

FILED

03-06-2024

Clerk of Circuit Court

For Official Use

La Crosse County WI

2024CF000217

STATE OF WISCONSIN CIRCUIT COURT LA CROSSE COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Plaintiff,

vs.

Asif NMI Asif
112 5th Avenue South Apt #3
La Crosse, WI 54601
DOB:
Sex/Race: M/A
Eye Color: Brown
Hair Color: Black
Height: 5 ft 7 in
Weight: 140 lbs
Alias: Also Known As Asif Fnu
Also Known As Asif Masih
Also Known As Asif Mushtaq
Also Known As Asif Shahzada

Defendant.

DA Case No.: 2024LC000650
Assigned DA/ADA: Jessica Skemp
Agency Case No.: 10-23-59811
Court Case No.:
ATN:

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Sergeant Brandon Penzkover, La Crosse County Sheriff's Department, being first duly sworn on oath says that on information and belief:

Count 1: THEFT - MOVABLE PROPERTY (> \$10,000 - \$100,000), INCREASED PENALTY FOR ELDER PERSON VICTIM

The above-named defendant between December 23, 2022 and December 27, 2023, at 354 Losey Boulevard South, in the City of La Crosse, La Crosse County, Wisconsin, did intentionally take and carry away movable property of another, having a value greater than \$10,000 but does not exceed \$100,000, without consent, and with intent to permanently deprive the owner of possession of the property, contrary to sec. 943.20(1)(a) and (3)(c), 939.50(3)(g), 939.623(2)(b) Wis. Stats., a Class G Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), or imprisoned not more than ten (10) years, or both.

And further, invoking the provisions of sec. 939.623(2)(b) Wis. Stats., because the crime victim is an elder person, the maximum term of imprisonment of more than one year but not more than 10 years prescribed by law for the underlying crime may be increased by not more than 4 years.

and prays that the defendant be dealt with according to law; that the basis for complainant's charge of such offense is:

FACTUAL BASIS:

Your complainant is informed in an official report by Officer Thomas that on December 27, 2023 he was dispatched to the 300 block of Losey Blvd. S in the City and County of La Crosse, Wisconsin to meet

with A.S., S.A., and A.C. about a theft of a large amount of jewelry from their home at that location. Your complainant is also informed that A.C. is 70 years old and A.S. is 68 years old.

A.C. stated that she was missing a large box containing a significant amount of gold jewelry and she noticed it missing about December 17, 2023, shortly after they returned home from a vacation. A.C. stated that she suspected Asif, S.A.'s estranged husband, was involved with the theft as he recently posted on Facebook that he had bought a coffee shop "by the river". A.C. stated that Asif had moved to La Crosse from Pakistan in 2022 with no money. A.C. also stated that Asif knew there was gold kept in a box in their house and knew the garage code in order to enter the house.

S.A. stated that she had married Asif in June 2022 and they separated in January 2023.

They gave Officer Thomas a list of the missing items with their estimated value as follows:

- Effy watercolors rainbow Sapphire and Diamond Ring – 14kt White Gold - \$500
- 14kt White Gold Diamond Cross - \$1200
- Macy's Ruby (1-5/8 ct. t.w.) and Diamond (1/5 ct. t.w.) Ring in 14kt Rose Gold - \$1000
- 14kt WG Emerald and diamond necklace and ring - \$2500
- 14kt WG blue topaz earrings and necklace set - \$1500.
- 14kt WG blue topaz earrings pear shaped cut with diamond accent - \$450
- 14kt gold lemon quartz Emerald cut and yellow sapphire necklace. Registered Stamp number KJP030LQ - \$1200.00
- 14kt white gold white and Chocolate diamond ring Registered Stamp number R2298DB \$1200.00
- Levian 14kt white gold Chocolate and white diamond butterfly shaped ring Registered Stamp number 25197, 25198 \$1200.00
- 14KT White gold diamond cluster ring - \$1500
- 14 kt white gold 3 sapphire stone and diamond ring - \$2000
- Levian 14kt blue topaz teardrop set necklace and earrings \$3000.
- 14k Yellow gold wishbone citrine pendant \$500
- 14k Yellow gold wishbone amethyst pendant \$500
- 14kt White Gold 1.50 ct.tw diamond 3 stone engagement ring \$3000
- 14kt White Gold Band with diamond \$1500
- 22kt yellow gold Wedding gold set Necklace, earrings and ring \$6000
- 22kt yellow gold necklace and earrings containing round beads \$4000
- 22kt yellow gold Cross with chain \$2000
- 22kt yellow gold Cross with Chain \$2500
- 22kt yellow gold necklace, ring and earrings set with garnets and pearls \$6000
- 22kt gold necklace, rings and earrings set \$3000
- 22kt gold necklace, rings and earrings set \$3000
- 22kt yellow gold flower shaped pendant set pendant and stud earrings) with garnet \$4000
- 22kt yellow gold flower shaped pendant set (pendant, stud earrings and ring) \$4000
- 22kt yellow gold meenakari earrings \$4000
- 22kt yellow gold bali (hoop earrings) \$1500
- 22kt yellow gold chain twisted. \$1500
- 22kt yellow gold chain \$1500
- 22kt yellow gold chain \$1500
- 22kt yellow gold stud earrings (tops) \$2000
- 22KT Yellow Gold Kara (Bangle) \$2500
- 22KT Yellow Gold earrings \$2000
- 22kt yellow Gold 2 Bangles (Karas) 3500.00
- 22kt yellow gold engagement ring \$1000
- 22kt yellow gold engagement ring \$800
- 22kt yellow gold wedding band \$1000

- 22kt yellow gold wedding band \$800
- 22kt yellow gold Minakari pendant set (Pendant, stud earrings and ring) \$3500
- 22kt yellow gold ring with Sapphire \$500
- 22kt yellow gold ring with Sapphire \$500
- 22kt yellow gold ring with Sapphire \$500
- 22kt yellow gold 8 Bangles with same design \$4500
- 22kt yellow gold 2 Bangles (Karas) \$ 2800
- 22kt yellow gold Bangle (Kara) \$2500
- 22kt yellow gold wedding ring \$900
- 22kt yellow gold necklace and earrings \$12000

The total estimated loss was reported to be \$108,550.00.

It is on information and belief that there was no consent for anyone to take or sell any of these items.

Through investigation, Officer Thomas was able to contact Wesley Hazlett, who had business dealings with Asif. Officer Thomas asked Hazlett if Asif had ever mentioned gold. Hazlett stated that he had taken Asif to the Gold Exchange Store in Sparta in July or August of 2023 to sell jewelry. Hazlett stated that Asif had a box that looked like a wedding ring box, 3 or 4 gold necklaces and a pendant bracelet.

Hazlett stated that he stopped working with Asif about three weeks prior because Asif never wanted to do things legally and just wanted to "cut corners" in order to open the coffee shop. Hazlett also stated that he knew that Asif used several last names including "Fnu", "Masih", and "Shahzada".

Officer Thomas reported he went to River City Gold in La Crosse to see if they had any transactions with Asif. General Manager Anthony Piazza stated that he was familiar with Asif and that he had come in approximately 10 times over the summer of 2023. Piazza stated that the items that Asif had brought in were already sold.

Officer Thomas asked Officer Obluck of the Sparta Police Department to help him by speaking to someone at the Sparta Gold Exchange about transactions involving Asif. Officer Obluck sent an email with the following information:

Attached are two Property Transaction Records from Sparta Gold Exchange that the owner, Patrick D Judkins (9-15-65) was able to provide.

8/30/23

Pat reported Asif came into the store with Wesley Hazlett. Asif did not have any ID with him and he was unable to complete the purchase. Wesley filled out the purchase form. The transaction was for a green pendant, amethyst pendant, 14k ruby ring, wedding band, and gold. \$900 was provided to Wesley in the form of a check.

9/5/23

Pat reported Asif came into the store alone. He brought a crumpled paper ID from another county. Pat did not have a copy of the ID available. The transaction was for a 14k butterfly ring, 14k amethyst pendant, flower earrings, and a 14k white gold Sophia ring. Asif requested cash, stating he did not have a bank account. \$1200 cash was provided to Asif.

Officer Thomas recontacted A.S. on January 6, 2024 and asked about when they noticed jewelry missing as the transactions had occurred prior to December 2023. A.S. stated that she and her

mother did not notice any of the jewelry missing, but did state there was a large amount of jewelry in the box and it would be possible to not notice if someone was taking jewelry out little bits at a time.

Your complainant is also informed in an official report by Sgt. Fitzgerald that he was assigned to follow up on Officer Thomas's initial theft report. Sgt. Fitzgerald reported that he used "Leads Online" and was able to find 7 transactions at River City Gold involving Asif. The names on the tickets were "Asif Fnu", "Asif Masih", and "Asif Mushtaq". Sgt. Fitzgerald met with Anthony Piazza, who turned over copies of the transactions and the copy of the passport that was used for each transaction. The transactions were as follows:

December 23, 2022,	Ticket #F690 – Amount Paid \$1,187
May 1, 2023	Ticket #FF488 – Amount Paid \$2,350
May 4, 2023	Ticket #FF508 – Amount Paid: \$270.00.
May 15, 2023	Ticket #FF552 – Amount Paid: \$7,850.00.
June 2, 2023	Ticket #FF615 – Amount Paid: \$2,300.00.
June 5, 2023	Ticket #FF622 – Amount Paid: \$1,200.00.
July 10, 2023	Ticket #FF763 – Amount Paid: \$1,500.00.

Total: \$16,657.00

Piazza stated that Asif had told him that he was raising money to open a food hall at a building downtown.

Sgt. Fitzgerald reported that he interviewed Asif at the La Crosse Police Department on February 13, 2024. Sgt. Fitzgerald reported that Asif identified himself verbally as "Asif" and stated that was his only name, although he does also go by "Asif Fnu" and "Asif Shahzada". Asif stated that a divorce action was filed between he and S.A. during January 2024.

Asif denied possessing any of the jewelry that was stolen from the 300 block of Losey Blvd. S and denied taking any property from S.A. or her parents. Sgt. Fitzgerald asked him if he had any valuables when he moved to the United States and Asif replied that he had three bags of clothes and no valuables. Sgt. Fitzgerald specifically asked if he had any jewelry and Asif stated no, other than two rings. Sgt. Fitzgerald asked him if he had sold jewelry while in the United States and showed him the property transaction records from River City Gold. Asif said that the jewelry he sold was his and that he misunderstood when Sgt. Fitzgerald asked if he had any jewelry. Sgt. Fitzgerald asked him why there were photographs of S.A. and her parents wearing many of the pieces sold at River City Gold and Asif said that he had brought the jewelry for them.

Sgt. Fitzgerald asked Asif if he sold jewelry anywhere else and Asif said no. Sgt. Fitzgerald asked him about the transactions in Sparta and then Asif remembered, and said that jewelry was his also. Sgt. Fitzgerald reported that on February 15, 2024 he met with S.A., and obtained photographs of her, A.C., and A.S. wearing the items of jewelry. Sgt. Fitzgerald was able to identify many of the items that were sold at River City Gold in the photographs and noted that some of the photographs were taken before Asif had even entered the United States.

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V.

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Asif NMI Asif

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Subscribed and sworn to before me on 03/06/24

Electronically Signed By:

Electronically Signed By:

Deputy McAuliffe

Gideon Wertheimer

Complainant

Assistant District Attorney

State Bar #: 1113224