Filed in District Court
State of Minnesota
04/08/2026

State of Minnesota
County of Ramsey

District Court
2nd Judicial District

Prosecutor File No. 0620586256
Court File No. 62-CR-26-846

State of Minnesota,
Plaintiff,

vs.

EDWARD JACOB LANG DOB: 04/07/1995

4413 Trevi Court
Lake Worth, FL 33467

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Summons

[X] Amended

The Complainant submits this complaint to the Court and states that there is probable cause to believe Defendant committed the following offense(s):

COUNT I

Charge: Damage to Property - 1st Degree - Value Reduced Over $1000
Minnesota Statute: 609.595.1(4), with reference to: 609.595.1
Maximum Sentence: 5 years, or $10,000 fine, or both
Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 02/05/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26460063

Charge Description: On or about February 5, 2026, in the County of Ramsey, Minnesota, the defendant, Edward Jacob Lang, did intentionally, and without the consent of the owner or person in lawful possession, cause damage to physical property, and the damage reduced the value of the property by more than $1,000 as measured by the cost of repair and replacement.

COUNT II

Charge: Damage Property - 2nd Degree - Because of Bias; Individual or group
Minnesota Statute: 609.595.1a(a)(3), with reference to: 609.595.1a(a)
Maximum Sentence: 5 years, or $10,000 fine, or both
Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 02/05/2026

Control #(ICR#): 26460063

Charge Description: On or about February 5, 2026, in the County of Ramsey, Minnesota, the defendant, Edward Jacob Lang, did intentionally, and without the consent of the owner or person in lawful possession, cause damage to physical property, motivated in whole or in substantial part by an intent to intimidate or harm an individual or group of individuals because of actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, national origin, or disability as defined in section 363A.03.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

At around 2:30 PM on February 5, 2026, troopers at the Minnesota State Capitol in St. Paul, Ramsey County were alerted to a criminal damage to property incident that occurred on Capitol property.

An art installation made of large blocks of ice that read: PROSECUTE ICE was on permitted display on the Capitol grounds between 6:30 AM and 11:30 PM on February 5, 2026. The Common Defense Organization had paid $6250 to a local artist to create the ice sculpture. The group had paid an additional $600 to have the ice sculpture removed after its permitted placement time lapsed.

A man dressed in camouflage, later identified as **EDWARD JACOB LANG (DOB: 08/29/1995)**, vandalized an ice sculpture. Lang kicked over and destroyed the letters SECUTE so the sculpture read: PRO ICE. Just before kicking the ice sculpture, Lang can be heard in the video stating "our country was made for Americans not for Somalis."

After damaging the ice sculpture, Lang got into a RAM pickup and left the area. Troopers stopped the RAM and identified Lang as the man who had damaged the sculpture. Lang identified himself with his Florida license. Lang said he was on the Capitol grounds exercising his “First Amendment Right to Artistic Expression.” When asked if he had damaged an ice sculpture, Lang said the sculpture was made of ice and could not sustain its structure. Land said he recorded the incident and posted it to his social media account.

Troopers determined that Lang’s criminal damage exceeded the felony threshold, and they arrested Lang. Lang was placed in a squad and asked a cohort to take a photo of him. A trooper advised Capitol security dispatch to save the video of the incident, and Lang replied that he had great video of the incident. Lang asked to be placed in protective custody at the jail.

The Ramsey County Sheriff agreed to accommodate Lang’s request to be placed in protective custody status.

Lang declined a custodial statement, but he asked to convey a message to the prosecuting attorney: “I was creating art. I was exercising my First Amendment right to artistic expression.” Lang again said what he did would be posted on social media.

Complainant notes that the First Amendment does indeed protect artistic expression - the creation and display of an ice sculpture, for example. The First Amendment does not, however, provide protection against damaging someone else’s property.

A trooper contacted the Common Defense Organization organizer and asked what the group's plan was for the Capitol ice art installation after their permitted event ended on February 5, 2026. The organization intended to donate the ice sculpture to a local business after the permit expired so the artwork could be displayed for a longer duration.

NOTICE**:** Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 609.49, subd. 1 (a) A person charged with or convicted of a felony and released from custody, with or without bail or recognizance, who intentionally fails to appear when required after having been notified that a failure to appear for a court appearance is a criminal offense, or after having been released on an order or condition that the release personally appear when required with respect to the charge or conviction, is guilty of a crime for failure to appear and may be sentenced to not more than one-half of the maximum term of imprisonment or fine, or both, provided for the underlying crime for which the person failed to appear, but this maximum sentence shall, in no case, be less than a term of imprisonment of one year and one day or a fine of $1,500, or both.

MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH

SIGNATURES AND APPROVALS

Complainant requests that Defendant, subject to bail or conditions of release, be:
(1) arrested or that other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court; or
(2) detained, if already in custody, pending further proceedings; and that said Defendant otherwise be dealt with according to law.

Complainant declares under penalty of perjury that everything stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat. § 358.116; Minn. R. Crim. P. 2.01, subds. 1, 2.

Complainant

James William Lanoue
Sergeant
3489 Hadley Ave N
Oakdale, MN 55128
Badge: 106

Electronically Signed:
04/08/2026 07:45 AM
Washington County, Minnesota

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

Prosecuting Attorney

Ryan M Flynn
360 Wabasha Street N
Suite 100
St Paul, MN 55101
(651) 266-3222

Electronically Signed:
04/07/2026 04:34 PM

MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH

FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE

From the above sworn facts, and any supporting affidavits or supplemental sworn testimony, I, the Issuing Officer, have determined that probable cause exists to support, subject to bail or conditions of release where applicable, Defendant's arrest or other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court, or Defendant's detention, if already in custody, pending further proceedings. Defendant is therefore charged with the above-stated offense(s).

[X] SUMMONS

THEREFORE YOU, THE DEFENDANT, ARE SUMMONED to appear as directed in the Notice of Hearing before the above-named court to answer this complaint.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR in response to this SUMMONS, a WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST shall be issued.

[ ] WARRANT

To the Sheriff of the above-named county; or other person authorized to execute this warrant: I order, in the name of the State of Minnesota, that the Defendant be apprehended and arrested without delay and brought promptly before the court (if in session), and if not, before a Judge or Judicial Officer of such court without unnecessary delay, and in any event not later than 36 hours after the arrest or as soon as such Judge or Judicial Officer is available to be dealt with according to law.

[ ] ***Execute in MN Only*** [ ] ***Execute Nationwide*** [ ] ***Execute in Border States***

[ ] ORDER OF DETENTION

Since the Defendant is already in custody, I order, subject to bail or conditions of release, that the Defendant continue to be detained pending further proceedings.

Bail: $
Conditions of Release:

This complaint, duly subscribed and sworn to or signed under penalty of perjury, is issued by the undersigned Judicial Officer as of the following date: April 8, 2026.

Judicial Officer Veena Iyer
Judge

Electronically Signed: 04/08/2026 01:01 PM

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

COUNTY OF RAMSEY
STATE OF MINNESOTA

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff

vs.

Edward Jacob Lang

Defendant

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RETURN OF SERVICE
I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Summons upon the Defendant herein named.

Signature of Authorized Service Agent:

DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

Name:	Edward Jacob Lang
DOB:	04/07/1995
Address:	4413 Trevi Court Lake Worth, FL 33467
Alias Names/DOB:	
SID:	MN26G58382
Height:	
Weight:	0lbs.
Eye Color:	Black
Hair Color:	Brown
Gender:	MALE
Race:	White
Fingerprints Required per Statute:	Yes
Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record:	Yes
Driver's License #:	L631194953000 (FL)
Alcohol Concentration:	

MINNESOTA JUDICIAL BRANCH

STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

Cnt Nbr	Statute Type	Offense Date(s)	Statute Nbrs and Descriptions	Offense Level	MOC	GOC	Controlling Agencies	Case Numbers
1	Charge	2/5/2026	609.595.1(4) Damage to Property - 1st Degree - Value Reduced Over $1000	Felony			MNMHP0100	26460063
	Penalty	2/5/2026	609.595.1 Damage to Property-1st Degree	Felony			MNMHP0100	26460063
2	Charge	2/5/2026	609.595.1a(a)(3) Damage Property - 2nd Degree - Because of Bias; Individual or group	Felony	P111H		MNMHP0100	26460063
	Penalty	2/5/2026	609.595.1a(a) Damage Property - 2nd Degree - Because of Bias	Felony	P111H		MNMHP0100	26460063

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