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IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT, SALT LAKE DEPARTMENT  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SALT LAKE, STATE OF UTAH

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THE STATE OF UTAH

Plaintiff,

vs.

**AMBER LEE LEARY**  
**DOB: 06/05/1996**  
**2430 East 10305 South**  
**Sandy, UT 84092**  
**OTN#: 68314228**  
**SO#: 458268**  
**SID#/BCI#: 1507876**  
**Booking#: 25032025**

Defendant.

**BELONE, TYREL SCOTT**  
**DOB: 02/14/1997**

Co-Defendant(s)

Screened by: HOMICIDE TEAM  
Assigned to: TO BE ASSIGNED

**INFORMATION**

DAO # 25.013714

BAIL: NO BAIL WARRANT

WARRANT/RELEASE: **IN JAIL PRD**  
**07/10/2025**

Case No.

Co-Defendant DAO# 25.012715

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The undersigned Detective MARCELO RAPELA - Sandy City Police Department, Agency Case No. SY2025-30533, upon a written declaration states on information and belief that the defendant, AMBER LEE LEARY, committed the crime(s) of:

COUNT 1

ATTEMPTED AGGRAVATED MURDER, 76-5-202, a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about June 1, 2025 through June 28, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant did, as a party to the offense, attempt to intentionally or knowingly cause the death of another under any of the following circumstances:

the attempted homicide was committed incident to an act, scheme, course of conduct, or criminal episode during which the actor committed or attempted to commit aggravated child abuse as defined in Subsection 76-5-109.2(3)(a), or child torture; or  
the attempted homicide was committed in an especially heinous, atrocious, cruel, or exceptionally depraved manner, any of which must be demonstrated by physical torture, serious physical abuse, or serious bodily injury of the victim before death; or  
the victim was younger than 14 years of age.

#### COUNT 2

AGGRAVATED CHILD ABUSE - INTENTIONALLY OR KNOWINGLY, 76-5-109.2(2)+(3A), a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about June 1, 2025 through June 28, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant did, as a party to the offense, intentionally or knowingly inflict upon a child, serious physical injury or having the care or custody of such child, caused or permitted another to intentionally or knowingly inflict serious physical injury upon a child.

#### COUNT 3

CHILD TORTURE, 76-5-109.4, a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about June 1, 2025 through June 28, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant did, as a party to the offense, intentionally or knowingly inflict upon a child, or having the care or custody of a child, intentionally or knowingly caused or permitted another to inflict upon the child:

- (a) a serious injury that was inflicted in an exceptionally cruel or exceptionally depraved manner that caused the child to experience extreme physical or psychological pain or anguish; or
- (b) a serious injury, or more than one serious injury, as part of a course of conduct or over a prolonged period of time.

THIS INFORMATION IS BASED ON EVIDENCE OBTAINED FROM THE FOLLOWING WITNESSES:

KRISTY KRIEG, RON BUTLER, BRANDON COLTON, MARCELO RAPELA, DAPHNE GLICK, ZAKARY HENRICHSEN and C.W.

#### DECLARATION OF PROBABLE CAUSE:

Your Declarant bases the Information upon the following:

The statement of Officer Butler with Sandy Police Department that he and other officers responded to a call that came in at approximately 7:13 a.m. to a residence in Sandy, Utah, on June 28, 2025, on a report of an assault of a three-year-old child (hereinafter C.W.) AMBER LEARY was standing outside the residence and directed officers to go through the garage and down the stairs into a basement apartment of the house. LEARY is the mother of C.W.

Officer Butler walked into a bedroom and observed who was later identified to be C.W., lying on her back with no clothes except a pair of underwear. C.W. did not appear to be conscious or alert. Sgt. Colton put his ear next to C.W.'s mouth and could feel her breathing. Officer Butler observed C.W.'s stomach moving and felt a pulse on her right wrist. Officer Butler attempted to talk to C.W. and placed his hands on her stomach and chest area to elicit a response; however, C.W. did not speak

or move, and Officer Butler observed no movement in C.W.'s eyes. Officer Butler also observed several bruises on C.W.'s face, just below both eyes, she had a greenish-blue color over her whole body, and it appeared as though she was not getting enough oxygen. Sgt. Colton stated that he saw multiple bruises all over her body. C.W. was transported from Alta View Hospital to Primary Children's Hospital via Life Flight.

Detective Glick interviewed defendant TYREL BELONE on June 28, 2025. Post-Miranda, BELONE stated that he is a traveling nurse from Utah but had been working in New Hampshire for seven months, from October 2024 through March 2025. BELONE stated he has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and has been a nurse for almost five years. BELONE said he and LEARY met in New Hampshire in 2024 while working at a local hospital. They relocated to Utah at the beginning of May 2025. BELONE has family in Utah. LEARY's closest family is in South Carolina, and she was a corrections officer for six years in New Hampshire.

According to BELONE, C.W. just turned three at the end of April. They started potty training her before moving to Utah. When they moved to Utah, C.W. was doing fine and could tell them when she needed to go; however, in the past couple of weeks, C.W. had regressed and was taking off her pants and defecating in the corner. BELONE said C.W. had been combative, biting and scratching, and took a chunk out of BELONE'S nose a few days ago. BELONE said LEARY started a new job, and for the last couple of weeks, BELONE has been up from 4-5 a.m. trying to make it easier for LEARY to get up and go to work.

BELONE stated that on June 27, 2025, LEARY worked from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and arrived home around 6:30 p.m. Around 1 p.m., C.W. pulled her pants off, pooped in the corner, and peed everywhere. BELONE said he was trying to get C.W. to calm down, and she bit him on the forearm. BELONE sent C.W. to her room and spanked her. BELONE put C.W. in her room and put on a movie to try to calm her down. When LEARY got home, C.W. got out of her room, was fed, and watched a movie. BELONE said LEARY went to bed because she had work. BELONE stated that around midnight, C.W. peed on the ground, and BELONE had to wake up LEARY to help. BELONE said they got C.W. cleaned up and put her into BELONE and LEARY's bed, and he slept on the couch. BELONE stated that around 4:30 a.m. C.W. got up, pulled off her underwear, and pooped in the corner. BELONE woke LEARY up to help him clean up. BELONE stated that around 5:30-5:40, just before LEARY left for work, he picked C.W. up and threw her on the mattress. C.W. bounced and "ricocheted." BELONE said C.W. contacted the bed, and her head hit the wall. BELONE further stated that when he threw C.W., her body skimmed the bed, and it was "like a rock skipping over water." BELONE described that he grabbed C.W.'s left forearm and left leg and threw her face up. C.W.'s body was perpendicular to the bed, and she contacted the bed with her back. C.W. spun and hit the wall with the right side of her head and face, which took most of the impact.

BELONE said he checked C.W. out and stated that she was breathing fine, her heart rate was steady, and her lungs sounded fine, but she wasn't "really responding." BELONE said when LEARY was about to leave for work, he told LEARY that they needed to fix this, and BELONE had been telling her for weeks. LEARY was on her way to work, and BELONE called her and said he thought she needed to come home. BELONE said he called his mother, who is a nurse practitioner, for advice. BELONE believes his mom is the one who called EMS. BELONE admitted to grabbing C.W. by the hips and giving her bruises a couple of times and that the most recent time was June 27, 2025.

Detective Glick asked BELONE about the "raccoon eyes" on C.W., and BELONE admitted to spanking C.W. four to five times in that incident. Later, BELONE said that he used an open hand to strike C.W. high on the cheekbone, that he hit her once or twice on each side, and that it was probably "pretty hard." BELONE said that C.W. cried pretty hard when he hit her, and LEARY was in the bedroom when that happened.

Detective Glick asked BELONE about punching C.W. in the face. BELONE stated, "I have knocked her a couple times" and confirmed it was with a closed fist. BELONE said it was in C.W.'s cheekbone and forehead, mostly, and stated that C.W. cried when he punched her in the cheekbone. BELONE said most of the time, he punched her in the butt and said that one-time BELONE gave C.W. a backhand in the bathroom, and she fell.

Detective Glick asked more about the time BELONE hit C.W. with a closed fist. BELONE stated that he hit C.W. with a closed fist in response to C.W. attacking him and gouging his nose when he went to clean up after C.W. pooped in a corner. BELONE punched C.W. in the temple and told her to stop and let him clean up the mess. BELONE also said that LEARY has never physically gotten between him and C.W.

Detective Henrichsen and Detective Glick spoke with LEARY. LEARY stated that she and BELONE moved to Utah on May 1, 2025. LEARY said that she is a CNA and that BELONE is a traveling nurse. On the morning of June 28, 2025, LEARY stated that she left for work at about 5:30 a.m. and was about halfway to work when BELONE called her and said, "You need to come. I think C.W. needs to go to the hospital." LEARY asked what happened, and BELONE said, "Just come home." LEARY returned home and found C.W. unresponsive on her bed in her bedroom. C.W. had slept in LEARY'S bed the previous night but was fine when LEARY left in the morning. LEARY described C.W. as "dead with a heartbeat." LEARY said BELONE told her he had thrown C.W. on the bed, and she ricocheted and hit the wall. LEARY stated that BELONE told his mom in front of her that he threw C.W. directly into the wall.

LEARY stated that BELONE called his mother, Ginger, and said, "I think we need help." Ginger asked to see the baby on Facetime and saw C.W. unresponsive. Ginger said, "You have to take her to the hospital," and, "If you don't take her, you will both go to jail." According to LEARY, when Ginger asked to do Facetime, BELONE refused and briefly left the room. LEARY started Facetime when BELONE briefly left the room, long enough for Ginger to see C.W. was unresponsive, then returned to a regular phone call. LEARY said that BELONE wouldn't let her call 911 and said things like, "If you call, I'll go to jail, you don't have any money, you don't have any friends." LEARY said, "What if she dies?" and BELONE responded, "She'll be fine." LEARY told BELONE she needed to have a smoke, so she stepped outside, called 911, and texted Ginger their address.

LEARY stated that before June 2025, BELONE was "pleasant and nice." BELONE started getting madder about potty training C.W., and he hated it when C.W. would cry. LEARY stated that on the previous Sunday, June 22, 2025, she was at work and received a text from BELONE at 7:25 a.m. that said, "I am going to murder her." LEARY thought that C.W. had had an accident and she hadn't come home from work. LEARY said that at about 10:33 a.m., she received another text from BELONE saying, "I am going to crack her skull." LEARY also described a text message from

BELONE saying, "I'm finished with her, we can't have a life together with her being like this, and now hearing her voice makes me want to kill her." LEARY said she got home from work around 6:30-7:00 p.m. and found C.W. with her eyes bruised and swollen shut and a big bruise on the right side of her head. LEARY said she asked BELONE what happened, and he stated, "It's been an awful day, she's shitting and pissing everywhere." LEARY stated that BELONE told her that he hit C.W. with an open backhand. LEARY reported that she stayed home with C.W. from Monday through Thursday that week, and she didn't take C.W. out because of all the bruises on her face. LEARY said BELONE'S mood was getting worse in June and thought this happened because she had to leave for work all day, and he had to take care of C.W. while she was gone.

LEARY also stated that BELONE had spanked C.W. on four to five occasions since approximately the beginning of June. LEARY said that BELONE would spank C.W. so hard in the butt she would fall and have little quarter-sized bruises on her butt and said this happened toward the beginning of June. LEARY said on Friday, June 27, 2025, after she got home from work, LEARY noticed a bruise on C.W.'s side that looked like a rectangle. According to LEARY, BELONE told her that he hit C.W. in the side with an ice pack.

Detective M. Yoakum did a download of BELONE'S cell phone pursuant to a warrant that was issued on June 28, 2025. According to Detective Yoakum, the following text messages were found on BELONE'S phone:

BELONE 6/21/2025 10:26:26 AM:

She shit her pants and bit me. Find her a new home or I'm leaving.

BELONE 6/21/2025 11:13:02 AM:

That's not what we're talking about. These issues have been ongoing and you refuse to acknowledge them but now they've come to a breaking point and you're still ignoring the problem. I'll pack my stuff today and leave when you get home so you can deal with the retarded child who just bit my face and rubbed her shit everywhere.

BELONE 6/22/2025 7:26:56 AM:

She has shit in her mouth and she's fucking screaming. I'm going to murder her.

LEARY 6/22/2025 7:29:01 AM:

I'm literally so sorry u have to deal with this. During the week other than my interview and my meeting for this job I'll be 100% of the time. You need a break and again I feel so bad

BELONE 6/22/2025 7:30:14 AM

She needs to go.

LEARY 6/22/2025 7:31:11 AM

I'm trying

BELONE 6 /22/2025 7:39:18 AM

She is pissing on the floor. No school will take her like this. She is acting completely feral and I'm going to break her nose.

BELONE 6/22/2025 10:34:18 AM:  
Then come get her. I'm about to crack her skull.

LEARY 6/22/2025 10:35:39 AM:  
I can't leave work

Dr. Antoinette Laskey with Primary Children's Safe and Healthy Families (SHF) evaluated C.W. on June 28, 2025. According to Dr Laskey's report, "C.W. has significant bruising to multiple body surfaces and planes. The number and distribution of these injuries are more than what is expected in a developmentally appropriate toddler such as C.W." Dr. Laskey's report further states, "additional evaluation has identified complex skull fracture with extensive soft tissue injury, subgaleal hemorrhage, subdural hemorrhage with thrombosed bridging vein injury and extensive cutaneous injuries in the face of reported inflicted trauma on more than one occasion." Additionally, Dr. Laskey stated, "This child is at high risk of further injury or death if returned to the hands of the caregiver who inflicted these injuries. C.W.'s current status is guarded." C.W. is still in the Intensive Care Unit at Primary Children's Hospital in a medically induced coma.

#### MOTION FOR PRETRIAL DETENTION:

Pursuant to Utah Code 77-20-201(1) the State requests that Defendant be held without bail until further notice in this matter on the following grounds:

The defendant is charged with several first-degree felonies and there is substantial evidence supporting the charge and clear and convincing evidence that the defendant would constitute a substantial danger to any other individual or to the community, or is likely to flee the jurisdiction of the court, if released on bail. See the probable cause statement. Both defendants have only been in the state a short period, have few ties to this community, and based on the serious nature of these charges pose a flight risk. Despite the serious nature of the injuries to C.W., both defendants, having medical background and training, failed to act in getting the necessary help for C. W.

The defendants, in this matter, are charged with three first-degree felonies for allegations of abuse spanning at least a week. When law enforcement was called to the residence of the defendants, they observed the victim with multiple bruises on her body, and she was barely breathing.

SHF noted the injuries the victim sustained should be considered consistent with inflicted trauma (child abuse) and that the victim is at high risk of further injury or death if returned to the hands of the caregiver who inflicted the injuries. Dr. Laskey stated during the Multi-Disciplinary Team screening of this case that C.W. would have died from her injuries if she had not been brought to the hospital.

The actions of both defendants are egregious and concerning. While Defendant BELONE committed these extreme acts of violence, Defendant LEARY made the choice to watch the abuse happen, made the choice to allow the abuse to happen, made the choice not to seek medical care when needed, and made the choice not to seek help from professionals or law enforcement despite the victim's extreme visible injuries.

The defendants are clear risks to the safety and well-being of the victim, and the State believes that should they be released from custody and the victim returned to their care, the victim will be in grave danger of suffering further abuse or death at the hands of her caretakers. Based on the serious nature of the allegations, the State requests the defendants be held in custody without bail.

Pursuant to Utah Code Annotated § 78B-18a-106 (2018) I declare under criminal penalty of the State of Utah that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my belief and knowledge.

Executed on: 8th day of July, 2025

/s/ MARCELO RAPELA  
Declarant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of July, 2025

Authorized for presentment and filing:

SIM GILL, District Attorney

/s/ Vincent Meister  
Deputy District Attorney  
8th day of July, 2025  
VM / AW / DAO # 25.013714

**OTHER PENDING CASES FOR THE DEFENDANT**

Court	Court Case #	Trial Judge	DAO #	Charge
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