

SIM GILL, Bar No. 6389
District Attorney for Salt Lake County
VINCENT MEISTER, Bar No. 5653
Deputy District Attorney
35 East 500 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
(385) 468-7600
vmeister@saltlakecounty.gov

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

THE STATE OF UTAH,

Plaintiff,

vs.

PETER MICHAEL LARSEN,
DOB: 02/25/1978
5949 S 1475 W
Taylorsville, UT 84084
OTN#: 72337868
SO#: 361203
SID#/BCI#: 480652
Booking#: 26032592

Defendant.

Screened by: HOMICIDE TEAM
Assigned to: TO BE ASSIGNED

INFORMATION

DAO # 26.027021

BAIL: NO BAIL WARRANT

WARRANT/RELEASE: IN JAIL PRD
07/17/2026

Case No.

The undersigned Detective D. Fuhr - West Valley City Police Department, Agency Case No. WV26-53121, upon a written declaration states on information and belief that the defendant, PETER MICHAEL LARSEN, committed the crime(s) of:

COUNT 1

ATTEMPTED AGGRAVATED MURDER (Hate Crime), 76-5-202, a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about July 13, 2026, at Valley Fair Mall, 601 South Constitution Blvd, in Salt Lake County, the defendant did attempt to intentionally or knowingly cause the death of another individual under any of the following circumstances: the actor, during commission of the homicide, attempted to kill one or more other individuals in addition to the deceased individual;

the actor knowingly created a great risk of death to another individual other than the deceased individual; or the actor was previously convicted of aggravated assault, under Section 76-5-103.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided under Utah Code Annotated §76-3-203.3, because the defendant, with the intent to intimidate or terrorize another person, or with reason to believe that their actions would intimidate or terrorize that person, acted as defined in Utah Code §76-3-203.3(3).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that LARSEN on at least two previous occasions has been convicted of a violent felony and committed to either prison in Utah or an equivalent correctional institution of another state or of the United States either at initial sentencing or after revocation, as defined in Utah Code 76-3-203.5. Specifically, LARSEN was convicted of and sentenced to the Utah State Prison for: qualifying offenses in cases: Third District Court, case no. 211911428, Aggravated Assault, a Third-Degree felony and case no. 221906835, Assault on Peace Officer/Military with Use of Dangerous Weapon, a Second-Degree felony and Arson – Property of Another, a Third-Degree Felony. As such, LARSEN is a Habitual Violent Offender and is subject to enhanced penalties pursuant to U.C.A. 76-3-203.5(2).

Further, this defendant's actions resulted in serious bodily injury to S.S.

COUNT 2

ATTEMPTED AGGRAVATED MURDER (Hate Crime), 76-5-202, a First Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about July 13, 2026, at Valley Fair Mall, 601 South Constitution Blvd, in Salt Lake County, the defendant did attempt to intentionally or knowingly cause the death of another individual under any of the following circumstances: the actor, during commission of the homicide, attempted to kill one or more other individuals in addition to the deceased individual; the actor knowingly created a great risk of death to another individual other than the deceased individual and the actor; or the actor was previously convicted of aggravated assault, under Section 76-5-103.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided under Utah Code Annotated §76-3-203.3, because the defendant, with the intent to intimidate or terrorize another person, or with reason to believe that their actions would intimidate or terrorize that person, acted as defined in Utah Code §76-3-203.3(3).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that LARSEN on at least two previous occasions has been convicted of a violent felony and committed to either prison in Utah or an equivalent correctional institution of another state or of the United States either at initial sentencing or after revocation, as defined in Utah Code 76-3-203.5. Specifically, LARSEN was convicted of and sentenced to the Utah State Prison for: qualifying offenses in cases: Third District Court, case no. 211911428, Aggravated Assault, a Third-Degree felony and case no. 221906835, Assault on Peace Officer/Military with Use of Dangerous Weapon, a Second-Degree felony and Arson – Property of Another, a Third-Degree Felony. As such, LARSEN is a Habitual Violent Offender and is subject to enhanced penalties pursuant to U.C.A. 76-3-203.5(2).

COUNT 3

PROHIBITED DANGEROUS WEAPON CONDUCT - CATEGORY I, 76-11-305(2)+(3A), a Third Degree Felony, as follows: That on or about July 13, 2026, at Valley Fair Mall, 3601 South Constitution Blvd, in Salt Lake County, the defendant did being then a Category I restricted person, intentionally or knowingly agreed, consented, offered, or arranged 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 any dangerous weapon other than a firearm.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that LARSEN on at least two previous occasions has been convicted of a violent felony and committed to either prison in Utah or an equivalent correctional institution of another state or of the United States either at initial sentencing or after revocation, as defined in Utah Code 76-3-203.5. Specifically, LARSEN was convicted of and sentenced to the Utah State Prison for: qualifying offenses in cases: Third District Court, case no. 211911428, Aggravated Assault, a Third-Degree felony and case no. 221906835, Assault on Peace Officer/Military with Use of Dangerous Weapon, a Second-Degree felony and Arson – Property of Another, a Third-Degree Felony. As such, LARSEN is a Habitual Violent Offender and is subject to enhanced penalties pursuant to U.C.A. 76-3-203.5(2).

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

Detective D. Fuhr, Officer R. Mauch, D.V., N.P., L.N., P.B., S.S., and W.M.

DECLARATION OF PROBABLE CAUSE:

Your affiant bases probable cause on information and evidence collected by West Valley City Police Department, Case No. WV26-53121 and the following:

The statement of West Valley City Police Officer R. Mauch that on July 13, 2026, Officers were dispatched on a report of someone being stabbed at Valley Fair Mall at 3601 South Constitution Blvd, in Salt Lake County. Upon arrival, PETER MICHAEL LARSEN was in custody. S.S. was located near a kiosk lying on the floor covered in blood. S.S. was transported to the hospital in delta condition with multiple stabs wounds.

The statement of D.V. that she works at a kiosk near the incident. D.V. stated that a bald man approached S.S. and began stabbing S.S. without stopping. D.V. stated that people tried to help S.S., but the bald man wouldn't stop, so people began to throw items at him to try to get him to stop. D.V. stated S.S. was just sitting not doing anything and never acted angry or aggressive towards the bald man.

The statement of N.P. that he and his wife were at the mall when they heard someone scream. N.P. stated that he saw a male in blue clothing attacking another male with a knife. N.P. stated that he didn't know what caused the altercation. Multiple people, including N.P., attempted to restrain the male with the knife. N.P. stated that he was positioned in front of the suspect while another person held him from behind. N.P. attempted to grab the knife from the suspect's hand, but the suspect twisted the knife toward N.P.'s wrist. N.P. punched the suspect and told him to drop the knife. N.P. stated that after the third punch, the suspect dropped to the ground unconscious and released the knife. N.P. described the knife as a black pocketknife with a short blade, possibly with brass knuckles attached.

The statement of L.N. that she was working in a store in the mall near the incident. L.N. stated that she was at the cash register when she heard screaming. L.N. stated that she looked out and saw a man stabbing S.S. S.S. was defending himself with his hands and only the male with the knife had a weapon. S.S. was screaming and telling him to stop. L.N. ran to help and began throwing things at the person stabbing S.S. Then two other people stepped in and stopped the man with the knife.

The statement of P.B. that he was inside Bath and Body Works when he heard screaming. P.B. observed a male, later identified as LARSEN, holding a knife that had a brass knuckle handle, black in color, with approximately a four-inch blade. LARSEN held the knife in his right hand and was stabbing S.S. all over his body. S.S. was on his knees attempting to grab LARSEN during the attack. P.B. approached LARSEN and told him to stop stabbing S.S. P.B. then grabbed LARSEN's wrist holding the knife and restrained LARSEN with his other hand. P.B. instructed bystanders to grab the knife from LARSEN's hand. LARSEN refused multiple commands to drop the knife. P.B. stated that when LARSEN would not release the knife, another bystander struck LARSEN, knocking him out.

The statement of S.S. that he was working at a kiosk at Valley Fair Mall when LARSEN approached him asking for water. S.S. told LARSEN he didn't have separate water available. LARSEN then asked S.S. where he was from and S.S. responded India. LARSEN asked S.S. if he was Muslim and S.S. confirmed he was. LARSEN said, "Everything is like Jesus Christ," and then began stabbing S.S. S.S. stated LARSEN stabbed him in the neck and chest two to three times. S.S. attempted to stop LARSEN during the attack and got cut on his hand. S.S. confirmed that LARSEN did not take anything from him and did not demand anything.

S.S. had approximately a dozen stab wounds to his body. S.S. had a wound to his scalp, multiple wounds on the front and back of his chest wall and had a fractured scapula. The majority of the wounds were to the left side of his chest and left arm. S.S. had lacerations on his hand and forearm and damage to his tendons. An x-ray showed fluid in S.S.'s chest and hospital staff were unsure if it was blood that drained into his chest or if his heart was cut and was bleeding.

The statement of W.M. that he is friends with S.S. S.S. stated that he was at the mall and heard S.S.'s voice. He heard S.S. yelling for God and for his mother. W.M. saw people rushing away and saw S.S. being held by the neck and being stabbed. W.M. rushed to help S.S. and while attempting to get LARSEN off S.S. was cut on the left arm by LARSEN. W.M. stated that when LARSEN was being restrained by other males, LARSEN pointed the knife at W.M. and said "you are next".

Post-Miranda LARSEN was asked to explain what happened. LARSEN said that he planned the night before to go to the mall to make an exhibition of Muslims and hopefully be a catalyst so people would rid the country of Muslims. LARSEN stated that he rode his scooter to Valley Fair Mall and he chose that location because he knew there were Muslims there. LARSEN went to the movie theater and watched a movie until the shops opened. After the movie, LARSEN stated that he purchased a knife, described as having finger holes like brass knuckles with an American flag design on it. LARSEN stated that he knew the victim was Muslim because he had lived near the area and had spoken with him before. LARSEN went to the victim's kiosk and chose the victim because he was able to reach him at the kiosk as he was sitting back-in his chair. LARSEN stated that he has never killed anybody before and he was going to kill S.S. LARSEN said his plan was to decapitate S.S. and throw his head down the hallway as a sign that the country would not be overruled by Muslims. LARSEN also stated he wanted to eat S.S.'s heart to make it something very dramatic. LARSEN stated he wanted to do something extreme that would cause people to rise up and take the country back. LARSEN stated after the stabbing he planned to stand there and wait to be arrested. LARSEN said if he could go from one Muslim to another in close proximity, he would have killed as many as possible. LARSEN stated he wanted his actions to be a catalyst to get people motivated to revolt against what he called the Muslim infestation. LARSEN stated that Muslims do not blend well with the community because they come in waves and want everyone to be part of them, and if not, they will take everybody over.

LARSEN stated he would have preferred S.S. die, but if he didn't, at least he did something that people could see. LARSEN stated, "I just did attempted murder. I've never done anything like that before, but I think the country's worth it and there needs to be something done". LARSEN stated that Muslims act nice but are here to take over, and he wanted to be a catalyst with strong feelings but knew there were consequences.

Detectives located mall video surveillance that recorded the whole incident.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the defendant is a Category I restricted person, having previously been convicted of a felony and is currently on parole in case nos. 211911428 and 221906835, Aggravated Assault, a Third-Degree felony, Assault on a Peace Officer, a Second-Degree felony, and Arson - Property of Another, a Third-Degree felony.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the defendant is subject to an enhanced penalty as provided under Utah Code Annotated §76-3-203.3, because the defendant, with the intent to intimidate or terrorize another person, or with reason to believe that their actions would intimidate or terrorize that person, acted as defined in Utah Code §76-3-203.3(3).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that LARSEN on at least two previous occasions has been convicted of a violent felony and committed to either prison in Utah or an equivalent correctional institution of another state or of the United States either at initial sentencing or after revocation, as defined in Utah Code 76-3-203.5. Specifically, LARSEN was convicted of and sentenced to the Utah State Prison for: qualifying offences in cases: Third District Court, case no. 211911428, Aggravated Assault, a Third-Degree felony and case no. 221906835, Assault on Peace Officer/Military with Use of Dangerous Weapon, a Second-Degree felony and Arson – Property of Another, a Third-Degree Felony. As such, LARSEN is a Habitual Violent Offender and is subject to enhanced penalties pursuant to U.C.A. 76-3-203.5(2).

MOTION FOR NO BAIL HOLD:

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

The defendant is now charged with a felony while on parole for a felony conviction in cases 221906835 and 211911428, and there is substantial evidence to support the current charges.

The defendant is charged with two First-Degree felonies and based upon the above probable cause statement, there is substantial evidence supporting the charges 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.

In this case, the defendant made a decision to go to the mall and kill Muslims. On the day of the incident, the defendant rode his scooter to Valley Fair Mall. After watching a movie, he purchased a knife from a shop in the mall and went up to the victim, who was sitting at his kiosk in a chair. The victim and the defendant conversed for a while and after the victim confirmed he was Muslim, the defendant began stabbing the victim. Bystanders stepped in to get the defendant off the victim. Another victim, a friend of the stabbed victim, was cut in the process and when the defendant looked at him, he pointed the knife at him and told him he was next.

The defendant stated in his post Miranda interview that he believes he is a catalyst and that he intends to kill Muslims. The defendant talked at length of ridding the country of Muslims and while he never has tried to kill someone before, felt this was necessary to get people to rise up and take back the country.

Additionally, a family member of the defendant stated that if the defendant is released, the defendant will hurt more people as the defendant believes all the negative propaganda that is being posted on social media about Islam and Muslim people. The defendant also has racist views on Mexican and African American people. The defendant poses a substantial danger to the community and if released on bail, has the potential to cause harm to others.

Due to the serious nature of the allegations, and the substantial danger the defendant has demonstrated that he poses to the community, he should be held 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: 17th day of July, 2026.

/s/ DEREK FUHR
Declarant

Authorized for presentment and filing:

SIM GILL, District Attorney

/s/ Vincent Meister
Deputy District Attorney
17th day of July, 2026
VM / MM / DAO# 26.027021

OTHER PENDING CASES FOR THE DEFENDANT

Court	Court Case #	Trial Judge	DAO #	Charge
Third District Court, SALT LAKE DEPARTMENT	211911428	Parker, Paul B	21017739	No active charges
Third District Court, SALT LAKE DEPARTMENT	221906835	Parker, Paul B	22.003704	No active charges
Third District Court, SALT LAKE DEPARTMENT	241908859	Lawrence, Barry	24.013126	No active charges