

AMENDED COMPLAINT

STATE OF MISSOURI )  
 )  
COUNTY OF ST. CHARLES )

IN THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
STATE OF MISSOURI

STATE OF MISSOURI )

vs. )

JESSICA LYNN HOWELL )

[REDACTED] )  
O Fallon, MO 63366 )

) CAUSE NO. 1311-CR03294

) DIVISION NO.

) PA FILE NO. 183207636

SSN: [REDACTED] )

DOB: 01/23/1988 )

SEX: Female )

RACE: White )

HEIGHT: 5'05 )

WEIGHT: 120 LBS )

COUNT 1 Abuse Or Neglect Of A Child - Serious Emotional Or Physical injury (MO Charge Code 2606702.)

COUNT 2 Murder 2nd degree - Felony Murder - during perpetration/attempted perpetration/flight from perpetration of a felony, a person dies (MO Charge Code 1003699.)

COUNT 1

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of St. Charles, State of Missouri, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 568.060, RSMo, committed the class A felony of abuse of a child, punishable upon conviction under Section 558.011 and 568.060, RSMo, in that between September 1, 2012 and December 3, 2012, in the County of St. Charles, State of Missouri, the defendant sent her boyfriend, Jordan Prince, electronic communications which on their face suggested a willingness to allow him to have sexual relations with Ashlynn Lilith Peters, her daughter who was less than fourteen years old.

Defendant became aware that Jordan Prince had previously been adjudicated for a sexual offense against a minor, and, on December 2, 2012, defendant and Ashlynn Lilith Peters spent the night with Jordan Prince at his residence, allowing Jordan Prince to have access to Ashlynn Lilith Peters, thereby placing Ashlynn Lilith Peters in a situation in which Ashlynn Lilith Peters may suffer from physical injury, and on December 3, 2012, Ashlynn Lilith Peters suffered serious physical injury as a result of sexual abuse.

\*No probation or parole until the defendant has served no less than 15 years of such sentence.

COUNT 2

The Prosecuting Attorney of the County of St. Charles, State of Missouri, charges that the defendant, in violation of Section 565.021, RSMo, committed the class A felony of murder in the second degree, punishable upon conviction under Section 558.011, RSMo, in that on or about December 3, 2012, in the County of St. Charles, State of Missouri, Ashlynn Lilith Peters was killed by being strangled and anally sodomized as a result of the perpetration of the class A felony of abuse of a child under Section 568.060, RSMo committed by the defendant between the dates of September 1, 2012 and December 3, 2012, in the County of St. Charles, State of Missouri.

TIMOTHY A. LOHMAR  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI

BY: /s/ Jillian S. Anderson  
Jillian S. Anderson  
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney  
Missouri Bar No. 53918

# PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT

I, Detective Stepp, with the St. Charles Police Department, a law enforcement agency, state that the facts contained herein are true to my best knowledge and belief and that any false statements made are punishable by law.

1. On 9/1/12 - 12/3/12 (date of crime) at [REDACTED] in St. Charles City  
(location of crime)  
in St. Charles County, MO, Jessica Lynn Howell (AKA Peters) did:  
(name of suspect)

*On December 3, 2012, four-month old Ashlynn Lilith Peters, biological daughter of Jessica Lynn Howell, was killed by asphyxiation by neck pressure. She suffered petechial hemorrhages to her lower face, neck, chest and back. She further suffered contusions to her neck, under her chin and to her thymus. She sustained hemorrhage in the area of the thyroid, larynx and trachea. Ashlynn was also the victim of blunt force trauma to the left side of her head causing a laceration to her ear and a hemorrhage near her skull. Ashlynn suffered contusions to her chest, abdomen, left arm, back and legs. Ashlynn was sexually assaulted causing multiple tears to her anus, a massive laceration to her rectum with massive hematoma in the area of the pelvis. The injuries to the anus and rectum of Ashlynn were sufficient to eventually cause her death even without the strangulation.*

*Between September and December of 2012, the defendant placed Ashlynn in a situation where she could be subjected to injury by physical and sexual abuse.*

*In an interview, the defendant admitted that she was aware that, her boyfriend, Jordan L. Prince, who is presently under indictment for murder in the first degree, abuse of a child and forcible sodomy, had previously been adjudicated guilty for a sexual offense against a minor. The defendant further admitted that she was aware of this prior offense, had confirmed it through internet research, and had discussed it with Prince.*

*To compound the risk of physical and sexual abuse to Ashlynn, the defendant admitted that she, between the dates of September 15, 2012 and September 16, 2012, engaged in cellular text communications with Prince suggesting a willingness to allow him to engage in sexual activity with Ashlynn.*

*On December 2, 2012, the defendant took Ashlynn to Prince's home to spend the night. The defendant was with Prince and Ashlynn at Prince's home the morning that Ashlynn was strangled, struck and anally sodomized.*

## 2. DRUG CASES ONLY:

The lab report confirmed the substance to be \_\_\_\_\_  
and weighed \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

3. I have reasonable grounds to believe that the defendant will not appear upon the summons or is a danger to the crime victim, the community or any other person because:

Date: 06-17-2013

Report #: 12-10123

[Signature]  
Signature