

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT

DANE COUNTY

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Plaintiff,

vs.

BENJAMIN C LARSON

Fond Du Lac, WI 54937

DOB: 03/13/1979

Sex/Race: M/W

Eye Color: Blue

Hair Color: Brown

Height: 6 ft 2 in

Weight: 230 lbs

Alias:

Defendant,

Ref. Agency: Madison (City) Police
Department

DA Case No.: 2026DA008006

Assigned DA/ADA:

Agency Case No.: 2026-00347760

Court Case No.: **26CF**_____

ATN: 13016501199252

For Official Use

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

The below-named complaining witness being first duly sworn states the following:

Count 1: STALKING

The above-named defendant On or between 6/1/13 - 7/30/26, in the City of Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin, did intentionally engage in a course of conduct directed at a specific person to wit: Victim 1 that caused that person and that would cause a reasonable person under the same circumstances to suffer serious emotional distress or to fear bodily injury or death to themselves or to a member of their family or household and where the defendant knew or should have known that at least one of the acts that constituted the course of conduct caused Victim 1 to suffer serious emotional distress or placed Victim 1 in reasonable fear of bodily injury or death to themselves or a member of their family or household and where the defendant's acts caused Victim 1 to suffer serious emotional distress or induced fear in Victim 1 of bodily injury or death to themselves or a member of their family or household, contrary to sec. 940.32(2), 939.50(3)(i) Wis. Stats., a Class I Felony, and upon conviction may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than three (3) years and six (6) months, or both.

FACTS:

Beginning on July 31st, 2026, Victim 1 contacted law enforcement to report concerning behavior she has been the recipient of since 2013. Victim 1 reported that she dated a man named Benjamin Larson for approximately 2 months in 2013, seeing him a "handful of times" as she lived in Madison and he lived in Fond du Lac. Victim 1 stated she met Benjamin through mutual friends, who she no longer keeps in contact with, when she went with these friends to Benjamin's residence so he could do body casts of them. Victim 1 recounted how they met for coffee at Michelangelo's in Madison and that Larson disclosed being in a "lonely

and loveless marriage". Victim 1 described the relationship as very intense and reported over the course of the relationship Benjamin shared being obsessed with Ed Gein (a prolific serial killer in the early 1900's), death and gore, and the relationship ultimately ended after Benjamin called Victim 1 informing her, he was suicidal with a gun to his head.

Victim 1 stated she moved to Canada in the fall of 2013 and did not provide her new address to Benjamin. Victim 1 reported this is when Benjamin sent 3-4 letters to Victim 1's mother's residence in the City of Madison, Dane County, Wisconsin that were addressed to Victim 1. Victim 1's mother was later able to locate gifts that Larson had tried to send to Victim 1. Victim 1 further reported receiving emails from Benjamin, one of which was a 15-page email sent in August of 2015, stating how much Victim 1 means to him adding it took him 13 years to get over his first girlfriend but still thinks of her. Benjamin additionally informed Victim 1 that he got a tattoo of "their symbol" and "her initials, now a part of my living body". In this email from Benjamin, he makes further statements to the effect of:

- "Here or not, [Victim 1] is permanent with me, never to go away now. Even if you do decide to leave my life, and never look back on me again for the rest of your days, you will still be with me. As much a part of me as my own flesh and bones now. It simply is. There is nothing that will, or could, change this."
- "When you said that I meant something to you, and that you would love me forever, I believed this. I wasn't aware, however, that the time period for forever was subjective. Forever, to me, means forever, a time period we as mere human beings simply cannot comprehend, something I have tried to keep my word on with you by trying to keep up contact, in some form, sending you little gifts and kind words now and again, letting you know I am still here. Alive. Waiting."
- "My will to care about you is just too strong. I simply don't let go, and I don't forget." Larson said he still had numerous things [Victim 1] had given him. Larson detailed, "I still retain every single word you wrote to me. Everything you gave to me. A Ziploc bag full of polished stones and stone wire wrapping kit, one stone crudely wrapped. The Tibetan cross you so sneakily and lovingly left in my pocket. A lone earring, still tangled with your hair. 2 pieces of scrimshaw. A pressed blue scilla, as I had given to you. A coin dated 1984, given to me by you when I was having a difficult time. A blank shell necklace, ready for engraving. remember clearly the playful argument we had when you bought that for me. Two cards. A single voicemail that remains, discovered after the fact, your voice telling me that you love me and will always be there for me, no matter what happens, that I can *always* count on you, that I will never again be alone, because you will always be there for me, you promised. *You promised*. Well, as a matter of fact, I have had times where I needed you, just you, to be there for me. Where were you? The desiccated remains of a once white rose; perhaps that one is the most symbolic."

In the documents Victim 1 provided, Benjamin further describes being in therapy and in June of 2025, Victim 1 described receiving a *Hallmark* card from a trauma therapist named Dr. Amanda Anderson wanting to speak with Victim 1 about Benjamin's individual trauma therapy. As Victim 1 is also a therapist, she has a listing on the Psychology Today platform and received a follow-up through this platform in July of 2025, from Dr. Anderson wanting to converse with Victim 1 and get her thoughts on the matter with her. In August of 2025, Victim 1 reported receiving a voicemail from Dr. Anderson where she stated "frankly, there are some things that concern me about him and I really would like to have contact with you so that I can get these issues resolved as fast as possible". Given the situation and not having any contact

with Benjamin since 2013, she did not respond to Dr. Anderson. Detectives later confirmed that Dr. Anderson had attempted to contact Victim 1.

Victim 1 reported in November of 2025, she received a handwritten card from Benjamin mailed to her business office in Dane County, Wisconsin. In the card, some of the statements Benjamin wrote were "By now it's very apparent that you don't wish to talk to me", how he would like to talk to her and catch up as well as know what made her not want to respond to him, and "As I am not one who gives up easily, I will continue to try contacting you until I hear something from you. I'm not sure if I need to try calling, or just knock on your door someday, or what."

Victim 1 additionally reported that she received another card from Benjamin in December of 2025 sent to her home address in Dane County, Wisconsin. Victim 1 provided photos of the card, which was a *Nightmare before Christmas* style holiday card with the phrase "Season's Creeping" printed on it. Inside the card signed BEN was a typed letter that had statements to the effect of Benjamin saying he was wandering around Madison as part of his therapy and how he would perhaps run into Victim 1. Benjamin further stated "That would be a memorable encounter, surely...I'll keep my eyes open". Benjamin ended the card referring to Victim 1's current husband and child by their names which was especially distressing to Victim 1 as she and her husband have been careful to not posting anything about their child on social media. Victim 1 additionally did not know how Benjamin found her home address.

Victim 1 further reported that she received notification of a complaint filed against her with the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services where Benjamin, who has never been a client of Victim 1's, alleges she is lying about the amount of years she has been a therapist and how she continues to refuse to contact him for "closure" on their relationship which ended over a decade ago. In the complaint, Benjamin recounts that he has been in therapy for over a decade due to their sudden separation and how Victim 1 has shown the person she truly is which why he "will continue this endeavor as long as is necessary". Victim 1 told officers, through tears, that she "just wants this to stop" and is worried about the next steps that Larson might take. She had concerns for the safety of her child. Later, Victim 1 would tell detectives "she just wanted to disappear" as that was the only way that Larson had stopped contacting her.

Benjamin was additionally contacted over the phone by law enforcement where he confirmed he sent a "very civil" card to Victim 1 in December of 2025 and he filed a complaints with the Wisconsin, Oregon, and North Carolina licensing boards as his therapist informed him it would get Victim 1 to respond. Benjamin advised since receiving a stalking warning letter from the Madison Police Department he realizes Victim 1's lack of a response, since 2013, is a response itself. Benjamin added he didn't want to cause Victim 1 any more trouble than he needed to.

Benjamin additionally stated in the letters sent to Victim 1 that he had numerous mementos in his possession from their time together, including:

- Every single word you wrote to me
- "A *Ziplock* bag full of polished stones and stone wire wrapping kit
- "The Tibetan cross you so sneakily and lovingly left in my pocket"
- "A lone earring, still tangles with your hair"
- "2 pieces of scrimshaw"

- “A pressed blue scilla”
- “A coin dated 1984”
- “A blank shell necklace ready for engraving”
- “Two cards”
- “A single voicemail that remains”

DISCOVERIES FROM SEARCH WARRANT

On August 14th, 2026, officers and Detectives with the Fond du Lac Sheriff's Office and Detectives with the Madison Police Department responded to [REDACTED] Fond du Lac for the service of a residential search warrant.

Inside of the residence, numerous discoveries were made and numerous items were collected as evidence by both the Fond du Lac Sheriff's Office and the Madison Police Department.

BASEMENT

At the bottom of the stairway to the basement, there was a grave rubbing of “Edward Gein” on the wall outside of the basement door. Inside of the basement was a large open room with several glass shelves in the center and along the walls with various items on them. Among the items observed in this area was memorabilia related to several infamous serial killers including 10 binders labeled “Edward Gein Book”, items from Ed Gein's grave or home, .22 caliber cartridges with signs indicating they were the same type used by the Zodiac Killer, and a sign that indicated a piece of John Wayne Gacy's brain in a nearby jar. Additionally observed was a mummy with a sign stating “Princes Taheb 1600 BC” along with a case of bottles with labels some of which read “Arsenic poison”, “Strychine”, “Cyanide”, and “Ricin”.

In addition to a mummy, there was a set of skeletal remains in a glass casket near a desk with a human skull in a glass display case. There were additional skulls on shelves in the room that contained the glass casket. In additional rooms in the basement sectioned off by curtains, a large amount of horror movie memorabilia was observed including walls of DVDs and a life size *Jason Vorhees* mannequin from the horror movie *Friday the 13th*.

PADLOCKED BASEMENT BEDROOM

There was a padlocked room within the basement which Benjamin initially gave a passcode to, however the code did not work so forced entry was required. Upon entering the room, it became apparent the secured room was a bedroom, indicated by a bed with a large lifelike silicon doll with breasts, a vagina, a spiked choker necklace, and a red wig covered by a blanket with its head on a pillow. Above the bed appeared to be a painting of a naked female consistent with Victim 1's likeness.

Additionally on the bed were multiple pieces of paper with Victim 1's name on them, one of which included a note stating “I will supply you with envelopes to write out addresses on. When finished, Please give them to me and I will make record of them, and send them from a different area than here. I feel if she sees a postmark from here, she will likely discard without reading it. As for “your name”, there is no such person ,so no way of tracking to you. Just because, I will heat the letters and envelope to 350 degrees, destroying fingerprints and DNA. Not that it's needed, but just because.

From: Susan Steinbrenner
Beaver Dam, WI 53916 (this is you...)

To: [Victim 1]
[Address Redacted from complaint]

In total there were two letters from "Susan Steinbrenner" the first letter indicated that the author was reaching out regarding a mutual acquaintance, Ben Larson. The letter then went on to say that Larson had had made three attempts on his life since "your departure." The letter threatened that should the Victim 1 not contact Larson the author would inform Larson's family and relevant oversight bodies that Victim 1 ignored an individual experiencing suicidal ideation. There was additionally a handwritten letter of the same contents that had multiple cursive letter "S"s and the name "Susan" written in cursive multiple times. The second letter addressed to Victim 1 indicated "grave concern regarding [Victim 1's] continued lack of communication with Ben." Again this letter indicated that licensing boards would be contacted should Victim 1 not contact Larson.

There were multiple framed images of nude females, skulls, and skeletons covering the walls of the bedroom. On higher shelves in the bedroom were 5 human skulls and 1 partial skull along with two large bones in the shape of a cross. On a dresser in the bedroom was what appeared to be a human jawbone.

Located inside the dresser were notes about sexual difficulty along with Victim 1's name, a document titled "8 Mental and Emotional Issues That Affect Sex Lives", handwritten pages about feelings towards women, and 3 blank *Season's Creeping's* greeting cards.

In the corner of the bedroom tucked behind a curtain was a black bust of a female body from the neck to mid-thigh with "B Larson 2011" written on the back of it.

A metal lantern with a black substance in it and a photograph of a white female with blonde hair with documents related to the murder of Berit Beck, later determined to be a young female who was blind folded and strangled in the Waupun, WI area in 1990. Among documents observed was a forensic science article titled "Fracture of the neck structures in suicidal hangings: A Retrospective study on contributing variables". There was an additional folder labeled "Forensic Medicine; newspaper articles" with numerous articles about missing or murdered individuals, primarily women.

There was a plastic tote with a green lid and a black garbage bag located in the basement bedroom that contained numerous items related to Victim 1. Benjamin informed officers that anything of "hers" would be in a bin and black garbage, specifically naming the earring, coin, and pressed flower as being in a garbage bag. Among the items in the garbage bag were individual beaded letters "A" and "R" along with two heart beads, four napkins or paper towels with dried blue flowers pressed inside with a year written on each (2014, 2015, 2017, and 2019), a partial landscaping stone, a bottle of Sensual Amber shower gel, two paper cups, two plastic soda bottles, a beer bottle, various letters and writing, and a clay head that appeared to be a rendering of Victim 1.

Additionally found was a book titled "Unforgettable Stalking Samantha: the Harrowing 13-year journey of obsession, fear, and survival", an account of a Victim 1 who was terrorized and stalked for 13 years then ultimately kidnapped and held in a soundproof storage container. Additional books observed were "How to Find out Anything From Extreme Google Searched to Scouring Government Documents, a Guide to Uncovering Anything About Everyone and

Everything", "The Idiot's Guide to Private Investigating", and "The Psychology of Stalking: Clinical and Forensic Perspectives"

Also located in the basement was a dresser. Inside this dresser officers located a black portfolio. Inside this portfolio were numerous handwritten pages regarding emotions and the writer's feelings towards a woman. Also inside the same drawer were three blank "Season's Creepings" greeting cards.

Detective Levett reports reviewing these writings. The document was 25 pages long and included the Victim 1's name. One statement read "I am furious at the thought of her with him, and that they have a child. That he experiences her wonderfully erotic mind, and I sit in my basement corner and rot and seethe." Another entry reads as follows. "This covers all of the words under "angry". They can all be interchanged. I hate that they have a life together. That she's been with someone so long. That he gets to see her everyday. Gets to hold her and kiss her. That she says the words she said to me to him. That the child she promised me is his. That she gives that wonderful sexuality to him. That they hold each other at night. That she's/they are happy, at least sometimes. I hate everything about this whole thing, and it's at time like this where I really ache to take their skulls, all of them. It's a rage I can't put into words, because there are none strong enough. I've never really agreed with the whole "If I can't have her, no one can" thing, as I don't feel like I'm that selfish. I just want her gone so I don't have to know she's still out there doing all of this with someone else."

Another page read as follows, "Add on – Happiness". This statement read, "I felt powerful the night I went to her house, after I had found she returned. I remember driving down, specific music blaring, high on adrenalin the whole time. As night fell, I quieted the music, and drove through the streets of Madison, I thought about how she had no idea I was coming for her. That thought made me feel giddy. For the first time, ever, I was the one in control with her. I liked it. As I got to her street, I found the house, and kept going. I circled the block one way, then the other. I felt like a shark, investigating it's unknowing prey, I turned all the lights off and slowed to a stop just after her house. Engine off. Silence. Dressed in all black, with black gloves, and a black mask, I sat in my car for a long time, not moving, barely breathing, just watching. Hunting. Though it wasn't the plan, just for fun I slowly grabbed the machete I keep in my car. It was a rush to think that here I was, not 50 feet from where she was, watching, machete in hand. Just had to. After a long while, I silently exited, and walked to her driveway. Recorded make/model/plate # of her car. Grabbed 3 bags of garbage out of the bin and got back in the car. I did what I came for, and just as silently as I arrived, I left. Knowing she had no idea what had just happened. Easier than I thought. And the feeling it gave me – I've wanted it again, ever since. Creepy, strange, stalker-ish, potentially dangerous? Yes. It is. Does this bother me? Not in the slightest. In fact, I felt for the first time that I liked myself. That I liked this thing I am. It fits me, it suits me. I felt very comfortable, creeping around in the dark. Powerful."

****THIS COMPLAINT IS BASED ON** the information and belief of your complainant, who is a court officer with the Madison Police Department, and who learned of the above offense from the reports of Madison Police Detective Amelia Levitt, Madison Police Detective Denise Armstrong, and Madison Police Officer Emily Freirer, which report(s) your complainant believes to be truthful and reliable inasmuch as they were prepared during the course of the officer(s) official duties.

Further, your complainant believes the information furnished by witnesses to be truthful and reliable inasmuch as they are citizen informant(s) and witnessed the events described.

Your complainant believes the statements of the Defendant to be truthful and reliable insofar as they are admissions against penal interest.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on
08/18/26

Electronically Signed By:

David S. Olson

Assistant District Attorney

State Bar #: 1104986

Electronically Signed By:

Detective K. McCarthy

Complainant