

Approved by Deputy Prosecutor.
X _____

**THE CIRCUIT COURT OF LITTLE RIVER
COUNTY, ARKANSAS
AFFIDAVIT FOR WARRANT OF ARREST
FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSON:**

Mary Miller **White/Female** **B Felony**
Defendant's Name
2601 Highway 41 N Winthrop AR 71866 **DOB: 07/03/1983**
ADDRESS

Pursuant to Rule 7.1 of the Arkansas Rules of Criminal Procedure, the undersigned Affiant(s), being duly sworn, deposes and says that he has reason to believe that the above person has committed the offense violating A.C.A. **5-27-221 Permitting abuse of a minor a Class B Felony** against the dignity of the State of Arkansas.

Permitting abuse of a minor

Universal Citation: AR Code § 5-27-221

- (a) A person commits the offense of permitting abuse of a minor if, being a parent, guardian, or person legally charged with the care or custody of a minor, he or she recklessly fails to take action to prevent the abuse of a minor.
- (b) It is a defense to a prosecution for the offense of permitting abuse of a minor if the parent, guardian, or person legally charged with the care or custody of the minor takes immediate steps to end the abuse of the minor, including prompt notification of a medical or law enforcement authority, upon first knowing or having good reason to know that abuse has occurred.
- (c) Permitting abuse of a minor is a:
 - (1) Class B felony if the abuse of the minor:
 - (A) Consisted of sexual intercourse;
 - (B) Consisted of deviate sexual activity; or
 - (C) Caused serious physical injury or death to the minor; or
 - (2) Class D felony if the abuse of the minor:
 - (A) Consisted of sexual contact; or
 - (B) Caused physical injury to the minor.

FACTS ESTABLISHING PROBABLE CAUSE

That on February 2, 2024, Sergeant Russell Hopkins with the Little River County Sheriff's Office started an investigation into the alleged rape of multiple juvenile victims by suspect James Cowan.

This investigation led to the arrest of James Cowan on February 2, 2024. Following his arrest, James Cowan admitting to Sergeant Hopkins that he had committed the crime of rape.

James Cowan and Mary Miller, known to law enforcement as Mary Cowan, were the parents and guardians of all three victims in the rape case, along with other children who were inside of the home.

On March 12, 2024, Sgt. Hopkins conducted a post miranda interview with Mary Cowan. During the interview, Mary Cowan admitted to finding out about the alleged rapes on February 1, 2024. Mary Cowan said that after being told by the victims what happened, she returned home with the victims and the suspect James Cowan. Mary Cowan said that James Cowan admitted to her that he had "touched" the victims. Mary said that the victims went out and that when they got back, she had the victims come talk to James Cowan so that they could decide what they were going to do. Mary Cowan said that she was going to call law enforcement but had a seizure in the laundry room of her home.

Mary Cowan made no known attempts to contact law enforcement but did contact her oldest daughter on February 1, 2024, about the allegations. Mary Cowan was still with James Cowan at the time of his arrest on February 2, 2024.

Mary Cowan recklessly failed to take action to prevent further abuse of minor children whom she was the guardian of. The evidence in this case consisted of deviating sexual activity by admission of the suspect. Mary Cowan admitted to knowing about the abuse on February 1, 2024, and was told by the suspect James Cowan that he did abuse the children. Mary Cowan took no action on February 1, 2024, or on February 2, 2024, to prevent the abuse of the minor victims in this case.

I, *the undersigned certified law enforcement officer*, do hereby swear on oath that the facts contained in the above Affidavit for Warrant of Arrest are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

Date: 11-13-2024

Sgt. Russell Hopkins
Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed to me via email on this 13th day of November, 2024.

[Signature]
Judge

ORDER

I hereby find that this sworn affidavit demonstrates reasonable and probable cause for the issuance of a warrant(s) of arrest for the above-named individual for the above-stated offense(s). I further order the Circuit Clerk to issue a bench warrant for the above-listed Defendant. I find that the bond

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shall be set at _____ and that the following conditions or requirements for bond/release shall be imposed:



Judge

On this 13th day of November, 2024.