

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY Adams County Courthouse 117 Baltimore Street, Room 301 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325

BRIAN. R. SINNETT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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PRESS RELEASEPRESS RELEASE***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 2, 2020

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Adams County

Office (717)337-9840

ARREST MADE IN ADAMS COUNTY COURTHOUSE MOLOTOV COCKTAIL INCIDENT

Adams County District Attorney Brian Sinnett announced today that charges have been filed against Samson Paul Yohe, age 27, of Carlisle Street, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania for his actions in throwing an incendiary device, commonly referred to a Molotov cocktail, through the window of the Adams County Courthouse on December 22, 2019. Charges including Weapons of Mass Destruction, Arson and related charges, were filed by Gettysburg Borough Police Detective Dennis Bevenour at Magisterial District Judge Matthew Harvey's Office today. See attached Police Criminal Complaint and Affidavit of Probable Cause. District Attorney Sinnett thanked the Gettysburg Borough Police who conducted a quick and thorough investigation in which they were assisted by the Adams County Detectives and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

District Attorney Sinnett also thanked members of the public for their diligence in making referrals to law enforcement and in sharing information that was put out publicly through various media sources regarding this investigation. "This appears to have been an isolated incident conducted by a single perpetrator at this time. Although many components of this investigation are still taking place and every effort to turn over every bit of evidence will be exhausted, it is comforting to know that law enforcement acted so expediently in bringing charges in this case." Sinnett also indicated that "although these charges are extremely serious and carry with them potential penalties of several decades in prison, as a community we are thankful that no one was injured in this inexcusable act."

In this case, as with all criminal prosecutions, the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY OF: ADAMS Magisterial District Number: 51-3-01

POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT **COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA** VS.

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Docket Nu	mber:	Date File 01/02/20		V/LiveSca	n Number				Comp	plaint/Incident No -0038-I	
Defendant	Name	First: Samson	. 1975 ²		Middle Paul	3 :			Last: Yohe		
appropriate (Set forth a <i>br</i>	. VVhen there ief summary of out more, is not	e is more that the facts suffice	an one offe cient to advis	ense, each	h offense	should I	be numb	ered	chrono	e allegedly violat logically. citation to the status s) of the statute(s) o	sto(e) allogodly
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Statute De	escription (inc	clude the na	ame of stat	ute or ord	linance):						
Acts of the	accused as	sociated wi	th this Offe	ense:							~
CC3301C1 - ARSON AND RELATED OFFENSES (c) Arson endangering property A person commits a felony of the second degree if he intentionally starts a fire or causes an explosion, whether on his own property or that of another, or if he aids, counsels, pays or agrees to pay another to cause a fire or explosion, and if: (1) he commits the act with intent of destroying or damaging a building or unoccupied structure of another;											
Offense	18 901 A		Solicita 18 902 A			onspiracy 3 903	<i>'</i>		Numbe	r of Victims Age 6	0 or Older0
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Acts of the accused associated with this Offense: CC3302B - CAUSING OR RISKING CATASTROPHE (b) Risking catastrophe A person is guilty of a felony of the third degree if he recklessly creates a risk of catastrophe in the employment of fire, explosives or other dangerous means listed in subsection (a) of this section.											
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Docket Number:	Date Filed: 01/02/2020	OTN/LiveScan Number	Complaint/Incident Number 1912-0038-		
Defendant Name	First:	Middle:	Last:		
	Samson	Paul	Yohe		

The acts committed by the accused are described below with each Act of Assembly or statute allegedly violated, if appropriate. When there is more than one offense, each offense should be numbered chronologically. (Set forth a *brief* summary of the facts sufficient to advise the defendant of the nature of the offense(s) charged. A citation to the statute(s) allegedly violated, without more, is not sufficient. In a summary case, you must cite the specific section(s) and subsection(s) of the statute(s) or ordinance(s) allegedly violated.

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\ perso	n commit	s a Felony of the 2r	nd degree if t	he person,	with the intent of o	destroying or	damaging	a historic resource	of another.



POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Docket Number:	Date Filed: 01/02/2020	OTN/LiveScan Nu	ımber		Complaint/Incident Number 1912-0038-I
Defendant Name	First: Samson		Middle: Paul	La Yo	st: he

- 2. I ask that a warrant of arrest or a summons be issued and that the defendant be required to answer the charges I have made.
- 3. I verify that the facts set forth in this complaint are true and correct to the best of my knowledge or information and belief. This verification is made subject to the penalties of Section 4904 of the Crimes Code (18 Pa.C.S. § 4904) relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.
- 4. This complaint consists of the preceding page(s) numbered 1 through
- 5. I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Case Records Public Access Policy of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

The acts committed by the accused, as listed and hereafter, were against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and were contrary to the Act(s) of the Assembly, or in violation of the statutes cited. (Before a warrant of arrest can be issued, an affidavit of probable cause must be completed, sworn to before the issuing authority, and attached.)

January 2,	2020	Man & Benny
	(Date)	(Signature of Affiant)
AND NOW, on this date	I certify that t	the complaint has been properly completed and verified.
An affidavit of probable cause must b	e completed before a warrant can be issu	
51-3-01		
(Magisterial District Court Number)	(Issuing Authority)	SEAL



POLICE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Docket Number:	Date Filed: 01/02/2020	OTN/LiveScan Number	Complaint/Incident Number 1912-0038-I	•
D. C. L.	First:	Middle:	Last:	_
Defendant Name:	Samson	Paul	Yohe	

AFFIDAVIT of PROBABLE CAUSE

On 12/23/2019 your Affiant, Investigator Dennis Bevenour, employed by the Gettysburg Police Department, was assigned to investigate an incendiary device that was thrown at the Adams County Court House, 111-117 Baltimore Street, Gettysburg, Adams County, Pennsylvania 17325.

Investigation revealed that on 22 December, 2019 at or about 2304 hours an unknown subject threw an incendiary device at a window at the Adams County Court House breaking the window. Your Affiant observed photos of the device and observed the device consisted of a yellow bottle, antique in appearance, filled with a liquid and had a white cotton sock with elastic top, used as a wick, which the individual lit prior to throwing. Also in the bottle were green-tipped matches. I observed surveillance videos which show the individual's physical appearance and clothing, and the actions taken before, during and after the device was thrown. The videos show the individual, who is described as a light complected individual approximately 5'8" in height, thin build, wearing dark shoes with a light colored design on the front and a white sole. The individual had on loose fitting blue jeans, a black jacket, a mask coving part of their face and a black hoodie. The individual is shown to be carrying a gray backpack with black accents.

Officer Christopher Evans, Gettysburg Police Department told your Affiant he had identified the make of shows worn by the individual as Athletic Works brand shoes, which are identified by the distinctive pattern of the accent on the front of the shoe. Further investigation identified the backpack as Ozark Trail brand, identified by the pattern on the backpack. Officer Evans personally visited Walmart as well as researched these items on line, which led to this identification.

Your Affiant learned Samson Paul Yohe had previous adjudications for and convictions for the crimes of Terroristic Threats, (Adams County 2007), Aggravated Assault (York County 2018), and Aggravated Harassment by Prisoner (Lebanon County, 2017).

On 31 December, 2019, Officer Bryan Holden and Dillan Kuhn, Gettysburg Police Department, working uniformed patrol, made contact with Samson Paul Yohe at the rear of 128 carlisle Street, Gettysburg Borough, Adams County, PA 17325, an area under construction, an area under construction. During his contact Officer Holden observed that Yohe was wearing Athletic Works brand shoes which appear identical in pattern and appearance to the shoes described above, as well as loose fitting blue jeans and a camouflage mask which covered the bottom portion of his face.

On 2 January, 2020, a search warrant, #DA2019-75(A), was approved by Magistrate Matthew Harvey and served on Samson Paul Yohe at 150 Carlisle Street, rear apartment. Seized were a pair of Athletic Works brand shoes with the same pattern as the individual was wearing. An Ozark Trails backpack with the same pattern the individual was wearing. The backpack contained 8

(Continued on next page)

I, DENNIS BEVENOUR, BEING DULY SWORN ACCORDING TO THE LAW, DEPOSE AND SAY THAT THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE FOREGOING AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS FILING COMPLIES WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CASE RECORDS PUBLIC ACCESS POLICY OF THE UNIFIED JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF PENNSYLVANIA THAT REQUIRE FILING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS DIFFERENTLY THAN NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS.

		Mart.	A.
		(Sigr	nature of Affiant)
Sworn to me and subscribed before me this	day of		
Date		, Magiste	erial District Judge
My commission expires first Monday of January,			
			SEAL



Docket Number:	Date Filed: 01/02/2020	OTN/LiveScan Number	Complaint/Incident Number 1912-0038-I
	First:	Middle:	Last:
Defendant Name:	Samson	Paul	Yohe

AFFIDAVIT of PROBABLE CAUSE CONTINUATION

boxes of Diamond brand green tip matches, like those seen in the incendiary device. Plastic bottle of Expert Grill lighter fluid. Plastic bottle of Clover Valley vegetable oil. A pair of brown/black gloves and a camo balaclava scarf. During the search Your Affiant observed many glass antique bottles similar to the one used in the commission of this offense.

Your Affiant reasonably believes that Samson Paul Yohe is the individual who on 22 December, 2019, threw the incendiary device at the Adams County Court House window.

(Signature of Afficial)

(Signature of Affiant)

CONFIDENTIAL



Confidential Information Form Criminal Complaint

Complete the defendant's SSN information if known. If this form is submitted as part of a Police Criminal Complaint, the NCIC Cautions/Medical Conditions and Scars/Marks/Tattoos sections should also be completed if known.

Docket Number:	01/02/2020	OTN/LiveScan Number (LiveScan n	number preferred)	Complaint/Incident Number 1912-0038-I		
Defendant Name	First:	Middle:	Last:			
	Samson	Paul	Yohe			
	NO	IC Cautions and Medical Conditions	(check up to 9)			
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matter. This form, and court, and the custodi	d any additional pages, s an. This form, and any a	Policy of the Unified Judicial System of tion is required by law, ordered by the chall remain confidential, except that it sudditional pages, must be served on all	court, or otherwise shall be available	e necessary to effect the disposition of a		
This Informat	ion Pertains to:	Confidential Information	n:	Reference in Filing:		
Samson Paul Yol		Social Security Number (SSN):		nate Reference:		
	ne of adult) OR	160-76-7430	SSN Alter	1 nate Reference:		
	ains to a minor with the	Financial Account Number (FAN):	FAN			
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	Additional p	page(s) attached total pages a	re attached to this	s filing.		
I certify that this filing	complies with the provisi	ons of the Case Record Public Access	Policy of the Unit	fied Judicial System of Pennsylvania that		
require filing confident	tial information and docu	ments differently that non-confidential i	information and de	ocuments.		
Signature of Attorney	or Affiant	Date				
Name:		Attorney Number: (if a	applicable)			
Address:		Telephone:				
		Email:				

NOTE: Parties and attorney of record in a case will have access to this Confidential Information Form. Confidentiality of this information must be maintained.