

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA : Hon. James B. Clark, III
 :
 v. : Magistrate. No. 24-12060
 :
 ARRAQEEB WILLIAMSCOOK and : **CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**
 WASHIR SINGLETARY :
 :

I, Aaron M. Perkins, being duly sworn, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief:

SEE ATTACHMENT A

I further state that I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHMENT B

continued on the attached pages and made a part hereof.

Aaron M. Perkins I.E.
Aaron M. Perkins, Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Special Agent Aaron M. Perkins attested to this Affidavit by telephone pursuant to F.R.C.P. 4.1(B)(2)(A) on this 1st day of April 2024.

James B. Clark III I.E.
Hon. James B. Clark, III
United States Magistrate Judge

ATTACHMENT A

COUNT ONE
(Conspiracy to Commit Carjacking)

On or about December 9, 2023, in Essex County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendants,

ARRAQEEB WILLIAMSCOOK and
WASHIR SINGLETARY,

did knowingly and intentionally conspire and agree with others to commit an offense against the United States, namely, to take from the person and presence of another by force and violence or by intimidation, with intent to cause death and serious bodily harm, a motor vehicle that had been transported, shipped, or received in interstate or foreign commerce, namely a Black 2018 BMW 530I, contrary to Title 18, United States Code, Section 2119(1).

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 371.

COUNT TWO
(Carjacking)

On or about December 9, 2023, in Essex County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, the defendants,

ARRAQEEB WILLIAMSCOOK and
WASHIR SINGLETARY,

with the intent to cause death or serious bodily harm, took a motor vehicle, namely a Black 2018 BMW 530I, that had been transported, shipped, or received in interstate or foreign commerce from the person or presence of another, namely Victim-1, by force and violence or by intimidation.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2119(1) and 2.

COUNT THREE
(Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon)

On or about December 9, 2023, in Essex County, in the District of New Jersey, and elsewhere, defendant,

WASHIR SINGLETARY

knowing that he had previously been convicted of a crime punishable by a term of imprisonment exceeding one year, did knowingly possess a firearm, namely a Ruger/Strum revolver, bearing serial number 260-57397, and the firearm was in and affecting commerce.

In violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1).

ATTACHMENT B

I, Aaron M. Perkins, am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I am fully familiar with the facts set forth herein based on my own investigation, my conversations with witnesses and other law enforcement officers, and my review of reports, documents, and items of evidence, including video surveillance. Because this complaint is being submitted for a limited purpose, I have not set forth every fact that I know concerning this investigation. Where the contents of documents and the actions and statements of others are reported, they are reported in substance and in part, except where otherwise indicated. Where I assert that an event took place on a particular date, I am asserting that it took place on or about the date alleged.

Background

1. At all times relevant to this Complaint:
 - a. "Restaurant-1" was a food services business located in Newark, New Jersey.
 - b. "Victim-1" was the driver of a black 2018 BMW 530I bearing NJ registration P89PWL (the "BMW").
 - c. "Victim-2" was the registered owner of a white 2015 Lexus IS 250 bearing Florida license plate number 561732 (the "Lexus"), which was reported stolen out of Wall Township, New Jersey, on or about December 8, 2023.

The December 9, 2023 Carjacking

2. On or about December 9, 2023, at approximately 12:25 a.m. in the parking lot of Restaurant-1, a carjacking (the "Carjacking") was captured on Restaurant-1's video surveillance footage.

3. Law enforcement responded to investigate the Carjacking. The investigation revealed that Victim-1 went to Restaurant-1 around 12:25 a.m. on December 9, 2023 to place an order for takeout. While waiting for his order to be prepared, Victim-1 started pumping air into the passenger side front tire of the BMW, which he had driven to Restaurant-1. As seen on the surveillance video from Restaurant-1, at approximately 12:30 a.m., as Victim-1 was pumping air into the tire, the Lexus pulled up directly in front of and perpendicular to the BMW, boxing in the BMW. An individual, later identified as Arraqeeb Williamscook ("WILLIAMSCOOK"), exited the passenger seat of the Lexus and got into the driver's seat of the BMW. Victim-1, who was still putting air in the tire of the BMW, heard the BMW's engine start revving. According to the surveillance footage, when Victim-1 looked up, he saw WILLIAMSCOOK

sitting in the front seat of the BMW. Victim-1 began to walk around the front of the vehicle to approach WILLIAMSCOOK. As Victim-1 got to the driver's side of the vehicle, WILLIAMSCOOK got out of the driver's seat and lifted his sweatshirt to reveal what Victim-1 believed to be a firearm. After seeing the firearm, Victim-1 ran into Restaurant-1 to call the police.

4. As WILLIAMSCOOK was carjacking the BMW, another individual, later identified as Washir Singletary ("SINGLETARY") was seated in the driver's seat of the Lexus that was used to box in the BMW. After Victim-1 ran into Restaurant-1, WILLIAMSCOOK got out of the BMW, ran to the passenger side door of the Lexus briefly, but then returned to the BMW and sat back in the driver's seat of the BMW. SINGLETARY then exited the Lexus and approached the driver's side of the BMW, at which point WILLIAMSCOOK again exited the driver's seat of the BMW and ran back to the driver's side of the Lexus. SINGLETARY then got into the driver's seat of the BMW and drove off, leaving WILLIAMSCOOK behind with the Lexus.

5. Armed security guards from Restaurant-1 and the manager of Restaurant-1 emerged as SINGLETARY pulled away in the BMW at approximately 12:32 a.m. As shown on the surveillance footage, the guards approached the Lexus with their weapons drawn. WILLIAMSCOOK got down on the ground and attempted to crawl away from the guards. WILLIAMSCOOK was ultimately handcuffed and taken back towards Restaurant-1. At approximately 12:33 a.m., as the guards were escorting WILLIAMSCOOK towards Restaurant-1, the BMW drove through the parking lot, but did not stop. The BMW returned to the parking lot a second time at approximately 12:35 a.m. and drove through, without stopping, as one of the armed guards pointed their firearm towards the BMW.

6. Approximately 30 seconds later, the BMW drove back into the parking lot of Restaurant-1 for a third time and pulled up parallel to the Lexus, but this time an additional passenger ("Coconspirator-1") is observed in the BMW. Surveillance footage shows an individual, believed to be SINGLETARY, exit the driver's seat of the BMW, while Coconspirator-1 exits the passenger seat of the BMW, abandoning the BMW while it is still slowly moving, presumably in neutral. SINGLETARY then entered the driver's seat of the Lexus and drove off in the Lexus leaving Coconspirator-1 behind. Coconspirator-1 then ran back into the BMW, while one of the armed guards attempted to apprehend him. Coconspirator-1 evaded the guard and drove away in the BMW.

7. On or about December 10, 2023, at approximately 2:31 a.m., a Newark Police Officer on patrol traveling Westbound on 12th Avenue approaching South 12th Street observed the BMW unoccupied and parked at 262 South 12th Street. Law enforcement recovered the BMW.

8. The BMW was manufactured outside of the State of New Jersey, and thus moved in and affected interstate commerce prior to December 9, 2023.

Locating the Lexus and Apprehending Singletary

9. On or about December 9, 2023, at approximately 1:00 a.m., after obtaining the GPS location data for the Lexus, officers responded to a gas station at 481 Central Avenue in Newark (the “Gas Station”). At the Gas Station, the officers observed the Lexus as it pulled up in front of the Gas Station convenience store entrance. Upon observing the officers, the driver of the Lexus fled and drove westbound on Central Avenue at a high rate of speed. The officers later observed the Lexus, being driven by SINGLETARY, driving slowly and traveling northbound on South 11th Street. The officers began to pursue SINGLETARY, who exited the Lexus and fled on foot northbound on South 11th Street towards 9th Avenue. During the chase, SINGLETARY removed an item from his waistband and tossed it to the street. As the officers closed in, SINGLETARY gave up running and was placed under arrest.

10. Immediately following SINGLETARY’S arrest, the officers recovered the item that SINGLETARY removed from his waistband during the pursuit. The officers identified the item as a Ruger/Strum revolver, bearing serial number 260-57397.

Singletary’s Prior Felony Conviction

11. On or about August 9, 2019, SINGLETARY pleaded guilty in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Essex County, to conspiracy, in violation of N.J.S.A. 2C:5-2A, a third-degree crime under New Jersey law punishable by up to five years’ imprisonment.

12. On or about July 20, 2022, the court sentenced SINGLETARY to five years’ imprisonment for this offense.