

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

Case No.: 23-M21F-00002

Krista Anne Brunecz
Defendant
Address: 41 Hickory Lane Apt # 108
Weston, WV 26452

Misdemeanor
 Felony

Date of Birth: 04 / 21 / 91 Driver's license # [REDACTED] Last four digits of SS# [REDACTED]

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the undersigned complainant, upon my oath or affirmation, state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. On or about 12 / 30 / 22 in Lewis County, West Virginia, in violation of W.Va. Code (cite specific section, subsection, and/or subdivision as applicable) Death of a child by parent by child abuse 61-8D-2a(a) the defendant did (state statutory language of offense) see attached:

I further state that this complaint is based on the following facts: see attached:

The defendant is/has:

- The victim's spouse or ex-spouse
- A parent or guardian of the victim
- A child in common with the victim
- Living with the victim or had lived with the victim
- A person who may be classified as a spouse, parent or guardian to the victim
- None of the above connections to the victim

Continued on attached sheet? yes no

Complainant (who appears before magistrate):

Jeremy D Jenkins
Name
Address: Mountain Region Drug & Violent Crime Task Force
P. O Box 3022, Elkins, WV 26241

Phone: (304) 637 - 2868

Corporal/Task Force Officer

Office or title, if any

[Signature] (TFO) 1/5/23
Complainant Signature

On this complaint, sworn or affirmed before me and signed this date by complainant in my presence, the item(s) checked below apply:

- Probable cause found
- Summons issued
- Warrant issued
- Warrantless arrest
- No probable cause found

[Signature]
Magistrate Signature

1/5/23
Date

- Return
- Defendant
- File
- Complainant
- Prosecutor



CPL. J. D. JENKINS
MOUNTAIN REGION DRUG & VIOLENT CRIMES TASK FORCE
P. O. BOX 3022
ELKINS, WV 26241
304-637-2868
WV ORI # WV0490600

Criminal Complaint Narrative

§61-8D-2a. Death of a child by a parent, guardian or custodian or other person by child abuse; criminal penalties.

(a) If any parent, guardian or custodian maliciously and intentionally inflicts upon a child under his or her care, custody or control substantial physical pain, illness or any impairment of physical condition by other than accidental means, thereby causing the death of such child, then such parent, guardian or custodian is guilty of a felony.

On Friday, December 30, 2022, at approximately 0731 Gilmer/Lewis 911 had received a call from a female caller identified as Jessica Kirkpatrick, who lives at Weston Arbors Apartments. Kirkpatrick stated that she is calling for her neighbor's mother, who was identified as Lorrie Clevenger. The caller stated that there is blood all over the apartment and a three (3) month old baby is dead. Kirkpatrick identified the female in the apartment as Krista Brunecz.

Sgt. Zach Lopez and Chief Deputy Mike Cayton, both of the Lewis County Sheriff's Department, responded to the scene arriving at approximately 0744 hours. Chief Deputy Cayton stated that when he arrived inside the apartment, they observed one (1) female kneeling in front of the couch with a lifeless infant in her arms, one (1) female on the couch with excessive blood running down her head and chest. Also observed on a chair next to the couch was a bloody butcher knife. The scene was secured and both Brunecz and baby were rushed to Stonewall Hospital for treatment.

The undersigned officer was directed to Stonewall Memorial Hospital to follow up with both patients. While at the hospital, the undersigned officer was advised that the three (3) month old infant was pronounced dead at approximately 0814 hours due to her injuries. The undersigned officer identified the female infant as (LS) with a date of birth of 09/16/2022. The undersigned officer collected the clothes of the infant, observing several holes in the shirt and the chest area of (LS) that had appeared to be inflicted by a knife. Brunecz who is the mother of the child was being treated for self-inflicted stab wounds to the head, chest and wrist. Once stable she was flown to Ruby Hospital for further treatment.

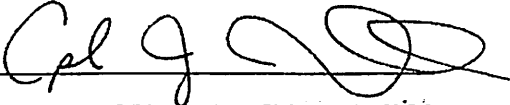
The undersigned officer conducted a recorded interview with Lorrie Clevenger, the mother of Brunecz and grandmother of the infant female (LS). The undersigned officer was provided with information on Clevenger's cell phone from the conversation that took place at approximately 0650 hours on Friday morning. At approximately 0712 hours, Brunecz had sent a photograph to Clevenger depicting Brunecz

holding (LS) with blood running down her head to chest area. There is a large saturation of blood around the head of (LS). (LS) appears to be lifeless in the arms of Brunecz and also in the photograph you can see blood on the back and arm of (LS).

On Monday, January 2, 2023 at approximately 1328 hours, the undersigned officer met with and interviewed Debbie Murray a nurse practitioner with Stonewall Memorial Hospital. Murray was called for a trauma call and took care of Brunecz. While Murray was speaking with Brunecz she had asked her what had happened. During this conversation with Brunecz she stated that she had "stabbed her baby, then herself". Murray had then asked if anyone else was involved, Brunecz stated "No". Murray stated to the undersigned officer that on three (3) occasions she asked Brunecz if she had done this with the answer being "Yes". Murray stated that when she asked Brunecz if her intentions were to kill her baby, she stated "Yes". Murray further stated that she asked Brunecz if her intentions were to kill herself, and she replied "Yes".

On Tuesday, January 3, 2023 the undersigned officer attended the autopsy of (LS) by Doctor Morris of the Office of Chief Medical Examiners of West Virginia. Doctor Morris advised the undersigned officer that the heart and both lungs of (LS) had been pierced by the knife used in this incident. He had also confirmed that there were several stab wounds to the chest of (LS) causing her death.

Based on the following information, Krista Anne Brunecz did maliciously and intentionally inflict substantial physical pain by stabbing (LS) multiple times with a kitchen butcher knife causing her death. Brunecz attempted to take her own life with the same butcher knife but was unsuccessful.



CPL. J. D. JENKINS (TFO)