it approximately six inches (6") from the opening was located north of the victim's head on a pillow. A total of five (5) pillows were located toward the west end of the bed and each was encased by a white 'The Comphy Co.' pillow case.

That the victim was clad in a black robe, black headband/ear warmer (held together with a Velcro adjustment above the left side of her forehead) and a tan rubber band was in her hair. A white dust mask with yellow strings was covering her mouth and nose and apparent make-up was present on the inside.

That after initially speaking with Hess, Affiant requested consent to search his vehicle which was parked on the driveway of the residence. Hess signed a consent to search form and Crime Scene Analyst Meghan Bone searched the vehicle for items related to the death of Erica Blasberg.

That Bone located a note and medication in the truck in a compartment and notified Affiant of her findings.

That the 2008 Black Mercedes-Benz CLS 550, NV/XCUBSX was parked facing north in the driveway. This vehicle was registered to that of Thomas Hess of Las Vegas, Nevada. Further description of Bone's findings are as follows: Two (2) folded white pieces of paper bearing apparent handwriting in blue ink on both sides and one (1) 'pfizer Tafil 1.0mg Alprazolam Tablet' blister pack containing fifteen (15) of thirty (30) blue oval shaped pills were located in a side compartment in the trunk on the driver's side. One (1) stethoscope was located on the front passenger seat and numerous business cards bearing 'Thomas J. Hess, M.D.' were located in the center console.

That after CSA Bone notified Affiant of her findings, Affiant made inquiries to Hess of the items located.

That Affiant asked Hess if there would be anything of interest in his vehicle that he should tell us about and he stated the following: He went upstairs and her door was closed. He knocked on the door and then he opened the door. He saw her there with the bag on her head. He ran over and grabbed the bag off of her head and -- and touched her to check her. And she was obviously dead.

That Hess stated he looked and there was the phone; her home phone was on her side table. And there was a couple of bottles there, so he grabbed the phone, dialed 911. As Hess was walking by, he stated he saw a note there and there's a little thing on of blue pills on it so he grabbed it. Hess stated he knew what they were, they were Xanax. Hess stated she had bought in, and he

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paused and stated, not in this country. He stated he knew this because it had Hispanic writing he knew that it was from when she was in Mexico last week.

That Hess stated he grabbed the note and pills and made the 911 call. Hess stated as he was waiting for the police to arrive he just stuck it (the note and blister packet of pills) in the car. Just thinking he didn't want her parents to think she took a whole bunch of pills and killed herself.

That when Affiant again confronted Hess about taking the items located in his vehicle from the scene he stated, "I know doing that was -- was stupid, but I was trying to save some embarrassment for her."

That Affiant asked for an explanation of why he took the items and he stated, "I have no idea. I mean that -- that whole thing was a -- was a fuzz for me."

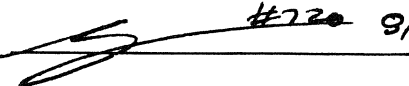
That Hess relayed, "I -- I never expected that. I never saw that."

That Affiant asked when Hess took the items outside and he stated when he was on the 9-1-1 call with HPD Communications they asked him to wait on scene. Hess stated while he was waiting he just "stuck it in there."

That due to the above circumstances Hess willfully and unlawfully obstructed this investigation by removing evidence from this incident and placing the items in the trunk of his vehicle.

That by Hess removing items from the scene he willfully delayed and obstructed Affiant, a public officer, in discharging Affiant's legal duty of investigating the death of Erica Blasberg, which is a misdemeanor violation of NRS 199.280.

WHEREFORE, Affiant prays that a Warrant of Arrest issue for Thomas Hess, dob 08/03/1967 on the aforementioned charges.

 #720 9/18/2010

Detective Felicia Benjamins #720, AFFIANT