

PROBABLE CAUSE STATEMENT FORM

STATE OF MISSOURI

COUNTY OF RAY

Date: April 26, 2016

I, Sergeant Greg Martin, a Criminal Investigator with the Missouri State Highway Patrol's Division of Drug and Crime Control, knowing that false statements on this form are punishable by law, state the facts contained herein are true.

1. I have probable cause to believe that:

Randy Michael Garrison  
Date of Birth: March 25, 1982  
Address: 9634 Shach Creek Road, Orrick, Ray County, Missouri 64077  
Social Security Number: [REDACTED]

Committed one or more criminal offense(s):

2. The facts supporting this belief are as follows:

- a. On Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at 1219 hours, the Ray County 911 Office received a telephone call reporting a structure fire, located at 9634 Shach Creek Road, Orrick, Ray County, Missouri 64077. A response by several area fire departments revealed a trailer fire. Ultimately, this fire was extinguished.
- b. A subsequent search of the fire scene, by responding fire departments, revealed the presence of two dead bodies. These bodies are believed to be RG, date of birth August 10, 2010 and AG, date of birth March 21, 2012. On December 10, 2013, at 1332 hours, investigators with the Missouri Division of Fire Safety arrived and began an investigation of the scene.
- c. During the fire scene examination, the wood burning stove and flu pipe were examined. Based on this examination, no signs of a flu fire were observed and the stove was intact and showed no damage.
- d. On December 10, Randy Garrison was interviewed by law enforcement. Garrison reported he arrived home at approximately 0600 hours, that morning. Garrison told investigators he subsequently went to sleep in his bedroom, identified as the room on the extreme northeast corner of the trailer. According to Garrison, he later awoke to his kids screaming and noticed smoke and flames above his bed. Garrison reported he got up and began tearing a hole through the interior wall which separated his bedroom and the boy's bedroom. Garrison stated he was unable to get through this wall so he went into the hallway and tripped over what he thought was a bungee cord, which was stretched from the door on the children's room and into the bedroom across the hallway. Garrison said this caused him to fall face first into the fire. Garrison stated he noticed fire over his head and it appeared the living room and kitchen was fully involved in fire. At this point, Garrison said he retreated out of the back door of the residence.
- e. Garrison stated once outside of the residence, he ran around to the front of the house. Garrison reported upon reaching the front of the house, he could still hear his kids screaming. Garrison said he then began tearing a hole in the siding but was unable to reach his kids. Garrison said on two occasions, while tearing this hole, he was overcome by smoke and was forced to his knees. Garrison reported he did not

FILED

JUN 01 2016

CAROLYNE CONNER, CIRCUIT CLERK  
RAY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

pass out either of these times. Garrison said after no longer hearing his kids screaming he dialed 911 and reported the fire.

f. On Wednesday, December 11, 2013, beginning at approximately 1612 hours, Randy Garrison was interviewed by law enforcement. Garrison reported he got home on Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at around 0545-0600 hours. He said upon arriving home, Tamara Willis and AG were sleeping on a chair, while RG was sleeping on a sectional sofa. He said after arriving home he realized their house water lines were frozen. Garrison said he was upset by this and decided to go to sleep. Garrison said he walked down the hall and went to sleep in his room. He said he was uncertain as to the actual time he went to sleep but knew it was still dark outside. He said he got into bed and covered up completely, including his face, with a blanket and went to sleep.

g. Garrison said he next woke up to his kids screaming. He said upon waking up he could only see dark and could not breath and realized the house was on fire. He said he took off down the hallway and tripped on a bungee cord. Garrison explained this bungee cord was in place to secure a baby gate at the kid's bedroom. Garrison said upon tripping, he fell face first into the fire. He said this caused him to not be able to open his eyes. He said he ran out of the house's back door and in doing so fell through the floor, due to the fire. Garrison said when he got outside he was able to open his eyes and realized the fire was so intense he could not go back inside of the residence.

h. Once outside, Garrison said he ran to the front of the house and realized the walls were only one inch thick so he pulled back the exterior sheeting. He said he then began punching the exterior in order to gain entry into the children's room. He said upon making a hole into the room, he realized it was completely full of smoke and flames, though he could still hear the kids screaming. Garrison said at this point, he collapsed. He said when he regained consciousness, he looked up and saw the roof was leaning and the house might fall on top of him. Garrison said, "I can't have that." Garrison said he backed up and called 911. Garrison said he then realized his truck and the propane tank were both smoking. Garrison said he moved his truck away from the house and to the road, got out of the vehicle, and again collapsed. Garrison said a Highway Patrolman arrived and he showed him where he tore the sheeting away from the house and punched through the side of the residence. Garrison said he told the Trooper he expected the kids to be in this room based on their screams. He said he expected Willis to be home, though she wasn't. Garrison said when he went to sleep earlier, Willis and the kids were there. He said when he woke up the kids were screaming and he did not see Willis in the residence.

i. Garrison reported he was sleeping in his clothes at the time of the fire. He said he had his cellular telephone and truck keys in his pocket. He said he did not immediately call 911 because he did not think he had his cellular telephone on him, though he found it in his pants pocket when he was outside. Garrison reiterated he woke up to his kids screaming, "Bloody fucking murder." He told us if he had not heard his kids screaming he would not have woke up because he is a very deep sleeper. Garrison told us the normal routine is that Willis watches the kids when he is asleep. He said she normally wakes him up when she leaves, though she did not do this on the day of the fire.

j. Various first responders were interviewed and reported the following information was obtained from Randy Garrison:

Garrison said the kids were inside the residence but later changed his story to not knowing where the kids were.

Garrison was asked what room the children were in. Garrison said, "They were either in the living room or the bedroom," but again Garrison wasn't sure where they were at.

Garrison was then asked about who was in the fire and he stated my two kids and then followed that statement up with, "no one woke me up."

First responders reported there was no fight from Garrison when it came to going to the hospital. They stated again that there was no fight or resistance of any sort from Garrison.

A first responder stated he couldn't help but notice Garrison was wearing a white t-shirt and it was still white when they made contact with him.

A first responder stated none of Garrison's clothes were burnt and he had a 1<sup>st</sup> degree burn on the left side of his neck, but this is about the equivalent of a sun burn.

An EMT who treated Garrison said he was not having any trouble breathing and that an inspection of Garrison's lungs, using a stethoscope, indicated they sounded clear.

Another EMT who treated Garrison said he did not appear to have any burns to his feet, body, or clothing.

k. On Thursday, December 12, 2013, Tamera Willis was interviewed by law enforcement. Willis reported waking up around 0930-1000 hours. She said she overslept as she had an appointment in Richmond at 0930 hours. She said she woke Garrison up and he sat up and smoked a cigarette. Willis then clarified that after she woke Garrison up, he got out of bed, smoked a cigarette, and let their dog out. Willis told us when she got up, RG and AG were still asleep in the living room and this is where she left them. Willis said both boys last ate around 0330 hours, on December 10. She said they were sick and she feed them cereal before giving them cold medicine. She said after feeding both boys, they all slept on the couch. Willis reiterated both boys were sleeping on the living room furniture when she left.

l. On December 12, 2013, Randy Garrison was interviewed again by law enforcement. Garrison stated he was awakened by his kids screaming and that his bedroom was filled with smoke. He added he could see flames on his ceiling that extended into the hallway. Garrison said there was flames and smoke in the hallway and he observed smoke and flames in his children's bedroom, on the ceiling, as well. Garrison said the front room and kitchen were gone.

m. Garrison added he ran down the hallway from his bedroom and tripped over something in the hallway that was springy which made him fall face first into the fire. He said that he got back up; thought about how he needed to get his kids, and exited out of the rear door. Garrison said he pulled the siding off the house and started punching a hole through the wall to get to his kids. He said as he was punching the hole in the exterior side of the house, he collapsed. When he came too, he realized the roof was going to collapse on him so he moved away from the house. Garrison told investigators after he moved away from the house he realized his Tahoe was starting to burn so he moved it.

n. Garrison said he could not breathe while he was inside the residence. He added that it was hard to see because the smoke was so black. Garrison said he kept falling through the floor as he made his way to the

back door, after falling into the fire in the hallway. Garrison told investigators that he heard the screams from his kids coming from their bedroom which he indicated was again next to his bedroom where he was sleeping. Garrison said he had floor to ceiling smoke in his room and he was able to breathe; however as he entered the hallway he was not able to breathe because the smoke was much thicker. Garrison said he encountered a wall of flames at the end of the hallway which he walked through to get out of the back door.

o. Garrison stated he could still hear his kids screaming while he was on the outside of the home punching through the exterior of the residence. He added he passed out from the smoke that was venting through the hole that he punched through the exterior of the residence and into his kid's bedroom. He said when he regained consciousness, smoke and fire was venting out of the windows from his kid's bedroom and his bedroom. Garrison indicated he opened up an approximately 1 1/2' wide by 1' tall hole into the exterior of the home and that he could only get his arms into the hole. He stated he was unable to fit his head and shoulders through the hole, as his body was too big.

p. Garrison stated the ambulance workers looked at his throat, which they said was badly burned and they transported him to the hospital. Garrison added that he did not want to go because of his kids. Garrison stated he had burns to his hair and a little bit to his hands, though he did not have major burns, just flash burns like a mild to bad sunburn. Garrison said his throat was also burned from breathing the smoke on the outside of the house when he was trying to get to his kids. Garrison said he inhaled more smoke outside the home than he did on the inside because he could not breathe inside the home.

q. On Friday, December 13, 2013, law enforcement again interviewed Randy Garrison. Garrison said when he received treatment for injuries, which he said resulted from his exposure to fire, he was told by an emergency room doctor his throat was badly burned. Garrison reiterated upon walking out of his bedroom, the front room and kitchen were already gone by the fire. He said the flames were on the ceiling in the hallway, on the ceiling and all over the doorway in the kid's bedroom, and all the way down to his bedroom.

r. Garrison then changed his earlier statement and told law enforcement that when he talked to Tamara Willis the previous night, she told him the kids were on the couch and he was awake when she left. Garrison said he does not remember being woke up but this has happened to him before when Willis woke him up in the middle of the night. He says a lot of people do this, where you sleep walk or whatever and you go right back to sleep. Garrison maintains if Willis did wake him up he went back to bed and doesn't even remember her waking him up. According to Garrison, the only thing he remembers is going to bed and waking up to flames and smoke.

s. On Wednesday, December 18, 2013, law enforcement interviewed a nurse who treated Garrison. This nurse said throughout her time with Garrison, he did not cough very much. This nurse said Garrison reported to have awoken during the fire and tried to get through the wall to his children's room. She said he told her he then went outside and tried to enter through the exterior of the residence, but could not. This nurse described Garrison's overall medical assessment as good. She said he displayed no special charring around his eyes and that his eyeballs looked good. This nurse reported Garrison said he did not lose consciousness and did not have burns to his hands or feet.

t. On Thursday, December 19, 2013, law enforcement received a telephone call from Randy Garrison. Garrison reiterated he was unsure what room the children's bodies were found in. He said he went towards the sounds of their screams as he first realized their house was on fire. Garrison told them he was incorrect, on December 13, when he said Tamara Willis woke him up, prior to leaving on December 10. He said he has played it over in his mind and he now realizes she never woke him up. He reiterated the only thing which woke him up that morning were the screams of his children.

u. On Thursday, December 19, 2013, law enforcement interviewed the Emergency Room doctor who treated Randy Garrison. This doctor explained Garrison discharged himself against medical advice. This doctor reported not seeing any injuries consistent with thermal burns. This doctor said Garrison's chief complaint was that his feet were cold but there were no obvious burns in this area. This doctor said Garrison did not cough during his time with him and that his Carbon Monoxide level was 7.6%. This doctor said a regular smoker can have a level as high as 10-15%, based on the frequency of smoking cigarettes. This doctor said he asked Garrison, on multiple occasions, if he lost consciousness, which he said Garrison told him he never did.

v. On Tuesday, December 24, 2013, law enforcement interviewed a security officer at the hospital where Garrison received treated. This officer reported Garrison checked himself out of the hospital against medical advice. This officer said as he was walking out of the hospital garage with Garrison, Garrison told him Tamara Willis told him she planned on killing him and their two sons and this occurred the previous Saturday, December 7, 2013.

w. According to this officer, Garrison and some of his family members were gathered out in front of the double-door entrance to the Emergency Room. He described this area as an, "island" between the areas designated for incoming and outgoing traffic. He reported as he walked up to Garrison they had a private conversation, even though others were standing in the general vicinity. This officer reported as he spoke with Garrison, Garrison told him he did not believe there should have been any deaths in the fire as he thought Willis had abducted both kids and was not in the house. This officer reported Garrison told him he left the hospital against medical advice, as he originally believed his kids were ok and now wanted to go be with them. Garrison stated he would have never come to the hospital originally, if he thought his kids had been killed. This officer also reported Garrison told him once he realized the house was on fire, he tripped as he was trying to leave. This officer said Garrison never told him what woke him up, though he denied Garrison ever said he was woke up by hearing the fire, people yelling, or kids screaming. This officer said Garrison and several members of his family, after he checked himself out of the hospital, spent approximately 1 1/2 hours talking in the hospital's parking lot, prior to leaving the grounds. This officer said Garrison never mentioned the children, only in the context that he thought they were with Willis during the fire.

x. On February 6, 2014, law enforcement interviewed a person who reported the fire to 911 at 1219 hours. This person reported approaching the fire scene and overheard a conversation where Randy Garrison said, "Mom, I just lost my kids in the fire. My house caught on fire." During this time, the witness reported Garrison was standing near the roadway. A search of Garrison's telephone records indicates this call occurred between 1224 and 1226 hours. This witness observed as a vehicle drove up to the residence, as it was burning, and the driver spoke with Garrison.

y. On Thursday, February 13, 2014, law enforcement interviewed a person who drove up to Randy Garrison, as he was standing near the roadway, while his residence was burning. This witness said as he arrived at Garrison's residence, he observed Garrison talking on the telephone. This witness reported upon his arrival, he asked Garrison if the boys were in the house. According to this witness, Garrison called him a, "mother fucker" and told him to leave. This witness estimated he asked Garrison a total of three times where the boys were and got the same response from him each time. This witness said Garrison never once asked him for his help. This witness said the west end of the residence was more involved in fire and the flames were just starting to come out of the picture window, west of the deck, which he estimated were about one-foot in height. This witness said he was pretty sure the flames had not yet made it to the deck. This witness said the south west corner of the residence was more involved than any other part of the house.

z. This witness reported talking with Tamara Willis during the morning hours of December 10, 2013, at his residence. This witness reported Willis told him when she left her residence, AG and RG were sleeping and she woke Garrison up, prior to arriving at his residence. This witness said Willis reported the boys were both sleeping on the couch when she left that morning. This witness said when Willis arrived that morning she was cold. According to this witness, Willis attributed being cold to Garrison having not put any wood in the stove and that there was no fire in the stove when she left that morning.

aa. On February 3, 2014, law enforcement interviewed Randy Garrison regarding his residence fire. Garrison said he got home around 0600 hours, on December 10, and when he arrived, RG was asleep on the sectional while Tamara Willis and AG were sleeping on the Chase chair. He said he then went to his bedroom, covered up his face and body and went to sleep. Garrison said he then woke up to his kids screaming and seeing flames on the ceiling of his bedroom, flames on the ceiling of the hallway, and the kid's bedroom doorway was on fire. Garrison said as he ran down the hallway, he tripped over a bungee cord which spanned the hallway from his children's bedroom doorway. He said he fell face first into the fire and his eyes, "matted shut." He said he ran out of the back door and around to the front of his house and started ripping the sheeting off the side of the house and punching through the exterior wall. At this point, he said he could still hear the boys and thought he had one of their hands. Garrison said he then passed out. He said once he awoke, he realized the roof appeared to be shifting towards him and he moved to get away from the roof. He said he then moved his truck and called 911. Garrison further explained when he attempted to punch through the interior wall in his bedroom, to get to his children, he struck furniture positioned in their room. Garrison said he was later placed into the ambulance but refused to go to the hospital. He said he was then told by a chief paramedic, "You are going to the fucking hospital right now."

bb. Garrison reiterated he awoke to his kids screaming; saw black smoke and flames on the ceiling of his bedroom. He said there was so much black smoke in his bedroom he could not see the floor. He described the fire above him as, "rumbling." Garrison said he ran down the hall and tripped over a bungee cord. At this point, he said the entire front room and kitchen were fully engulfed in fire. Garrison was asked about falling face first into the fire. He said this was the point where he burned his face and hair. He characterized this as losing sense of where he was. He said he felt his way along the walls and retreated from the house out of the back door. Garrison was asked to better describe falling into the fire. He said the floor was on fire where he was at and he fell face first into it. Garrison said what he fell into were flames coming up from the floor. He said the house was completely black from the smoke.

Garrison said he could only see flames on the floor and black smoke. Garrison said upon tripping, his face hit the floor. Garrison said his hands fell into the fire also and this caused blistering. He also said his eye lashes matted shut and he demonstrated how he used his fingers to pry them open.

cc. Garrison said he ran out of the back door and ran to the front of the house. He said he thinks he was inside of the house for 1 1/2 minutes and could only breathe by filtering air with his shirt. Garrison said he ran to the front of the house and ran to the children's bedroom. He said he tore the sheeting away and began punching through the exterior wall. Garrison said he thought he had one of the children's hands and he then passed out. Garrison described the hole he was punching through as being 1 1/2' east of the east end of the porch and two feet below the window in the children's bedroom. Garrison described the hole he punched as being approximately 20" wide and the sheeting he ripped away as being approximately 48" wide. Garrison said the kids were still screaming as he was punching through the wall, prior to passing out. Garrison said once the Highway Patrolman arrived, he pointed out this hole to him. Garrison said he reached into the hole and grabbed a hand only to later realize it was a doll's hand. He said he did not realize there was a toy box in this area. Garrison said he then moved his truck and collapsed again, next to his truck. He said the Highway Patrolman arrived and drug Garrison over to his patrol vehicle.

dd. Garrison then described passing out next to the children's bedroom. Garrison said he was unsure of when he regained consciousness only that flames were coming out of his bedroom window at that point. He said the kids were still screaming when he grabbed the hand of the doll. Garrison described passing out and coming to rest over the back of a deer statue which was near the house, and facing the residence, with his feet on the ground. Garrison then estimated he was passed out for 1-2 minutes. He said this deer would have rested directly below the children's bedroom window. Garrison then clarified his left arm rested over the deer while he was unconscious.

ee. Garrison was then asked about some inconsistencies in his story. Garrison then changed his earlier story and said he never punched through the interior wall of his bedroom to gain access to his children's room. Garrison then started saying he does not think he went unconscious when attempting to punch through the front of the house to gain access to his children's room. He attributes this to, "blacking-out from panicking." Garrison was then confronted over statements he gave indicating he passed out when he told medical personnel he never did. Garrison could not articulate any defense to this question.

ff. Garrison was asked if smoke was coming out of the hole in the front of the house as he punched into the children's bedroom and if his kids were still screaming, which he advised yes to both. It was pointed out to Garrison it is impossible for the kids to scream in a smoke filled environment. Garrison changed his earlier stories and said he heard something, when earlier he described hearing his children's screams. Garrison was asked why he lied about his eyes being matted shut when he fell into the fire. Garrison accounted for this by stating his eyelashes were burnt. Garrison was told the doctor and EMT's assessed this and said there were no burns to his face or around the eyes and there were no burns to his feet either.

gg. Garrison was asked about a hospital security officer he spoke with at the hospital. Garrison reiterated he left the hospital against medical advice to be with his kids. Garrison was reminded he told this officer he did not expect to have any fatalities in the fire because Tamara Willis was gone and she had abducted the kids. Garrison was also reminded this officer said he never mentioned being awoken by kids screaming. Garrison was also reminded he told this officer he was leaving to go and be with his kids. It

was then pointed out to Garrison he stayed in the parking lot with his family for 1 1/2 hours before leaving. Garrison attributed this time delay to needing to find out where everyone was going to go.

hh. Garrison was confronted that he was never in the fire to the extent he claims, based on his low carbon monoxide level and that when he called 911, at 1219 hours, he never coughed. Garrison said he was coughing flem up when he sat against the Highway Patrol car waiting for medical attention. Garrison was then told this never occurred as he was being video recorded at this time. Garrison could not articulate a direct response to this. Garrison was asked how he can explain his lack of injuries given his claims of being in a burning environment. Garrison said his face and goatee were burned. It was pointed out these burns were on the left side of his face only and likely occurred as he was moving his vehicle away from the house. It was pointed out to Garrison that in an earlier interview he said he passed out and a responding Highway Patrolman revived him upon his arrival, which was not true. Garrison could articulate no reasonable response to either of these statements.

ii. Garrison was confronted with the fact he was not in the house during the time of the fire. Garrison was told his carbon monoxide level was too low, given the fire scene he described during an earlier interview. Garrison was reminded he reported waking up to flames and smoke in his bedroom and that his room was completely full of smoke and flames could be seen rolling in from the hallway and the flames extended into his bedroom. He was also reminded he reported walking into the hallway where the smoke and fire intensified to the point where the living room and kitchen were fully engulfed with fire from the floor to the ceiling. Garrison was told it is physically impossible to walk through fire and not sustain any injuries. Garrison was told if he had woke up in the environment he described, he would have had a much higher carbon monoxide level and there would also have been other irritants in the room, besides the carbon monoxide, that would have affected his vision. Garrison was told if he had opened his eyes in his bedroom, given his earlier description of the fire, he would not have been able to see due to these irritants and he would have had second and third degree burns if he was even able to survive the encounter.

jj. It was suggested to Garrison the fire was not as large as he earlier described, which he admits his earlier description of the fire was how it felt to him. Garrison said that as he made it down the hallway, everything he could see was in flames and reiterates there was fire around and above the door frame to the boy's bedroom. Garrison changed his earlier versions of numerous statements made and began saying he woke up to what he thought was the sounds of his children's screams. It was then pointed out to Garrison a questioning of his ability to be able to pinpoint the screams of his children given other noises that would have existed in a fire as he earlier described. Garrison then responds, "Maybe the fire wasn't as big." Garrison is then confronted with information indicating his earlier description of the floor to ceiling fire he described in the living room and kitchen would have emitted temperatures of around 1400 degrees and this would have been unsustainable for human life. Garrison responded he did not start the fire and his mistake was he did not get to his kids. Garrison is asked why he earlier described the fire as being as large as he did. Garrison responded he did this because that was how it seemed to him, explaining he had just awoken from a deep sleep.

kk. Garrison is confronted with the fact his description of events surrounding the fire is impossible. Garrison then says he guesses the fire was not as big. He then clarifies this statement and says the fire was not big. Garrison is then asked how big the fire was and he responds that he could not tell, citing the fire was beyond where he was at. Garrison is asked to describe the location of the fire, which he says the



couch, wall, and floor were on fire. Garrison is confronted over the fact that his low carbon monoxide level and lack of physical injury, the fire would have been in an incipient stage and based on this, Garrison would have had multiple opportunities to retrieve his children. Garrison is told there would have been no fire rolling through the hallway, which Garrison responds that there was fire in this location. He is then told that this alone would have burned him. Garrison responded, "Ok." Garrison is then asked how big the fire was. Garrison says the front room and kitchen were on fire and flames were on the ceiling both in the hallway and in his bedroom. Garrison is told this was impossible. Garrison then says he was sleeping and perhaps the fire was not as big as he earlier described. Garrison is then told that if the fire was not as big then the amount of smoke in the hallway would not have been as thick.

ll. Garrison is asked to describe how big the fire was. Garrison says it looked like the couch was on fire, the wall was on fire, the wall near the wood burning stove was on fire, and there was starting to be flames in the hallway, and smoke thick enough to prevent from seeing where he was going. Garrison is then told the fire had to have been smaller than he earlier described as it is not possible to walk past a fully engulfed living room and kitchen and not get burned. Again, Garrison is told the fire had to be smaller than he described. Garrison replied, "Then it probably was."

mm. Garrison is asked why he earlier described the kitchen as fully engulfed, which he says whenever he can't see anything he considers it fully engulfed. Garrison then hypothesized he made the fire worse by opening the back door and providing additional oxygen. Garrison is then asked what was on fire in the living room. Garrison responded the couch, wall, floor, and the part around the wood burning stove. Garrison reiterates this is what makes him say the room was fully engulfed. Garrison also states there were flames on the ceiling of the hallway and above his kid's room's door frame. Garrison is then told there was no way the fire was as big as he first reported and that it must have been smaller. Garrison is then asked if it was smaller, why was he unable to get his kids out. Garrison responds, "I don't know. Maybe I panicked, maybe I didn't think, I don't know. That thought has gone through my head every fucking day." Garrison is then asked how much smaller the fire really was than what he has been reporting. Garrison then changes his earlier story and says the couch, the upper doorway of the kid's bedroom door, and the floor was on fire. Garrison said he panicked when he tripped over the bungee cord and just ran outside and decided to get the kids that way.

nn. Garrison was asked about an earlier statement he made saying he woke up to his kids screaming, "Bloody fucking murder." He was then asked why he told a hospital security officer he woke up and thought there would be no deaths because Tamara Willis abducted the children. It was then pointed out he said he told the same officer he would have never left in the ambulance if he thought his kids were in the fire. Garrison said he hoped all along Willis had the kids with her even though he reportedly heard them screaming. Garrison was asked why he reported his eye were matted shut when he fell into the fire, after tripping over the bungee cord, which he said his eyelashes were burnt. It was explained to him his medical reports indicated there were no burns to his face and therefore his eyes were not matted shut. Garrison then changed his earlier statement and said his eyelashes were burned together. Again, it was pointed out this was incorrect based on the medical records. Garrison then says he may have been overdramatic when describing the size of the fire.

oo. Garrison is then confronted that it was not possible to have been awakened by his kids screaming. Garrison then changed his earlier stories and said the screams he woke up to, prior to the fire, were a

dream. Garrison accounts for the decreased size of the fire by saying the back of the couch was on fire. Garrison says after he fell, the smoke continued to thicken in the house. He said he ran out of the backdoor because he could not breathe inside of the house. He said he then attempted to get to his kids from the outside. Garrison is questioned over the fact that if he was going to say the fire was smaller he should have given the correct information during his initial interview. Garrison accounts for this discrepancy by saying he woke up to a nightmare and he felt it was a lot bigger than what it was. Garrison then says maybe the fire wasn't that big. Garrison said the area where his couch normally sits was covered in flames.

pp. Garrison accounts for his inconsistent stories by saying he is still confused. Garrison then says when he got home the morning of the fire, he started a fire in the fireplace between 0600 to 0700 hours. He then reports he has problems with Willis not shutting the door on the wood burning stove. Garrison says Willis either left a cigarette or a candle burning and attributes this as the cause of the fire. Garrison is then confronted with the information that he has again switched his story from arson to an accidental cause. Garrison is reminded that either scenario would have started a fire which would have emitted more gases and no one would have survived. Garrison is confronted over the lies he has told and he could not articulate a reasonable response accounting for this. Garrison admits the fire was small enough for him to get out of the house. Garrison reports the fire was contained to his seven foot couch and the wall next to the couch. Garrison accounts for his lies regarding the fire because everyone was pointing the finger at him originally. He bases this on a newspaper telling him investigators wanted to talk with him. Garrison estimated the flames coming off the couch were approximately 18" to 24" off the couch. He says another reason he wanted to get outside was to get to a garden hose but it was too late by the time he got outside. Garrison then changes his earlier estimation of the flame height from the top of the couch and says it was approximately 12" to 18". He estimates the flame width on the couch was approximately 24" to 36". Garrison says he tripped on the bungee cord and he could not get air so he ran outside. Garrison is then told if the fire was as small as he is now saying, there is no reason why he could not have gotten the kids out of the house. Garrison responds, "There was, but."

qq. On March 5, 2014, law enforcement interviewed a fire fighter who responded to Garrison's residence and fought the fire. He advised upon his arrival, approximately 30 feet of the trailer was involved in fire, describing the fire as having advanced to the east side of the trailer's front door jamb.

rr. This fire fighter disputed a claim Randy Garrison made on a news report aired by Fox 4 on December 10, 2013, at 2100 hours. This dispute arises over a specific report indicating, "He ran straight to the boy's room, smoke and fire was everywhere." This fire fighter said there was no fire at the boy's room when he first began spraying water from in front of their bedroom. He reported if the fire had advanced to this location, and Garrison immediately called 911, their ten minute response from receiving the call to actually arriving at the scene would have meant the fire would have burned further east than it actually had.


ss. This fire fighter, on this same television news report, disputed additional information indicating, "So he ran to the outside of the house to try and break through the bedroom wall." This fire fighter was also shown a segment of Garrison's February 2014, interview, where Garrison described tearing off the siding from under the children's bedroom window and east of the front porch. This fire fighter said he fought the fire from this point. He said there was no hole in the siding of the residence where Garrison said he

attempted to get into the children's room from the outside of the residence. He also said there was no sheeting on the residence pulled back either. This fire fighter said he was 100% sure the information Garrison provided was not correct. He reiterated the entire sheeting was completely intact and there was no hole.

Therefore:

On December 10, 2013, in the County of Ray, State of Missouri, Randy Michael Garrison, Date of Birth: March 25, 1982, Social Security Number: [REDACTED], committed the crime of Abandonment of a Child in the First Degree, RSMO 568.030.

Sergeant Greg Martin  
Missouri State Highway Patrol  
Division of Drug and Crime Control

  
Signature