

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR
ADAIR COUNTY

This Complaint and Affidavit is to be:

- ☒ Filed with Court Clerk (cc: CA)
☐ Submitted to County Attorney
☐ Filed with JCO - Defendant is a Juvenile

Form Number: **2026-03000461**Arrest Date: **08/18/2026**

THE STATE OF IOWA

VS.

OFFENDER

Last REED		First AUSTIN		Middle NICHOLS		Suffix	
Address 200 SW 6TH STREET APT 25				City STUART		State IA	Zip Code 50250
DL# [REDACTED]	State IA	DL Class C	DL Endorsements		DL Restrictions		
Date of Birth [REDACTED]	Gender MALE	Race WHITE - W		Ethnicity NOT OF HISPANIC ORIGIN - N			
Height 6' 00"	Weight 200 LBS	Eye Color BLUE - BLU		Hair Color			

VEHICLE

Year	Make	Model		Color		
VIN	CDL Req?	Pass End Req?	HazMat End Req?	Style		
Plate/Registration #		State	Year	US DOT Number	ICC/MC #	

OFFENSE

State ☒	County ☐	Local ☐	Code Section 707.11(5)(A)	Crime Description ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A PEACE OFFICER		Speed	in	Zone
Class FELB			Serious P.I. ☐	Fatal Accident ☐	Civil Damage Assessment ☐	Other ☐		
Location Type 20 - RESIDENCE/HOME								
Literal Description 200 SW 6TH ST								
Address 200 SW 6TH STREET				City STUART		State IA	Zip Code 50250	
Is Date and Time of Incident Known? YES		Incident Date or Low Range 08/18/2026		Upper Date Range	Incident Time or Low Range 15:34		Upper Time Range	

STATUS OF OFFENDER/JUVENILE

☒ TAKEN INTO CUSTODY	CUSTODY 1 - JAILED	☐ SUMMONS TO APPEAR (Citation Issued)
☐ WARRANT REQUESTED	☐ NO CONTACT ORDER REQUESTED	☐ RELEASED TO PARENT/GUARDIAN

NARRATIVE

Narrative of Offense Committed

On or about the above stated date and time, the Defendant did

unlawfully and intentionally attempt to cause the death of Trooper Chase Carruthers with the knowledge that Trooper Chase Carruthers was a peace officer acting in the officer's official capacity, and not under circumstances which would justify the person's actions, the person does any act by which the person expects to set in motion a force or chain of events which will cause or result in the death of the other person

VICTIM INFORMATION (Optionally displayed, especially if NCO is requested)

Last CARRUTHERS	First CHASE	Middle	Suffix	
Business/Organization/State/County/Municipality Name				
Address 3710 HIGHWAY 30		City DENISON	State IA	Zip 51442

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF IOWA, ADAIR COUNTY

I, the undersigned, being duly sworn, state that all facts contained in this Complaint and Affidavit, known by me or told to me by other reliable persons form the basis for my belief that the defendant committed this crime

State all facts and persons relied upon supporting elements of alleged crime

On August 18, 2026, at approximately 3:34 p.m., dispatchers received multiple 911 calls regarding an active shooter in Stuart in the 200 block of SW 6th Street.

A witness was standing near a gazebo near the above address, talking to a female when the defendant walked up behind them and shot the female. The defendant then pointed the shotgun at the witness and pulled the trigger. The witness heard a click and the shotgun malfunctioned. The witness fled the area. Several 911 calls were received about the shooting. Officers arrived on scene and encountered the defendant still in the area. The defendant fired at law enforcement striking an Iowa State Trooper. Witnesses observed the defendant shoot the Trooper. The suspect was taken into custody by officers on scene without further incident. The suspect had weapons in his possession while being arrested by law enforcement. The Iowa State Trooper was transported to a Des Moines area hospital where the trooper underwent emergency surgery.

BL

PAULSEN, BLAIR

I148

Signature of Complainant or Officer, Officer Name & Number

GENERAL PROBABLE CAUSE

Defendant Implicated

02 - CAUGHT IN ACT, 03 - ADMISSION/STATEMENTS, 07 - IDENTIFIED BY WITNESSES, 08 - CRIME OBSERVED BY OFFICERS, 09 - NEAR SCENE OF CRIME, 10 - POSSESSION/DISPLAY/USE OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS, 11 - POSSESSION

Operating Motor Vehicle in County

Other Physical Evidence

Attempted To Inflict Injury

STATE OF IOWA,

ADAIR COUNTY

	Subscribed and sworn to before me by the person(s) signing the Complaint and Affidavit(s) on 08/18/2026	
	Notary Name MICHAEL STOFER	Signature of Verifying Party <i>M Stofer 1-4</i>
	Commission Number 822680	
	My Commission Expires 12/11/2028	☐ Peace Officer ☒ Notary ☐ Prosecuting Attorney