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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.

**EFRAIN MONROY-LARA**

**DOB: 11/01/1994**

**AKA: Efrain Jose Monroy-Lara**

**OTN#: 68278043**

**SO#: 457263**

**SID#/BCI#:**

**Booking#: 25024666**

Defendant.

Screened by: JENNIFER ZELENY  
Assigned to: TO BE ASSIGNED

**INFORMATION**

DAO # 25.008974

BAIL: NO BAIL WARRANT

WARRANT/RELEASE: IN JAIL - PRD  
05/23/2025

Case No.

The undersigned Detective JOURDEN DEWITT - West Valley City Police Department, Agency Case No. WV25-18672, upon a written declaration states on information and belief that the defendant, EFRAIN MONROY-LARA, committed the crime(s) of:

COUNT 1

AGGRAVATED KIDNAPPING (Dangerous Weapon), 76-5-302(2)+(3B), a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant, as a party to the offense, did in the course of committing a kidnapping:

(a) uses or threatens to use a dangerous weapon; or

(b) acts with the intent to:

(i) hold the victim for ransom or reward, as a shield or hostage, or to compel a third person to engage in particular conduct or to forbear from engaging in particular conduct;

(ii) facilitate the commission, attempted commission, or flight after commission or attempted commission of a felony;

(iii) hinder or delay the discovery of or reporting of a felony;

- (iv) inflict bodily injury on or to terrorize the victim or another individual;
- (v) interfere with the performance of any governmental or political function; or
- (vi) commit a sexual offense as described in Title 76, Chapter 5, Part 4, Sexual Offenses.

NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 76-3-203.8 that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided in that section because the above offense was committed with a dangerous weapon.

#### COUNT 2

CHILD KIDNAPPING (Dangerous Weapon), 76-5-301.1, a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant, as a party to the offense, did intentionally or knowingly, without authority of law, and by any means and in any manner, seized, confined detained, or transported a child without the consent of the child's parent or guardian, or the consent of a person acting in loco parentis.

NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 76-3-203.8 that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided in that section because the above offense was committed with a dangerous weapon.

#### COUNT 3

AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ASSAULT (Dangerous Weapon), 76-5-405, a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant did , (a) in the course of a rape, object rape, forcible sodomy, or forcible sexual abuse,

(i) use, or threaten the victim with the use of, a dangerous weapon as defined in Utah Code Section 76-1-601;

(ii) compel, or attempt to compel, the victim to submit to rape, object rape, forcible sodomy, or forcible sexual abuse, by threat of kidnapping, death, or serious bodily injury to be inflicted imminently on any person; or

(iii) receive aid or abetment from one or more persons;

(b) in the course of an attempted rape, attempted object rape, or attempted forcible sodomy,

(i) cause serious bodily injury to any person;

(ii) use, or threaten the victim with the use of, a dangerous weapon as defined in Section 76-1-601;

(iii) attempt to compel the victim to submit to rape, object rape, or forcible sodomy, by threat of kidnapping, death, or serious bodily injury to be inflicted imminently on any person; or

(iv) receive aid or abetment from one or more persons; or

(c) in the course of an attempted forcible sexual abuse:

(i) cause serious bodily injury to any person;

(ii) use, or threaten the victim with the use of, a dangerous weapon as defined in Section 76-1-601;

(iii) attempt to compel the victim to submit to forcible sexual abuse, by threat of kidnapping, death, or serious bodily injury to be inflicted imminently on any person; or

(iv) receive aid or abetment from one or more persons.

NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 76-3-203.8 that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided in that section because the above offense was committed with a dangerous weapon. To Wit: Object rape with gun

COUNT 4

AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ASSAULT (Dangerous Weapon), 76-5-405, a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant did , (a) in the course of a rape, object rape, forcible sodomy, or forcible sexual abuse,

(i) use, or threaten the victim with the use of, a dangerous weapon as defined in Utah Code Section 76-1-601;

(ii) compel, or attempt to compel, the victim to submit to rape, object rape, forcible sodomy, or forcible sexual abuse, by threat of kidnapping, death, or serious bodily injury to be inflicted imminently on any person; or

(iii) receive aid or abetment from one or more persons;

(b) in the course of an attempted rape, attempted object rape, or attempted forcible sodomy,

(i) cause serious bodily injury to any person;

(ii) use, or threaten the victim with the use of, a dangerous weapon as defined in Section 76-1-601;

(iii) attempt to compel the victim to submit to rape, object rape, or forcible sodomy, by threat of kidnapping, death, or serious bodily injury to be inflicted imminently on any person; or

(iv) receive aid or abetment from one or more persons; or

(c) in the course of an attempted forcible sexual abuse:

(i) cause serious bodily injury to any person;

(ii) use, or threaten the victim with the use of, a dangerous weapon as defined in Section 76-1-601;

(iii) attempt to compel the victim to submit to forcible sexual abuse, by threat of kidnapping, death, or serious bodily injury to be inflicted imminently on any person; or

(iv) receive aid or abetment from one or more persons.

NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 76-3-203.8 that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided in that section because the above offense was committed with a dangerous weapon. To Wit: Rape with gun

COUNT 5

AGGRAVATED ROBBERY (Dangerous Weapon), 76-6-302, a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant, as a party to the offense, did unlawfully and intentionally take or attempt to take personal property in the possession of another from his or her person, or immediate presence, against his or her will, by means of force or fear, and with a purpose or intent to deprive the person permanently or temporarily of the personal property; or

(b) intentionally or knowingly use force or fear of immediate force against another in the course of committing a theft or wrongful appropriation; and

(1) in the course of committing the aforementioned act,

(a) used or threatened to use a dangerous weapon;

(b) caused serious bodily injury upon another; or

(c) took or attempted to take an operable motor vehicle.

NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 76-3-203.8 that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided in that section because the above offense was committed with a dangerous weapon.

COUNT 6

AGGRAVATED BURGLARY (Dangerous Weapon), 76-6-203, a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant, as a party to the offense, did attempt, commit, or flee from a burglary and while doing so the defendant, or another participant in the crime,

- (a) caused bodily injury to any person who was not a participant in the crime;
- (b) used or threatened the immediate use of a dangerous weapon against any person who was not a participant in the crime; or
- (c) possessed or attempted to use any explosive or dangerous weapon as defined in §76-1-101.5.

NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 76-3-203.8 that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided in that section because the above offense was committed with a dangerous weapon.

COUNT 7

PROHIBITED DANGEROUS WEAPON CONDUCT - CATEGORY I, 76-11-305(2)+(3B), a Second Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant did (2) being then a Category I restricted person, intentionally or knowingly agree, consent, offer, or arrange to purchase, transfer, possess, use, or have under the person's custody or control, or intentionally or knowingly purchased, transferred, possessed, used, or had under the person's custody or control a firearm.

COUNT 8

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT (Dangerous Weapon), 76-5-103(2)+(3A), a Third Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant did attempt, with unlawful force or violence, to do bodily injury to another;

- (ii) make a threat, accompanied by a show of immediate force or violence, to do bodily injury to another; or
- (iii) commit an act, committed with unlawful force or violence, that causes bodily injury to another or creates a substantial risk of bodily injury to another; and includes in the actor's conduct under Subsection (2)(a) the use of:
  - (i) (a) a dangerous weapon; or
  - (b) a motor vehicle;
  - (ii) any act that impedes the breathing or the circulation of blood of another individual by the actor's use of unlawful force or violence by:
    - (a) applying pressure to the neck or throat of an individual; or
    - (b) obstructing the nose, mouth, or airway of an individual; or
  - (iii) other means or force likely to produce death or serious bodily injury.

NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 76-3-203.8 that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided in that section because the above offense was committed with a dangerous weapon.

COUNT 9

TAMPERING WITH A WITNESS (Dangerous Weapon), 76-8-508, a Third Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant, as a party to the offense, did, believing that an official proceeding or investigation was pending or about to be instituted, or with the intent to prevent an official proceeding or investigation, attempted to induce or otherwise cause another person to:

- (a) testify or inform falsely;
  - (b) withhold any testimony, information, document, or item;
  - (c) elude legal process summoning him to provide evidence; or
  - (d) absent himself from any proceeding or investigation to which he has been summoned; OR
- (2) solicit, accept, or agree to accept any benefit in consideration of his doing any of the acts specified under Subsection (1).

NOTICE IS GIVEN pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 76-3-203.8 that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided in that section because the above offense was committed with a dangerous weapon.

COUNT 10

UNLAWFUL ACQUISITION, POSSESSION OR TRANSFER OF A FINANCIAL TRANSACTION CARD, 76-6-506.3(2A)+(3A), a Third Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant, as a party to the offense, did acquire a financial transaction card from another without the consent of the card holder or the issuer;

- (b) receive a financial transaction card with intent to use it in violation of Utah Code § 76-6-506.2;
- (c) sell or transfer a financial transaction card to another person with the knowledge that it would be used in violation of Utah Code § 76-6-506.2;
- (d)(i) acquire a financial transaction card that the defendant knew was lost, mislaid, or delivered under a mistake as to the identity or address of the card holder; and
- (ii)(A) retain possession with intent to use it in violation of Utah Code § 76-6-506.2; or
- (B) sell or transfer a financial transaction card to a person with knowledge that the financial transaction card would be used in violation of Utah Code § 76-6-506.2; or
- (e) possess, sell, or transfer any information necessary for the use of a financial transaction card, including the credit number of the card, the expiration date of the card, or the personal identification code related to the card:
- (i)(A) without the consent of the card holder or the issuer; or
- (B) with the knowledge that the information had been acquired without consent of the card holder or the issuer; and
- (ii) with intent to use the information in violation of Utah Code Ann. §76-6-506.2 To Wit: Card ending in 0543

COUNT 11

UNLAWFUL ACQUISITION, POSSESSION OR TRANSFER OF A FINANCIAL TRANSACTION CARD, 76-6-506.3(2A)+(3A), a Third Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant did acquire a financial transaction card from another without the consent of the card holder or the issuer;

- (b) receive a financial transaction card with intent to use it in violation of Utah Code § 76-6-506.2;
- (c) sell or transfer a financial transaction card to another person with the knowledge that it would be

used in violation of Utah Code § 76-6-506.2;

(d)(i) acquire a financial transaction card that the defendant knew was lost, mislaid, or delivered under a mistake as to the identity or address of the card holder; and

(ii)(A) retain possession with intent to use it in violation of Utah Code § 76-6-506.2; or

(B) sell or transfer a financial transaction card to a person with knowledge that the financial transaction card would be used in violation of Utah Code § 76-6-506.2; or

(e) possess, sell, or transfer any information necessary for the use of a financial transaction card, including the credit number of the card, the expiration date of the card, or the personal identification code related to the card:

(i)(A) without the consent of the card holder or the issuer; or

(B) with the knowledge that the information had been acquired without consent of the card holder or the issuer; and

(ii) with intent to use the information in violation of Utah Code Ann. §76-6-506.2 To Wit: Card of A.C. Escalona

#### COUNT 12

VIOLENT OFFENSE COMMITTED IN PRESENCE OF CHILD, 76-3-203.10(2), a Class B Misdemeanor, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant, as a party to the offense, did commit or attempt to commit criminal homicide, as defined in Section 76-5-201, against a third party in the presence of a child;

(b) intentionally caused or attempted to cause serious bodily injury to a third party or used a dangerous weapon, as defined in Section 76-1-101.5, or other means or force likely to produce death or serious bodily injury, against a third party in the presence of a child; or

(c) under circumstances not amounting to a violation of Subsection (2)(a) or (b), commits a violent criminal offense in the presence of a child.

#### COUNT 13

UNLAWFUL USE OF A FINANCIAL TRANS CARD < \$500, 76-6-506.2(2)+(3AI), a Class B Misdemeanor, as follows: That on or about March 8, 2025 in Salt Lake County, the defendant, as a party to the offense, did knowingly use a false, fictitious, altered, counterfeit, revoked, expired, stolen, or fraudulently obtained financial transaction card to obtain or attempt to obtain credit, goods, property, or services;

(2) knowingly, with the intent to defraud, use a financial transaction card, credit number, personal identification code, or any other information contained on the card or in the account from which the card was issued, to obtain or attempt to obtain credit, goods, or services;

(3) knowingly, with the intent to defraud, use a financial transaction card to willfully exceed an authorized credit line by \$500 or more, or by 50% or more of the line of credit, whichever was greater;

(4)(a) knowingly, with the intent to defraud, make application for a financial transaction card to an issuer and made or caused to be made a false statement or report of the person's name, occupation, financial condition, assets, or personal identifying information; or

(b) willfully and substantially undervalue or understate any indebtedness for the purposes of influencing the issuer to issue the financial transaction card; or

(5) knowingly, with the intent to defraud, present or cause to be presented to the issuer or an authorized credit card merchant, for payment or collection, any credit card sales draft, when:

(a) the draft was counterfeit or fictitious;

(b) the purported sales evidenced by any credit card sales draft did not take place;  
(c) the purported sale was not authorized by the card holder; or  
(d) the items or services purported to be sold as evidenced by the credit card sales drafts were not delivered or rendered to the card holder or person intended to receive them.  
Furthermore, the value of the property, money or thing obtained or sought to be obtained was \$500 or less. To Wit: used Card 0543 at Tooele gas station

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

Joshua Laursen, Jourden Dewitt, G.O. and A.S.

#### DECLARATION OF PROBABLE CAUSE:

The statement of Detective DeWitt of the West Valley City Police Department that she investigated a sexual assault in Salt Lake County.

G.O. reported that on or about March 8, 2025, she was at her residence when she heard a knock at the door. Assuming it was her roommate, G.O. answered the door and observed two unknown males. G.O. said that one of the males, later identified as defendant EFRAIN MONROY-LARA, was holding a gun with both hands, pointing it at the ground. G.O. also described hearing the "cocking of a gun." She explained that one of the defendants was taller, MONROY-LARA, and one was shorter.

G.O. said the defendants pushed the door in and entered her residence. MONROY-LARA pointed a gun at her head, made her crouch against the wall with her hands, and ordered her to look down. G.O. said one of the defendants closed and locked the door, and they took her jewelry while still holding her at gunpoint. G.O. recalled asking them not to hurt her and told the males that her daughter, A.S. (03/07/2020), was in the next room. G.O. said MONROY-LARA maintained the gun pointed at her while the shorter male searched her residence. G.O. said they took two necklaces, bracelets, and earrings that she was wearing. G.O. said they asked her for her money and her "cards" and threatened to kill her if she didn't tell them.

G.O. said the defendant with the gun, MONROY-LARA, grabbed her by the hair, pulled her into another room, and demanded money. G.O. said the short defendant opened her wallet and removed her cards. She was then pulled out to the living room by MONROY-LARA and told "not to make a noise, or he would kill her and her daughter." MONROY-LARA then pushed her onto her roommate's bed, opened her legs, and penetrated her vagina with his fingers. G.O. said while penetrating her vagina, MONROY-LARA asked her, "Do you like that?" MONROY-LARA then told her that "she was going to like this," then opened a condom, put a pillow over her face, and inserted his penis in her vagina. G.O. described that he was "rough" and "mean" and hit her. G.O. told him she couldn't breathe, "but he didn't care." G.O. said the gun was still pointed at her during the sexual assault.

G.O. said when MONROY-LARA finished raping her, he forced her to stand against a wall, facing it. He then told her that “was how he was going to kill her.” G.O. said she heard a car “beep,” and one of the defendants said, “Let’s go.” The defendants then yelled at her to go to the bathroom and said that they would kill her if they saw her. G.O. said the defendants told her that “she hadn’t seen anything,” identified themselves from the “mafia TDA,” and said to her that if she told the police, they knew where she lived and would come back and kill her.

G.O. said following the assault, she checked her bank account and observed transactions at gas stations in Utah, Nevada, and California. Surveillance video and photos of two males in a white SUV were gathered at the locations where G.O.’s card was used.

On March 31, 2025, a CODIS hit from the cutting of swab from piece of condom wrapper was matched to MONROY-LARA.

Post-Miranda, MONROY-LARA was shown a photograph from a gas station in Utah where G.O.’s card was used and confirmed that he was the individual in the photo. MONROY-LARA stated that he had never seen the victim before, however when the defendant was confronted with his DNA in the victim’s residence, he indicated he might have “used her services.” MONROY-LARA also confirmed he had gone to California on March 8, 2025.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the defendant is an alien who is illegally or unlawfully in the United States and is therefore a Category I Restricted Person and prohibited from possessing a firearm or dangerous weapon.

#### REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF A NO BAIL WARRANT:

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 a felony 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;

The defendant, along with an unknown assailant, forced their way into the victim’s residence, where they robbed her at gunpoint, and the defendant sexually assaulted her at gunpoint while her five-year-old child was in the residence. The defendants repeatedly told the victim they would kill her if she looked at them. The victim reported she begged for her life and begged the defendants not to hurt her daughter. Following the assault, the victim observed the defendants leaving her apartment complex in a white or lighter colored vehicle. The defendants were picked up in a white vehicle. Armed with her jewelry and bank cards, the defendants set off for California and used the victim’s bank cards for gas along the way.



The defendant, post-Miranda, identified himself in a photo taken from a gas station video and, when confronted with DNA, reported he “may have used her services” and alluded to the victim being a prostitute.

The offenses described in the above probable cause statement show demonstrate willingness to target complete strangers, including a five year little girl, with acts of unimaginable brutality. The defendant fled to California, is from Venezuela, and was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement when he was taken into custody. The defendant has shown, by his own actions, that he is not only a risk to the victim but to the community at large and unsuspecting victims. Additionally, the defendant is a clear flight risk. The defendant is charged with multiple felonies, including four first degrees, and based on the serious nature of the allegations, the State requests the defendant 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: 22nd day of May, 2025

/s/ JOURDEN DEWITT  
Declarant

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 22nd day of May, 2025

Authorized for presentment and filing

SIM GILL, District Attorney

/s/ Jennifer Zeleny  
Deputy District Attorney  
22nd day of May, 2025  
JZ / NH / DAO # 25.008974

**OTHER PENDING CASES FOR THE DEFENDANT**

<b>Court</b>	<b>Court Case #</b>	<b>Trial Judge</b>	<b>DAO #</b>	<b>Charge</b>
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