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# IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT,

**IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| STATE OF UTAH, | CUSTODY STATUS: IN CUSTODY |
| Plaintiff,  vs. | INFORMATION  AND REQUEST FOR ARREST WARRANT |
| **BRAIDEN RILEY,**  **DOB:** (07/14/2002) | Case No. |
| Defendant. | Judge |

The undersigned, Special Agent Mick Spilker, of the Utah Attorney General’s Office, states up on information and belief, pursuant to an investigation and witness statements of Special Agent J. Shuler, Utah Attorney General’s Office, and Det. A. Baty, of Taylorsville Police Department that the above-listed defendant, BRAIDEN RILEY, either individually or as party to the offense, committed the following crimes:

COUNT 1: HUMAN TRAFFICKING OF A CHILD (CV), Utah Code Ann. Section 76-5-

308.5, a First-Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about January 24, 2022, in Salt Lake County, State of Utah, the defendant, BRAIDEN RILEY, did recruit, harbor, transport, obtain, patronize, or solicit CV for sexual exploitation.

COUNT 2: HUMAN TRAFFICKING OF A CHILD (CV), Utah Code Ann. Section 76-5-

308.5, a First-Degree Felony, as follows: That in or about December 2021, in Salt Lake County, State of Utah, the defendant, BRAIDEN RILEY, did recruit, harbor, transport, obtain, patronize, or solicit CV, a minor, for sexual exploitation.

COUNT 3: SODOMY ON A CHILD (CV), Utah Code Ann. § 76-5-403.1, a First-Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about January 24, 2022, in Salt Lake County, State of Utah, the defendant, BRAIDEN RILEY, engaged in any sexual act, with a person who is younger than14 years of age, involving the genitals or anus of the actor or the individual and the mouth or anus of either the actor or individual.

COUNT 4: SODOMY ON A CHILD (CV), Utah Code Ann. § 76-5-403.1 , a First-Degree Felony, as follows: That in or about December 2021, in Salt Lake County, State of Utah, the defendant, BRAIDEN RILEY, engaged in any sexual act, with a person who is younger than 14 years of age, involving the genitals or anus of the actor or the individual and the mouth or anus of either the actor or individual.

COUNT 5: SEXUAL ABUSE OF A CHILD (CV), in violation of Utah Code Annotated §76-5-404.1, a Second-Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about January 24, 2022 in Salt Lake County, State of Utah, the defendant, BRAIDEN RILEY, did, under circumstances not amounting to rape, object rape, forcible sodomy, or attempted rape or forcible sodomy, touch the anus, buttocks, pubic area, or any part of the genitals of any child, or touches the breast of a female child, or otherwise takes indecent liberties with a child, with intent to cause substantial emotional or bodily pain to any individual, or with the intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desires or any individual.

COUNT 6: SEXUAL ABUSE OF A CHILD (CV), in violation of Utah Code Annotated §76-5-404.1, a Second-Degree Felony, as follows: That in or about December 2021 in Salt Lake County, State of Utah, the defendant, BRAIDEN RILEY, did, under circumstances not amounting to rape, object rape, forcible sodomy, or attempted rape or forcible sodomy, touch the anus, buttocks, pubic area, or any part of the genitals of any child, or touches the breast of a female child, or otherwise takes indecent liberties with a child, with intent to cause substantial emotional or bodily pain to any individual, or with the intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desires or any individual.

COUNT 7: ENTICING A MINOR (CV), Utah Code Ann. Section 76-4-401, a Third-Degree Felony, as follows: On, about, or between December 2021 and February 2022, in Salt Lake County, State of Utah the Defendant, BRAIDEN RILEY, did (a) knowingly use the internet or text messaging to (b) solicit, seduce, or lure a minor or attempt to solicit, seduce, or lure a minor or a person the Defendant believed to be a minor to (c) engage in sexual activity that would be a second-degree felony violation of state criminal law.

DECLARATION OF PROBABLE CAUSE:

This INFORMATION is based upon evidence from Taylorsville Police Department Report # TY22-3610, A. Baty, CV, and CV2 and witness statements as indicated:

On February 2, 2022, Det. Baty with Taylorsville Police Department received information from DCFS about Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect involving two potential minors, Child Victim (CV) and Child Victim 2(CV2) The initial information was that on January 24, 2022, a 13-year-old female, identified as CV, performed oral sex on an unidentified 15-year-old male, in the presence of her 12-year-old friend, identified as CV2, in exchange for a nicotine vape and possibly marijuana. CV had met this individual through social media. The individual was later identified as Braiden RILEY (DOB 07/14/2002).

On February 9, 2022, CV was interviewed at the Children’s Justice Center. The interview was conducted in accordance with the National Institute of Children’s Health and Development (NICHD) guidelines. During the interview, CV disclosed that she performed oral sex on RILEY, whom she met him through social media and believed was 15 years old, on two separate occasions. CV disclosed that the first time, sometime around the end of December, CV met this individual for a nicotine vape and there was no previous discussion of sexual acts between them. RILEY picked CV up in his car, a silver Volkswagen Tiguan, from a street in her neighborhood and drove her to a church parking lot. While in the car, RILEY started to “make out” with CV and grabbed her neck and “choked” her a couple of times. CV asked RILEY for a vape, and Braiden told CV she had to “give him head” in exchange for the vape. CV clarified she sucked on RILEY’s penis. CV told RILEY she did not want to, but RILEY insisted she do so in exchange for the vape. RILEY pulled his penis out of his underwear and pushed CV’s head up and down on his penis. CV disclosed after she performed oral sex, RILEY put his hand down her pants but over the underwear and touched her vagina. CV attempted to remove RILEY’s hand and asked him to stop, but he would not. CV was eventually able to open the door and physically get out of the car, pulling his hand out from her pants.

CV disclosed that the second time, her friend, CV2, had repeatedly asked for RILEY’s Instagram because CV2 wanted to have sex with RILEY. CV did not want the same thing to happen to CV2 and did not immediately share RILEY’s Instagram account with CV2, but CV2 found it from CV’s cell phone and made plans to meet RILEY. CV did not want CV2 to get hurt and went with CV to meet RILEY. RILEY picked CV and CV2 up in the neighborhood and drove to the church parking lot; CV was in the front seat and CV2 was in the backseat. CV asked RILEY for a vape, and RILEY told CV she knew what she needed to do for a vape. There was a brief argument regarding who would pull RILEY’s pants down, and RILEY ultimately removed his penis from his underwear and pulled CV’s head toward his penis, and CV performed oral sex on RILEY. CV described she was kneeling over from the passenger seat and RILEY touched her buttocks and vagina over the clothes with his hand. CV stated while she performed oral sex on RILEY, CV2 was sitting in the backseat.

CV stated RILEY followed and messaged her on Instagram and suggested they meet. CV noted RILEY asked her to sneak out in the middle of the night multiple times, and she said no. CV stated RILEY asked for nude photos, but she said no, and RILEY sent her a photo of his penis through Instagram. CV identified RILEY’s Instagram account username as “braiden\_riley.” CV described RILEY is about 6’ 2” with an average build and has long black hair and a big (wide) face.

On February 14, 2022, CV2 was interviewed at the Children’s Justice Center. The interview with CV2 was conducted in accordance with the National Institute of Children’s Health and Development (NICHD) guidelines. During the interview, CV2 disclosed that prior to the incident, CV told CV2 she was going to “suck off a guy” for a vape. On the day of the incident, CV went to CV2’s house and told CV that the male, identified as RILEY was there and asked CV2 to come with her. CV2 stated RILEY picked them up in his car – CV sat in the front seat and CV2 was in the backseat of the car and drove to the church parking lot.

CV2 stated RILEY and CV were vaping, and CV2 was offered the vape. CV2 also noted RILEY had weed in his car. CV asked RILEY, “Can I just give you head now for the vape?” CV and RILEY briefly argued about who had to take out his “dick,” and RILEY ultimately took it out. CV2 sat in the car while CV gave RILEY “head.” CV2 clarified CV’s mouth touched RILEY’s “dick.”. CV2 stated they saw CV and her head going up and down and heard the noises. CV2 saw RILEY put his hand near where CV’s butt was, and afterward, CV told CV2 that RILEY was “stroking” her and put his hands down her pants. CV2 clarified the seat covered what RILEY was doing. CV2 stated when it was done, RILEY was looking for paper towels to clean up his “cum” and her saliva and gave some to CV. CV2 confirmed RILEY did give CV the vape. CV2 stated after they left and walked home, CV was crying because she did not want to do it but she is addicted to the vape.

CV2 advised they have not talked to RILEY since the incident, and RILEY has deleted messages from the conversation on Instagram. CV2 noted CV said RILEY deleted their messages as well.

On February 14, 2022, the mother of CV, came to the Taylorsville Police Department and released the cell phone that belongs to CV to police custody and signed an electronic device consent to search form. She advised she had downloaded the Instagram application on the cell phone and took screenshots of CV’s Instagram account which were on the cell phone and contained several sexually explicit photos and messages. Law enforcement conducted a preliminary physical search of the phone contents.

A preservation request was submitted for Instagram account “braiden\_riley” through Facebook’s Law Enforcement Requests system. On March 30, 2022, law enforcement received and reviewed the returned information in response to a search warrant on that account. For Instagram account “braiden\_riley” the account holder first name was “Braiden” and registered email address was braiden.rileyXXXX@XXXX.com. The account username at the time the record was generated was “beeadden\_” but also included previous username “braiden\_riley.” No other identifying information was provided. The records indicated the account had been disabled on March 17, 2022. The record included 1,173 pages of messages, although no messages were located between the target account and the accounts known to belong to the victims. Most, if not all, of the message threads were the target account contacting other accounts who it appeared he did not know. Throughout the message threads, the target invited other account holders to smoke weed and asked for sexually explicit pictures or to meet for oral sex. Many of the other accountholders stated they were eleven to fifteen years old, to which the target account stated he was fourteen to nineteen years old. The target account volunteers to provide “bud” and “carts” and asks to meet the unidentified account holder. The unidentified account holder states they are fourteen years old. The target account suggests they “make out” and states, “I bet I could make you cum in 2 mins haha.” The target account asks, “Sends me a pic of your pussy,” to which the account holder declines. A social message exchange between CV2 and RILEY was also located and appears to represent the exchange that occurred prior to CV and CV2 meeting up with RILEY at the church.

Law Enforcement searched local drivers licenses for RILEY, and located Utah drivers license depicting a male, 5’ 11” and 200 pounds, with blue eyes and brown hair. The attached photo depicted a Caucasian male with black hair and what could be described as a wide face. The license also contained an address. Law Enforcement searched for motor vehicles registered to RILEY, and located a silver 2020 Volkswagen Tiguan, bearing local license plate G498GJ. During the interviews with CV and CV2, the involved vehicle was described as a silver or gray Volkswagen with red interior. The registration was issued on March 9, 2021 with address 11251 S State Street, #I305 in Sandy. Law Enforcement searched the phone number that was located on the Instagram account through Accurint, a law enforcement database. The phone number returned to a Braiden Riley (DOB 07/14/2002). The most recent address listed was 845 East 9000 South in Sandy.

On April 13, 2022, law enforcement searched the area of 845 East 9000 South, which is the Alpine Meadows apartment complex, for the Volkswagen Tiguan, and located the vehicle in a covered parking stall off Sandia Hills Drive. Viewing the vehicle from a distance, law enforcement observed the vehicle had a red steering wheel. Law enforcement later confirmed that the Accurint record included an address for Braiden Riley at 825 East Sandia Hills Drive, Apt. 1214 in Sandy, which is located in the Alpine Meadows apartment complex.

A judicial order was given to Comcast/Xfinity for subscriber information related to nine different IP addresses included in the information returned from Instagram regarding the Instagram account “braiden\_riley.” Comcast returned subscriber information with listed service and billing address at 825 East Sandia Hills Drive, Apt. 1214 in Sandy, UT, 84094.

There is substantial danger of a breach of the peace, injury to persons or property, or danger to the community, based on the conduct alleged herein as well as the Defendant’s prolific conduct on social media. Furthermore, the Defendant is believed to have recently been involved in an attempted kidnapping of two minor children in Sandy, UT. For the above- enumerated reasons, it is reasonable to believe that he would not otherwise appear on a summons and the State asks that he continue to be held without bail.

Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. Section 78B-18a-106 (2018), I declare under criminal penalty under the law of Utah that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signed on the 16th day of June, 2022.

/s/ *Mick Spilker*

SPECIAL AGENT MICK SPILKER

Utah Attorney General’s Office

SECURE Strike Force

Authorized for presentment and filing on 16th day of June, 2022.

SEAN D. REYES

Utah Attorney General

/s/*Kaytlin V. Beckett*

KAYTLIN V. BECKETT

Assistant Utah Attorney General