



OKLAHOMA
PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT
STATE OF OKLAHOMA VS VANG, YER (Continued)

Facts & Circumstance that support probable cause to arrest the above named person are

On October 7th, 2024, Lt. Jim Peek (a certified and full-time commissioned Deputy Sheriff for the Grady County Sheriff's Office) received information in reference to a possible illegal marijuana grow located at the residence located at [REDACTED] County Road 1430, Ninnekah, Oklahoma.

Lt. Peek (accompanied by other deputies from the Grady County Sheriff's Office) went to that location to try to contact the homeowners. No individuals were located at the residence at the time of deputies arrival but several animals were observed to be chained to trees and it was observed that the animals did not have adequate water or shelter. Eventually, Lt. Peek was met by two females (pulled on location shortly after the arrival of deputies) who identified themselves as relatives of the homeowners. Through those individuals, Lt. Peek was able to make contact with YER VANG "wife" via telephone. Lt. Peek requested VANG return to the location to speak about the possibility of a marijuana grow at the residence. VANG returned and she was followed shortly by Chue YANG "husband". While waiting on the arrival of YANG and VANG, Lt. Peek observed more dogs (later determined to be 21 in total) to be chained to trees on the property and those dogs (in the opinion of Lt. Peek) appeared to be malnourished and some were observed to be without water (temperature on that day was mid 80s). Lt. Peek could also see numerous cages which contained what Lt. Peek knows to be "fighting roosters" and Lt. Peek could see that those animals were being held in extremely small cages and some appeared to be without water.

Once both YANG and VANG were at the residence, Lt. Peek (along with other deputies) explained the reason for the visit. YANG and VANG denied any marijuana was being grown at the location and YANG allowed Lt. Peek to check the interior of the residence and no marijuana was found to be growing in either the main home or the basement. YANG and VANG led Lt. Peek to a large barn located on the property and no marijuana was found in that location either. While in that barn, Lt. Peek observed numerous (estimated to be in excess of 20) more fighting roosters in the same cages and some of those animals were found to be without water. While standing near the main house, in an opened garage and plainly visible from the yard, Lt. Peek observed what he estimated to be 20-30 cages (stacked floor to ceiling) which contained various types of birds. Lt. Peek would estimate there to be at least 200-300 birds secured in that area. Lt. Peek asked YANG and VANG about those birds and YANG stated he just "loved them" and he denied breeding or selling birds from the location. Later, YANG would advise Game Warden Zimmerman that he had indeed sold birds from that location. YANG and VANG also showed Lt. Peek and area where they keep and breed fish on the property. Lt. Peek observed several tanks containing a large amount of fish (unable to estimate number because of number of tanks and size of fish). These tanks appeared to be unkept and in the case of some of these tank, the water was green and extremely cloudy. YANG and VANG then led Lt. Peek to a large swimming pool (Lt. Peek estimated it to be at least a 16 to 18 foot circumference and 4 foot deep) located in the backyard of the home under a tree. YANG and VANG advised Lt. Peek that this pool contained at "least 30" Koi fish. YANG was able to get the Koi to respond after he simulated feeding and Lt. Peek observed Koi that were at least 2 feet long surface in the pool to feed. This water was dark green and smelled of algae and was obviously unfiltered. Lt. Peek asked for and received permission from YANG and VANG to photograph the animals and their conditions on the property. Lt. Peek was granted permission and photographs as well as video was taken and has been attached to this information report.

While on the scene, Lt. Peek contacted Oklahoma Game Warden Zimmerman and requested he come to the location. Zimmerman located 3 ring neck pheasants on the property in one of the cages. Zimmerman cited Yang for possessing those animals and will return tomorrow to take possession of the pheasant. While on the scene, Zimmerman also took video of the birds and fish on the property and will forward them to the US Fish and Game Offices for review and further action. Lt. Peek made contact with the Oklahoma Humane Society in an attempt to gain assistance with veterinary services for the animals on the scene. Lt. Peek was advised (by the Humane Society) to forward photographs of the animals and conditions to their staff to determine if assistance is warranted. Lt. Peek will send those photographs before the end of business on 10/7/2024. Lt. Peek spoke to the homeowners and advised that follow-ups would be conducted and that Zimmerman had made contact with US Fish and Game in reference to the fish and birds.

On the evening of 10/7/2024, Lt. Peek spoke with Kassi Bennett (Animal Case Manager with the Humane Society of the United States), advised her of the situation, and asked for assistance from her organization. Bennett requested that Lt. Peek forward both photographs and videos taken at the scene for her review. Lt. Peek provided the requested items, and Bennett acknowledged receipt. Bennett replied and called Lt. Peek to state that her organization could and would be willing to provide assistance as requested. Bennett again replied and requested that Lt. Peek forward the suspect's information to her so that her organization. Lt. Peek will forward those names to Bennett to check against her data base. Bennett also stated her organization would facilitate the assistance of a veterinarian to accompany deputies to the residence to check the welfare of the animals (with permission of YANG and VANG). Based on her expert opinion, Bennett stated she believed charges were warranted based on what she had observed in the photographs and videos supplied by Lt. Peek. Bennett also pointed out that she had observed (based on her training and experience) what she believed to be a "fighting pit" in a photograph which she received from Lt. Peek. Bennett pointed out that in one of the photographs, she observed a cardboard "pit" and you can see both blood and gouge marks which are commonly made when roosters are fought. While on scene at the residence, Lt. Peek had asked YANG and VANG if the roosters were being fought and both denied that they were fought at the location. Lt. Peek was provided a compliance letter by Bennett and will follow up with that letter and a vet visit when that vet is located and a time is arranged.



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On 10/14/2024, Lt. Peek met with Game Warden Zimmerman at the Grady County Sheriff's Office and Lt. Peek was able to copy (and attach) video to this report taken by Zimmerman at the time of the original call to the residence of YANG and Vang. Zimmerman's video shows the birds/cages located in the garage of the home and the condition of the cages. Zimmerman also advised Lt. Peek that he had returned to residence of YANG and VANG to take possession of the pheasant at the location. Zimmerman stated the residence gate was secured and that he was unable to get a response from any subjects at the residence. The gate was secured and Zimmerman stated he could see a vehicle inside the yard but no one would respond to either his lights or sirens (used to attempt to gain a subject to speak to him).

On 10/15/2024, Lt. Peek, Captain Gornick, Lt. Booth and Veterinarian Toomoth traveled to [REDACTED] CR 1430 to do a follow up on the animals located on 10/7/2024. Lt. Peek made contact with VANG and she advised that she and YANG were in Blanchard but would come to the residence so Dr. Toomoth could make a visual inspection of the animals. YANG and VANG arrived and allowed Dr. Toomoth to do a visual inspection of the animals (accompanied by YANG and VANG as well as deputies). Dr. Toomoth checked each animal and took notes of her observations. Lt. Peek provided YANG with a "compliance letter" filled out by Dr. Toomoth, which identified errors in care as well as ways to remedy the issues. Dr. Toomoth stated she would prepare a report based on her observations and notes and forward that document to Lt. Peek when it was completed.

On 10/16/2024, Lt. Peek made contact with VANG via telephone and advised of an amended "compliance letter" which he needed to provide VANG and YANG. VANG provided an email of [REDACTED] for delivery. Lt. Peek emailed the amended letter and requested a "read receipt" as confirmation of delivery by VANG.

On 10/21/2024, Lt. Peek received an email from Dr. Toomoth. She provided a written report of her observations during the visit to the property at [REDACTED] CR 1430. Lt. Peek has attached a copy of that report to this report.

On 10/30/2024, Lt. Peek reached out to VANG in attempt to schedule a time to follow up on checking the animals again and to see if any recommendations had been completed. A copy of that text string will be attached to this report. In short, VANG was unable to set a time or date but said she would relay the information to her husband (YANG).

On 10/31/2024, Lt. Peek again reached out to VANG via text message to try to arrange a time to follow up but as of 11/06/2024, Lt. Peek has received no reply. A screenshot of that text will be attached to this report.

On 11/25/2024, Lt. Danny Booth returned to the property and spoke to Mr. Yang to follow-up on the animals and their conditions. He spoke to Yang and he said he was "building chicken coups" but Lt. Booth observed no changes in the conditions for the other animals on the property.

On December 3rd, 2024, Lt. Peek presented a request for a search warrant for the residence located at [REDACTED] County Road 1430, Ninnekah, and the District Court of Grady County granted that search warrant.

On December 11th, 2024, at approximately 0750 hours, a search warrant was executed at [REDACTED] County Road 1430, Ninnekah, Oklahoma (County of Grady). The weather conditions on the scene at the time of the search warrant are as follows: air temperature of 32 degrees with a windchill of 27 degrees. Those Grady County Deputies on the initial service on the warrant service were as follows: Lt. J. Peek, Lt. S Carpenter, Lt. J. Cordell, Deputy B. Carpenter, Deputy M. Rhinehart, Deputy H. Jameson, Captain B. Gornick, Undersheriff K. Brewer. Assisting with the animals were members of the United States Humane Society.

When Deputies arrived, Vang attempted to leave the residence to transport the children (listed to school. Lt. Peek made initial contact with Vang and advised her to return to the residence. The children located in the vehicle with Vang are as follows: [REDACTED]

Vang returned to the residence and was informed of the search warrant service and was then allowed (accompanied by law enforcement) to transport all children listed above (except E.Y.) to their school for daily attendance.

Law enforcement was in the yard speaking to Vang as Yang exited the residence. It was explained to Yang that a search warrant had been granted for the property and that it was being served at that time. Yang informed law enforcement that "my baby" was located inside the residence. At that time, a small child (approximately two weeks old) was retrieved by law enforcement and placed in the care of Lt. Carpenter on the scene. Yang was Mirandized on the scene and initially refused to speak to law enforcement about surrendering the animals on the property. Yang was transported to the Grady County Jail and booked for his outstanding warrant (WL-2024-00017) and animal cruelty charges. He was advised that if he changed his mind about speaking about surrendering the animals, he could let jail staff know, and law enforcement, as well as representatives of the Humane Society of the United States, would come to speak to him. Vang was also Mirandized on scene and agreed to talk to law enforcement. The following is a brief synopsis of the conversation and not a verbatim translation:



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She acknowledged ownership of some (but not all animals on the property) precisely five small breed dogs, of which three were chained outside and had very little water or food present and very minimal shelter (as observed by Lt. Peek as well as on-scene Veterinarian Dr. Fanucchi with the Humane Society of the United States). Two small white dogs were loose on the property she stated belonged to her and her daughter. Vang also stated medical professionals had not seen these animals in "a while". She also claimed ownership of various ducks and other fowl on the property. Dr. Fanucchi noted that she believed these five dogs met the criteria for the charge of animal cruelty as defined by statute. Kassi Bennett of the United States Humane Society advised Lt. Peek of this decision.

Twenty-two dogs were located on the property, and Vang stated Yang was the caretaker for all other animals on the property. Lt. Peek was aware of this through prior conversations and visits with Yang about the conditions of and for the animals. That would include several fowl that were being cared for by Yang and were described as belonging to Vang's mother. The mother of Vang eventually surrendered these animals to the Humane Society of the United States.

In the matter of the dogs on the property, the remaining seventeen were found to have little or no food or water and very minimal shelter upon examination by Dr. Fanucchi. Lt. Peek was advised (through Bennett) that Dr. Fanucchi believed these seventeen dogs also met the criteria for charges of animal cruelty as defined by statute. Yang eventually surrendered these animals, and the animals will have further examinations to determine the exact condition of each, and that report will be provided to the District Attorney's Office upon receipt of those findings.

Also located on the property (Yang took ownership) were approx. Ninety-three parrots and other exotic birds. These animals were found to be enclosed in cages that had not been cleaned in "six months," according to a previous conversation with Yang. These birds were given an initial examination by a Veterinarian, Dr. Raines, and again, Lt. Peek was advised by Kassi Bennett that Dr. Raines believed that these Ninety-three birds met the criteria for the charge of animal cruelty as described in the statute. This is based on the living conditions and care the animals received from Yang.

Also located on the property were 72 gamefowl roosters (commonly called fighting roosters). These animals were found to have little or no food or water, and their housing was found to be inadequate. Lt. Peek observed these animals to be housed in a barn-type structure with very little light, ventilation, and no heat source. Veterinarian Gonzales examined these animals and stated that she believed these animals (based upon conditions) would meet the criteria for animal neglect charges described in the statute. Lt. Peek was advised this by Kassi Bennett. Janette Reeve (cock-fighting expert) provided her expertise and advised Bennett on the following, which was relayed to Lt. Peek. Based on the items found on the scene (rooster transport boxes with confirmed blood splatter, exercise equipment (carpet treadmill specifically designed to condition roosters for fighting), a "home-made rooster fighting pit which showed both blood splatter, confirmed by on-site testing, as well as what is believed to be gouge/cut marks (roughly 1/4 inch wide and penetrating the pit material) made by the spurs of the roosters while fighting, blood stains on the carpet being used a floor for the fighting pit) that these 72 "fighting roosters" were being used and transported to fight as well as fighting on location. Reeve stated to Lt. Peek on scene that this breed of rooster was preferred by certain groups/cultures and was raised specifically for fighting because of the lack of need for spurs/gaffes and other specific distinct features of the breed.

Numerous species of fish were located on scene and have been seized and sent to appropriate facilities to determine their state of health. Upon receipt, all reports from the Humane Society of the United States will be provided to the District Attorney's Office. These reports will include photographs, medical examination reports, as well as reports from veterinarians on scene.

During the service of the search warrant, Lt. Peek observed the following about the conditions in which the five juvenile children were living:

1. The home was cluttered and in disarray.
2. Multiple "flea lights" were placed throughout the home, including two at each end of the crib in which the two-week-old [REDACTED] slept. These traps contained numerous dead insects (believed to be fleas). Lt. Peek knows there is a flea infestation at the location because of previous conversations with Yang and Vang.
3. Lt. Peek observed the icebox to be extremely filthy. Upon opening the icebox, he observed what he believed to be mold or a similar substance. The same substance was also found on the doors and in the freezer compartment of the icebox.
4. Obvious illegal activities were being conducted on the property, and five juvenile subjects were living at the home.
5. The residence had an overpowering smell of ammonia and feces throughout. The bedrooms (which appeared to be occupied by juvenile females) had such a strong smell of cat urine that they had to be "aired out" before entry could be conducted.



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6. Multiple kittens were located throughout the residence, and no litter boxes were present.

7. Lt. Peek observed what he believed to be marijuana (in easy reach of all juveniles except E.Y.) to be in the restroom, which adjoined the parent's bedroom. Lt. Peek also observed where marijuana cigarettes had been smoked and extinguished throughout the residence.

Lt. Peek called and requested a joint response from DHS to deal with the issues of the children living on the property. DHS Specialist Gregory arrived on the scene and began her investigation. Gregory was eventually able to obtain placement of the five juveniles and the eighteen-year-old subject with a relative of Vang.

Based on the items located and the conditions of the animals located, Lt. Peek is requesting the following charges be filed on Yang and Vang:

Yang & Vang

Cruelty to animals 21-1685: 194 counts (covering dogs, roosters/hens and parrots/exotic birds)

Keeping place, equipment or facilities for cockfighting 21-1692.3: 1 count

Owning, possessing, keeping or training bird for fighting 21-1692.5 72 Counts

Child Neglect 21-843.5 5 counts

All of the above acts occurred in Grady County, State of Oklahoma.

AFCF ? Time (1) Time (2) or Other

Upon oath, I declare that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

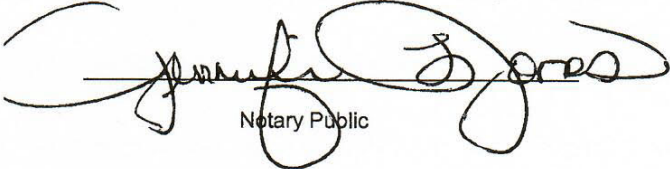
Officer Name: PEEK, JIM Badge Number: 2612



Signature of Affiant

Subscribed and sworn before me on Dec. 12, 2021
My commission number 20015349
My commission expires 12/10/28





Notary Public



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[NO] Sheriff's Affidavit Required ?

[_] Bond Posted ?

[_] A probable cause determination is not necessary, the arrestee bonded out of jail on _____

[_] Appear in Court ?

The undersigned Judge of this Court having conducted a probable cause determination for the above named person's arrest without warrant by sworn testimony and/or affidavit finds:

[_] This affidavit/testimony contains sufficient facts showing probable cause for the person's arrest existed at the time of the arrest. Arraignment before a court is ordered on _____

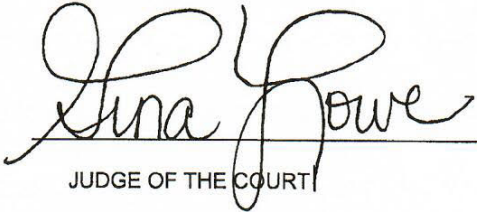
[_] This affidavit/testimony contains insufficient facts to show probable cause for the person's arrest existed at the time of arrest. The arrestee is ordered released from custody immediately.

I make the preceding findings and order pursuant to Gerstein v. Pugh, 420 U.S. 103 (1975), and County of Riverside v. McLaughlin, No. 89-1817 (U.S. May 13, 1991) (Lexis 2528):

FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE

The Undersigned Judge of this Court, upon sworn affidavit, hereby determines there to be probable cause for issuance of an arrest without warrant.

Date 12/13/24



JUDGE OF THE COURT

.....
Date _____

OFFICER / SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE