

IN THE
COUNTY OF UTAH, STATE OF UTAH

State of Utah vs. WANG, XIAO LING Date Of Birth: 07/29/1978 483 W 40 NORTH AMERICAN FORK. UT 84003	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Affidavit of Probable Cause</h2>
Arrestee	

On 02/04/2021 14:00 the defendant was arrested for the offense(s) of:

Offense	Offense Date	Offense Description	Enhancement Statute	Severity	Court
1	02/04/2021	AIDING PROSTITUTION	76-10-1304(1)	MA	DST
2	02/04/2021	HUMAN TRAFFICKING	76-5-308	F2	DST
3	02/04/2021	MONEY LAUNDERING	76-10-1903	F2	DST
4	02/04/2021	PATTERN OF UNLAW ACTIVITY	76-10-1603	F2	DST
5	02/04/2021	PROSTITUTION	76-10-1302	MB	DST

I believe there is probable cause to charge the defendant with these charges because:

Detectives have been investigating multiple massage parlors for human trafficking, pattern of unlawful activity, prostitution, aiding prostitution, money laundering, and multiple nuisance violations.

On 09/22/2020, American Fork Police department received an anonymous online complaint from a citizen regarding the new "Asian" massage parlor located at 376 E 60 South, American Fork. The complainant informed officers that this parlor had listings on "Rub Maps", an online website which shows where you can go to receive a "happy ending" massage. The complainant stated in his complaint that all you would need to do is send a male in the parlor, become naked, and as the masseuse begins to massage, she will touch you inappropriately. If you do not complain she will continue and even, make offers for more.

Most, if not all, Asian massage businesses operate the same. In my training and experience I have learned how these criminal organizations are operating with minimal risk to the business owner. An Asian massage parlor, herein referred to as an AMP, typically sets up operation in small strip mall areas throughout the United States. Most AMP's advertise their businesses visually by placing neon signs, window coverings with images of Asian Zen type photos, or lastly simply stating "Asian massage." The business typically applies for a business license with the local government entity within the city it is located. The names listed as owners on the applications are often difficult to understand, as Chinese names start with the last name first. This usually disassociated them from any type of driver's license database since the United States typically lists first name first, and last name last. Many applications have ownership names using out of state driver's licenses and addresses, typically tied to the southern California area.

Once the business is granted a business license, mostly because the city entity has no legal basis to deny licensure, they are able to open the store front. Most of the AMP businesses apply for a business license several times per year, only changing slightly the name variation of the business, and changing the owner's name and information. The store front itself never changes the signage, nor does it operate utilizing the new name change. This tactic is commonly used by the Asian criminal organizations to thwart law enforcement from criminal investigations.

These Asian females fall into a world of human trafficking and become victims in their own right. In the Asian culture, family honor is among the highest level of priority to these Asian female victims. The criminal organizations often threaten to contact their families and provide them with information of voluntary prostitution occurring in the United States, which is unwanted by the female victims. These Asian female victims fall deeper into the human trafficking organization living with the fear of what may happen if they deviate from the criminal organizations wishes. Some of the Asian females are forced to live in small closets or rooms within the massage business premise and given only minimal means for survival. If the Asian female victims are not living on the store premise, they often live with several other Asian women who are also victims of the human trafficking organization in apartment buildings or homes owned or rented by members of the criminal organization.

Detectives began investigating the massage parlor, which were identified as Sunflower Massage. Detectives searched the business license of Sunflower Massage parlor and found the person who applied for the business license was a specific female, and they found she is also the business owner of Relax Wood LLC (204 E 860 South, Orem), Small Rainbow (250 N Orem Boulevard, Orem), and she frequents Magic Massage (483 W 30 North, American Fork).

Detectives began following the business owner and found she travels between the 4 massage parlors.

Detectives have found through surveillance that most of the female masseurs appear to stay at the different parlors they work at. Detectives have rarely seen the female workers leave through multiple hours of surveillance, both physical and electronic.

Through my training, experience and conversations with other officers who specialize in this field, I have found that rarely if ever are the Asian females involved in being trafficked allowed to leave the business. This is done to control the female individuals and keep them involved in trafficking.

Detectives performed multiple undercover operations where officers were sent in as patrons to the different massage parlors and found each of the above listed massage parlors solicited sexual acts in exchange for payment. Detectives performed undercover operations on Sunflower Massage, Relax Wood LLC, Magic Massage, and Small Rainbow. At the undercover operations the Asian

female masseur's solicited sexual activities in exchange for money, this was denied by undercover officers.

On December 14, 2020, a concerned citizen observed an older white male in a Chevrolet Truck picked up a Chinese girl from the Sunflower Massage parlor. The truck then drove to a residence located in Lindon, Utah. Detectives have observed this same Chevrolet Truck at Relax Wood LLC on multiple occasions.

Through my training, experience and communications with other officers, I found it is not uncommon for trafficked girls to be dropped off and picked up by someone other than the business owner. This is done in an attempt to thwart law enforcement investigations and keep other members of the organization "clean".

Detectives have performed multiple "john stops" on customers as they are leaving massage parlors. On all of these stops the male customers have all acknowledge there are "happy endings" offered to customers.

Detectives began reviewing a website which reviews Asian Massage Parlors that offer sexual services to patrons, which they found to be a website designed to leave reviews on various massage parlors which offer happy ending services. Through reviewing multiple reviews on Magic Massage, Relax Wood, and Small Rainbow Massage it was found multiple individuals left reviews in which it was found if you offer a big enough tip you can receive hand jobs, blow jobs and on some cases even sex.

On February 1, 2021 detectives were performing physical surveillance on the Relax Wood LLC and observed two females exit Relax Wood LLC and enter a white Mercedes. The white Mercedes then traveled from Relax Wood LLC to the residence in Lindon. One of the females exited the vehicle and entered the Lindon residence, the other stayed in the vehicle and left the area. An undercover officer who previously performed an undercover investigation at the massage parlor earlier that day observed the driver was one of the females who provided a massage, and solicited sexual acts was driving the white Mercedes then traveled to Small Rainbow Massage located at 250 North Orem Boulevard without making any stops along the way.

Through my training and experience I have found that most organizations will have some sort of headquarters which holds money, transaction books, files, passports, identifications, and other valuable items.

Once at the police department, a Sergeant interviewed a victim (who they determined later to be a victim) that worked at one of the massage parlors in American Fork. A translator was present because the victim did not speak any or little English. Miranda was advised to the victim which she understood and agreed to answer questions. The victim explained how she was from China and had traveled to the United States to practice the religion of her choice. The victim explained how she had traveled through California, Louisiana, Illinois, Nevada, and Utah. The victim had only worked at the massage parlor for about 3 weeks and was told to charge the customers \$60.00 for a full hour massage and \$50.00 for a half hour massage. The victim would get \$20 or \$10 for her payment and it would be paid in cash. The victim did not know who the "boss" was that was paying her. The victim described how she was not allowed to leave the parlor or go anywhere without being instructed to by the unknown boss. The victim lived and cooked her food in the massage parlor. The victim described that customers would make sexual gestures, but she would tell them "no". The victim became emotional describing her husband and son in China and how she had to flee for religious purposes.

During the interview, the victim would often say "them", "they" or "us" to describe individuals in business dealings, but when asked who she was referring to the victim would correct herself to say "I" or "me". The Sergeant believed she was still fearful of the individuals who had placed her into this dangerous situation. When questions were asked of the victim how she got here, or who brought her here, the victim would often say she did not remember, or she did not want to talk about it. Ultimately through the interview the victim explained how she really did not know any of the area or the cities she was in. The victim said she came to Utah with Xiaoling Wang. The victim said Wang and the victim flew from Chicago to Utah for work due to COVID-19. The victim said Wang and the victim got a ride from a Caucasian male. The victim said she sat in the back of the vehicle while Wang sat in the front. The way the victim described the ride from the airport it seemed that Wang was very involved in coordinating the victims travel and working plans. Once the victim began working at the parlor, Wang would coordinate with the "boss" all the funds and money that was earned. The victim also said Wang would communicate with the "boss", but not with the victim around. Wang also had a vehicle that the victim did not have access to. Knowing that the victim was not allowed to leave the business when she wanted to, and Wang controlled the victim in her travel destinations and work schedule, the Sergeant believed Wang was trafficking the victim.

Detectives reviewed a website which details various massage parlors throughout the state and tells other individuals what services are provided. On this website detectives observed Magic Massage was one of the listed parlors. In the reviews from this parlor the victim was described, and the various reviews left stated that she solicited sexual acts in exchange for money.

When law enforcement told the victim they believed she was being trafficked, the victim became emotional and thanked law enforcement for helping her. The victim was provided with victim services so she could get out of the situation she was in.

Post Miranda Wang informed detectives that she arrived in Utah in October, 2020. Wang is listed as the business owner and on the business license for Magic Massage in American Fork, Wang also admitted to being the business owner. Wang purchased all of the items inside the business, and got the business up and running.

December 8, 2020 officers performed an undercover operation at the Magic Massage parlor in American Fork. On this undercover operation detectives identified Xiaoling Wang as the female who provided the massage. On this occasion Xiaoling Wang solicited sexual acts in exchange for money, the undercover officer refused this act and left.

Xiaoling Wang admitted to hiring the victim to work for her at Magic Massage parlor, and brought her here from Chicago, Illinois. Wang admitted to providing massages at Magic Massage.

Detectives located large amounts of cash during the search warrant. Through my training, experience, and talking to other officers I have found this consistent with the operations of illegal massage parlors engaged in unlawful activities.

Further, pursuant to Utah Code § 77-20-1(2), I request that the Defendant be detained. I make this request on the following grounds.

The defendant is charged with a felony and there is substantial evidence supporting the charge 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.

I make this request based upon the information contained in the probable cause, as well as the following:
Detectives are currently unaware if all human trafficking victims have been recovered. If defendant is released, I believe it is possible that the defendant may take those victims from this jurisdiction to prevent their discovery. Due to the fact the defendant has no ties to this community and has spent time in other states I believe that if released the defendant will flee the state. The defendant is not a citizen of the United States.

By submitting this affidavit, I declare under criminal penalty of the State of Utah that the foregoing is true and correct.
/S/ Lott, Shawn E

Officer Name: AFSELOTT - Shawn E Lott

A sworn officer with: UT0250100 - American Fork PD

Agency Case 21AF00967

Probable Cause Entered: 02/04/2021 23:16

Probable Cause ID: 159379

Suggested Bail Amount:

SUBMISSION IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

Booking Agency: Utah County Sheriff Office

Agency Inmate ID: 401946

Arrest Date/Time: 02/04/2021 14:00

SID: NONE

FBI ID: NONE

Booking Agency ORI: UT0250000

OTN: 60808698