

**CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

Commonwealth of Virginia

RECEIVED BY MAIL 1/5/23

RULES 3A:3 AND 7C:3

Franklin City

CITY OR COUNTY

- General District Court
- Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court

Under penalty of perjury, I, the undersigned Complainant swear or affirm that I have reason to believe that the Accused committed a criminal offense, on or about

December 19, 2022

DATE OFFENSE OCCURRED

in the  City  County  Town

of Franklin

**CRIMINAL COMPLAINT**

ACCUSED: Name, Description, Address/Location

Drayton, Tashawnda Nicole

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME

Franklin, Virginia 23851

COMPLETE DATA BELOW IF KNOWN

RACE	SEX	BORN			HT.		WGT.	EYES	HAIR
		MO.	DAY	YR.	FT.	IN.			
B	F	09	30	1998	5	11	250	BRC	BLK

SSN

[ ] Complainant is not a law-enforcement officer or animal control officer. Authorization prior to issuance of felony arrest warrant given by

- Commonwealth's attorney
- Law-enforcement agency having jurisdiction over alleged offense

NAME OF PERSON AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF WARRANT

DATE AND TIME AUTHORIZATION GIVEN

- Malicious Wounding (§ 18.2-51)
- Use of a Firearm in a Felony (§ 18.2-53.1)
- Felon in Possession of Firearm (§ 18.2-308.2)
- Conspiracy to Commit Malicious Wounding (§ 18.2-22 / § 18.2-51)

I base my belief on the following facts: (Print ALL information clearly.)

On the evening of December 21, 2022, Detective P. S. Trimble, interviewed Ronnel Copeland at Sentara Norfolk General Hospital (SNGH). Mr. Copeland reported that on or around December 19, 2022, he was in the 400-block of South High Street when a red vehicle pulled up and a male and female suspect who were later identified as Maurice Underdown and Tashawnda Drayton assaulted/beat him. Mr. Copeland reported that Mr. Underdown attempted to take his wallet during the assault. Mr. Copeland reported that Ms. Drayton displayed a silver Glock-style pistol which she used to hit the back of his head during the assault. The firearm was used in the malicious assault by being used to strike Mr. Copeland. Notably, Mr. Copeland is a 73 years old, approximately 5'2 ft and 110 lbs. Ms. Drayton is 24 years old and approximately 5'11 ft and 250 lbs. Joe Griffin, Jr. reported that he located Mr. Copeland lying by a bush in front of his 410 South High Street residence. Travis Jordan, Mr. Copeland's son, reported that he and Mr. Griffin drove Mr. Copeland to Sentara Obici Hospital; however, Mr. Copeland was then transferred to Sentara Norfolk General Hospital for further treatment due to the extent of his injuries. When I spoke with Mr. Copeland at the hospital, I observed that his left hand and left ring and pinky finger were wrapped in a medical wrap. I also observed that Mr. Copeland appeared to have an indentation on his right cheek, bruising on the top of his chest, additional bandages on his left arm, a bandage beneath his left ear, as well as what appeared to be a minor cut on the lower left side of his forehead. I later spoke with an individual who identified herself as Sharae Lawrence, Mr. Copeland's daughter. Ms. Lawrence informed me that SNGH medical staff informed her that Mr. Copeland had suffered a broken left hand and broken and fractured jaw. When I conducted a follow-up interview with Mr. Copeland on December 28, 2022, after he was released from the hospital, I discovered that since his assault, Mr. Copeland has experienced difficulty walking and maintaining his balance, and has been using a walker to help him do so. Per Ms. Drayton's criminal history, she is a convicted felon.

The statements above are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

In making this complaint, I have read and fully understand the following:

- By swearing to these facts, I agree to appear in court and testify if a warrant or summons is issued.
- The charge in this warrant cannot be dismissed except by the court, even at my request.

Detective P. S. Trimble: #0138

NAME OF COMPLAINANT (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE)  
(PRINT CLEARLY)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day.

01/05/2023-08:29 AM

DATE AND TIME

*[Signature]*  
SIGNATURE OF COMPLAINANT

I, the undersigned clerk or deputy clerk of the above named court, do hereby certify and certify pursuant to VA Code 8.01-389 on this date, that the document to which this authentic signature is a true and correct copy of a record of this court, made in performance of my official duties.

M. Merrill