

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY TETON AND BONNEVILLE COUNTY, IDAHO

JOINT NEWS RELEASE

December 19, 2023 For Immediate Release

JEREMY BEST INDICTED ON THREE COUNTS OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER.

DRIGGS, IDAHO. An indictment by a Teton County grand jury was unsealed today charging JEREMY ALBERT BEST with three counts of Murder in the First Degree for the killings of Kali Jean Best, her unborn fetus, and Zeke Gregory Best, as well as three enhancements for use of a firearm or other deadly weapon in the commission of the three murders.

The indictment supersedes the Amended Criminal Complaint against Jeremy Best in Teton County case number CR41-23-0877, and as a result there will not be a preliminary hearing.

A copy of the indictment is attached to this statement.

Under the circumstances of this case, Idaho law allows Best to be prosecuted in Teton County for all three murders, even though one of the victims was found in Bonneville County.

Prosecutors and law enforcement in Teton and Bonneville counties, as well as the Idaho State Police and other law enforcement agencies, are cooperating in the investigation and prosecution of this case.

Prosecutors from Teton and Bonneville Counties ask the public to refrain from uninformed speculation regarding this case, including the Defendant's mental state, the facts surrounding the killings, or otherwise.

"Misinformed or uninformed posts and articles can promulgate a prejudicial narrative among potential jurors and can become exhibits in motions to change venue," explained Bailey Smith, Teton County Prosecuting Attorney. According to Randy Neal, Bonneville County Prosecuting Attorney, "excessive pre-trial publicity can lead to changes in venue which deprive both the State and the Defendant from having an impartial jury of peers selected from the local community."

"I understand that people want and deserve facts about what happened, but we implore the public to be patient and wait for facts to come out through the open court process," added Smith.

The case will now be scheduled for an arraignment before a district judge, however, the date and time of the arraignment are not yet known.

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Filed: 12/18/2023 20:14:48 Seventh Judicial District, Teton County Kim Keeley, Clerk of the Court By: Deputy Clerk - Hill, Susan

Bailey A. Smith, ISB # 11375 Lauretta Welch, ISB #11166 OFFICE OF THE TETON COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY 230 North Main, Suite 125 Driggs, ID 83442 Tel: 208-776-8300 Email: prosdocs@co.teton.id.us

Counsel for the State of Idaho

DISTRICT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT TETON COUNTY, STATE OF IDAHO

STATE OF IDAHO,

Plaintiff,

Case No. CR41-23-0877

INDICTMENT

v.

JEREMY ALBERT BEST,

Defendant.

The Grand Jury of Teton County, by this indictment, charges:

COUNT I MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE Felony, Idaho Code §§ 18-4001; 4002; 4003(a); 4004

The Defendant, Jeremy Albert Best, on or about November 30, 2023, in Teton

County, Idaho, did willfully, unlawfully, deliberately, with premeditation and with

malice aforethought, kill Kali Jean Best, a human being, by shooting her with a

firearm and causing her death.

COUNT II MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE Felony, Idaho Code §§ 18-4001; 4002; 4003(a); 4004

The Defendant, Jeremy Albert Best, on or about November 30, 2023, in Teton County, Idaho, did willfully, unlawfully, deliberately, with premeditation and with malice aforethought, kill a human fetus carried by Kali Jean Best by shooting Kali Jean Best with a firearm and causing her death, and thereby causing the fetus's death.

COUNT III MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE Felony, Idaho Code §§ 18-4001; 4002; 4003(a), (d); 4004

The Defendant, Jeremy Albert Best, on or about November 30 to December 2, 2023, in Bonneville County, Idaho and/or elsewhere including Teton County, Idaho, and as part of a continuing criminal transaction and/or common scheme or plan in Teton and/or Bonneville Counties in Idaho, did willfully, unlawfully, deliberately, with premeditation and with malice aforethought, and/or in the perpetration of or attempt to perpetrate an aggravated battery on a child under twelve (12) years of age, kill Zeke Gregory Best, a human being under one (1) year of age, by inflicting an injury on Zeke Gregory Best's neck using a knife and thereby causing his death.

COUNT I, PART II USE OF A FIREARM OR OTHER DEADLY WEAPON DURING THE COMMISSION A CRIME Enhancement, Idaho Code § 19-2520

The Defendant, Jeremy Albert Best, on or about November 30, 2023, in Teton County, Idaho, did use or attempt to use a firearm or other deadly weapon in the commission of the crime alleged in Count I.

COUNT II, PART II USE OF A FIREARM OR OTHER DEADLY WEAPON DURING THE COMMISSION A CRIME Enhancement, Idaho Code § 19-2520

The Defendant, Jeremy Albert Best, on or about November 30, 2023, in Teton County, Idaho, did use or attempt to use a firearm or other deadly weapon in the commission of the crime alleged in Count II.

COUNT III, PART II USE OF A FIREARM OR OTHER DEADLY WEAPON DURING THE COMMISSION A CRIME Enhancement, Idaho Code § 19-2520

The Defendant, Jeremy Albert Best, on or about November 30 to December 2, 2023, in Bonneville County, Idaho and/or elsewhere including Teton County, Idaho, and as part of a continuing criminal transaction and/or common scheme or plan in Teton and/or Bonneville Counties in Idaho, did use or attempt to use a deadly weapon in the commission of the crime alleged in Count III.

Dated: December 18, 2023

BY THE GRAND JURY

The Presiding Juror