

**INFORMATION**

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
SUPERIOR COURT**

Disposition date

Agency number


Police Case number

2024-29207

Agency name

State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

**Title, Allegation and Counts**

State of Connecticut vs. (Name of accused) <b>Melendez, Jazmarie</b>		Residence (Town) of accused <b>Bridgeport</b>	Docket number	
Address <b>LKA 316 East Pasadena Pl. Bridgeport, CT 06610</b>		Date of birth <b>3/29/1998</b>	<b>The undersigned Prosecuting Authority of the State of Connecticut charges that:</b>	
To be held at (Town) <b>Bridgeport</b>		Geographical area number <b>2</b>		
Count One — Did commit the offense of: <b>Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting by AB - Angel Rivera</b>			Continued to	Purpose
At (Town) <b>Bridgeport</b>	On or about (Date) <b>9/03/2023</b>	In violation of General Statute number <b>9-135(b)</b>		
Count Two — Did commit the offense of: <b>Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting by AB - James Raiford</b>				
At (Town) <b>Bridgeport</b>	On or about (Date) <b>6/17/2023</b>	In violation of General Statute number <b>9-135(b)</b>		
Count Three — Did commit the offense of: <b>Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting by AB - Marinda Taylor</b>				
At (Town) <b>Bridgeport</b>	On or about (Date) <b>8/11/2023</b>	In violation of General Statute number <b>9-135(b)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See other sheet for additional counts		Date <b>2-6-2025</b>	Signed (Prosecuting Authority)  <b>DCSA</b>	

**Court Action**

Defendant advised of rights before plea		Bond	Surety	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 %	Election (Date)
(Judge)	(Date)			<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> CT <input type="checkbox"/> JY
<input type="checkbox"/> Attorney	<input type="checkbox"/> Public defender	Guardian	Bond change	Seized property inventory number	

Count	Plea date	Plea	Plea withdrawn		Verdict finding	Fine	Remit	Additional disposition
			Date	New plea				
1						\$	\$	
2						\$	\$	
3						\$	\$	

Date	Other Court Action	Judge

Receipt number	Cost <input type="checkbox"/> IMP <input type="checkbox"/> NCI	Bond information <input type="checkbox"/> Bond forfeited <input type="checkbox"/> Forfeiture vacated <input type="checkbox"/> Forfeiture vacated and bond reinstated		
Application fee - receipt number if paid	Circle one <b>W I Q</b>	Program fee - receipt number if paid	Circle one <b>W I Q</b>	Probation fee - receipt number if paid
Prosecutor on original disposition	Reporter/monitor on original disposition	Signed (Clerk)	Signed (Judge)	

**INFORMATION**

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**SUPERIOR COURT**

Disposition date

Police Case number

**2024-29207**

Agency name

**State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice**

Agency number

Geographical  
area  
number**2****State of Connecticut vs. Melendez, Jazmarie****Additional Counts**

Count Four — Did commit the offense of:

**Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting by AB - Yvette Tavares**

Continued to

Purpose

Reason

At (Town)

**Bridgeport**

On or about (Date)

**6/21/2023**

In violation of General Statute number

**9-135(b)**

Count Five — Did commit the offense of:

**Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting by AB - Michelle Smith**

At (Town)

**Bridgeport**

On or about (Date)

**7/03/2023**

In violation of General Statute number

**9-135(b)**

Count Six — Did commit the offense of:

**Misrep. Eligibility Requirements for Voting by AB - Iris Troncoso**

At (Town)

**Bridgeport**

On or about (Date)

**7/27/2023**

In violation of General Statute number

**9-135(b)**

Count Seven — Did commit the offense of:

At (Town)

On or about (Date)

In violation of General Statute number

Count Eight — Did commit the offense of:

At (Town)

On or about (Date)

In violation of General Statute number

Signed (Prosecuting Authority)



Printed name of Prosecuting Authority

**Kevin D. Lawlor****DCSA**

Date signed

**2-6-2025****Additional Court Action**

Count	Plea date	Plea	Plea withdrawn		Verdict finding	Fine	Remit	Additional disposition
			Date	New plea				
4						\$	\$	
5						\$	\$	
6						\$	\$	
7						\$	\$	
8						\$	\$	

**INFORMATION**

JD-CR-71 Rev. 11-18

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
SUPERIOR COURT**

Police Case number

2024-29207

Agency name

State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice

Disposition date

Agency number

**Arrest Warrant**

Geographical  
area  
number

2

**State of Connecticut vs. Melendez, Jazmarie**

To: Any Proper Officer of the State of Connecticut

Probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed and that the accused committed it having been found, by Authority of the State of Connecticut, you are hereby commanded to arrest the body of the within-named accused.  
("X" all that apply)

☐ A. Accused is ordered to be brought before a clerk or assistant clerk of the Superior Court.

☐ B. Accused is not entitled to bail.

If A, B, or both are checked above, you shall, without undue delay, bring the arrested person before the clerk or assistant clerk of the Superior Court for the geographical area where the offense is alleged to have been committed, or if the clerk's office is not open, to a community correctional center within said geographical area, or the nearest community correctional center if no such center exists in the geographical area, or to the York Correctional Institution, as the case may be.

☐ C. Bail set at \_\_\_\_\_

☒ D. Non-financial conditions of release:

No contact w/ Angel Rivera, James Raiford,  
mainda Taylor, Yvette Tavares, Michelle Smith,

☐ E. Conditions of release not determined by court. or Iris Trancoso

Extradition boundaries  
established by prosecutor

By the Court

Signed (Judge of the Superior Court)

Date

2/6/25

Name of Judge (Print or type)

Dayton

**Return On Arrest Warrant**

Geographical  
area  
number

2

Town of

Bridgeport

Date

2/6/25

State of Connecticut

Then and there, by virtue of the within and foregoing complaint and warrant, I arrested the body of the within-named accused and read the same in the hearing of said accused; and have said accused here in court for examination.

Attest (Officer's signature and Department)

Inspector Scott Stevenson # 3372, State of CT - DCJ

Date

Other Court action

Judge

**ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION**JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11  
C.G.S. § 54-2a  
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
SUPERIOR COURT**  
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For Court Use Only

Supporting Affidavits sealed

☐ Yes ☐ No

Police Case number <b>2024-29207</b>	Agency name <b>State of CT - Division of Criminal Justice</b>	Agency number
Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) <b>Melendez, Jazmarie</b>	Residence (Town) of accused <b>Bridgeport</b>	Court to be held at (Town) <b>Bridgeport</b>
		Geographical Area number <b>2</b>

**Application For Arrest Warrant**

To: A Judge of the Superior Court

The undersigned hereby applies for a warrant for the arrest of the above-named accused on the basis of the facts set forth in the: ☒ Affidavit Below. ☐ Affidavit(s) Attached.

Date <b>2-6-2025</b>	Signed (Prosecuting authority) 	Type/print name of prosecuting authority <b>Kevin D. Lawlor DCSA</b>
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**Affidavit**

The undersigned affiant, being duly sworn, deposes and says:


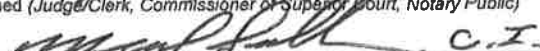
1. The affiant, Police Inspector Scott Stevenson, is a regular sworn member of the State of Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) and is currently assigned to the Office of the Chief State's Attorney (OCSA) in Rocky Hill. The affiant has over twenty-nine years of police training and experience and has conducted numerous investigations resulting in both the arrest and conviction of those persons involved. The facts and circumstances set forth below are from the affiant's personal investigative efforts, as well as information received from fellow law enforcement officers and allied investigators acting in their official capacities.

2. On September 12, 2023, the City of Bridgeport held a primary for the Democratic Party candidate nomination for Mayor (hereinafter referred to as "2023 Primary"). The 2023 Primary candidates were party endorsed candidate and sitting Mayor Joseph Ganim, and challenger John Gomes. The results of the 2023 Primary reported to the State of Connecticut by the Secretary of the State (SOTS) were 4,212 total votes for Mr. Ganim and 3,961 total votes for Mr. Gomes, making the margin of victory by Mr. Ganim of 251 votes. According to undisputed reported results, Mr. Ganim received 2,648 votes via polling place machines on Primary day, and 1,564 absentee ballots ("AB"). Mr. Gomes, in turn, received 3,100 votes via polling place machines, and 861 AB votes.

3. On September 19, 2023, John Gomes filed a complaint in the Bridgeport Superior Court, challenging the 2023 Primary results due to "...violation of the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes governing the casting of absentee ballots...". The complaint became docket number FBT-CV23-6127336-S. Following a trial the Honorable William Clark ordered that a new Primary be held.

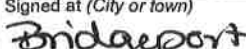

4. On 4/18/2024 and 7/09/2024, the State Elections Enforcement Commission ("SEEC") referred two matters to the OCSA for criminal investigation. Both matters involved Bridgeport City Councilwoman Maria Pereira and her conduct surrounding absentee balloting during the time of the 2023 Primary.

(This is page 1 of a 8 page Affidavit.)

Date <b>2/6/2025</b>	Signed (Affiant)  <b>#3372</b>
Jurat Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) <b>2-6-2025</b>	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)  <b>C.I.</b>

**Finding**

The foregoing Application for an arrest warrant, and affidavit(s) attached to said Application, having been submitted to and considered by the undersigned, the undersigned finds from said affidavit(s) that there is probable cause to believe that an offense has been committed and that the accused committed it and, therefore, that probable cause exists for the issuance of a warrant for the arrest of the above-named accused.

Date and Signature 	Signed at (City or town) <b>Bridgeport</b>	On (Date) <b>2/6/25</b>	Signed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee) 	Name of Judge/Judge Trial Referee <b>Dayton</b>
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**ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION**

JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11  
C.G.S. § 54-2a  
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
SUPERIOR COURT**  
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Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)	Residence (Town) of accused	Court to be held at (Town)	Geographical Area number
Melendez, Jazmarie	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	2

**Affidavit - Continued**

Pereira appeared on the 2023 Primary ballot as a candidate for Council Member in the 138<sup>th</sup> District. These became SEEC Nos. 2023-053 and 2023-090. Both referrals became DCJ# 2024-29207. SEEC investigators provided evidence in their possession to the Statewide Prosecution Bureau within the OCSA.

5. The affiant, and DCJ Inspectors Alfonso Vazquez, Mark Ryan, and Thomas Bennett were assigned to this investigation. The Inspectors reviewed SEEC-provided documents, including but not limited to witness affidavits and handwritten statements, absentee ballot applications ("AB apps"), Application(s) for Additional Absentee Ballot(s) (form ED-3A REV 2/00 - aka "green forms" or "green apps"), and Voter Mail-In Registration Form(s).

6. An elector who applies for an absentee ballot must declare under penalty of false statement in absentee balloting that the contents of the application are true and correct. The application asks the elector to select the circumstance that makes them eligible to vote via AB. These eligibility requirements are statutorily established by Connecticut General Statutes §9-135(a) and are: "(1) Such elector's or person's active service with the armed forces of the United States; (2) such elector's or person's absence from the town of such elector's or person's voting residence; (3) sickness; (4) physical disability; (5) the tenets of such elector's or person's religion forbid secular activity on the day of such primary, election or referendum; or (6) the required performance of such elector's or person's duties as a primary, election or referendum official, including as a town clerk or registrar of voters or as staff of the clerk or registrar, at a polling place other than such elector's or person's own during all of the hours of voting at such primary, election or referendum."

7. When a person provides assistance to an elector with completion of their absentee ballot application, the person must indicate their name and sign the application as the "assister" under penalties of false statement in absentee balloting. Review of the AB apps provided to OCSA by SEEC identified, among others, Councilwomen Maria Pereira and Jazmarie Melendez as assisters.

8. An elector who fills out a "green form" is requesting an additional absentee ballot. An elector can request an additional absentee ballot if they otherwise qualify to receive an AB (meet one of the above-stated six statutory eligibility requirements). The previously issued ballot is returned to the municipal clerk, or if the elector cannot return it, they must indicate why on the form. Green forms are returned to the municipal clerk and have the effect of invalidating an absentee ballot previously issued to the elector, regardless of whether the prior AB was returned to the Town Clerk. Like an original absentee ballot application, the green form applicant declares under penalty of false statement in absentee balloting that the contents are true and correct. A person who assists an elector in the completion of the green form application must also sign and is subject to the same penalty.

(This is page 2 of a 8 page Affidavit.)

Date	2/16/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector Scott Stevenson #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2-6-2025	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	C.I.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-6-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/6/25

**ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION**

JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11  
C.G.S. § 54-2a  
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
SUPERIOR COURT**

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Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)	Residence (Town) of accused	Court to be held at (Town)	Geographical Area number
Melendez, Jazmarie	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	2

**Affidavit - Continued**

9. During the investigation of Maria Pereira, Inspectors conducted interviews of her 138<sup>th</sup> District constituents. The majority of interviews conducted took place at The Fireside Apartments and The Augustana Apartments. Both are described on The Park City Community's website (parkcitycommunities.org) as having an elderly and disabled or low income population. All interviews detailed in this affidavit were documented via DCJ-issued body worn cameras. The excerpts from these interviews do not contain all of the information provided by the interviewees, but rather seek to establish pertinent facts required for the determination of probable cause.

10. During that investigation of Pereira, several witnesses stated that Pereira was often accompanied by a person described as, "young", "Spanish" or "Hispanic", "girl" or "female", who often assisted with AB apps. Many also stated that this young female was the older sister of a teen-aged male who was shot and killed by Bridgeport police. Through investigation, Inspectors learned Jayson Negron is deceased as a result of the use of deadly force by a police officer in 2017. An open source internet search of Negron resulted in several articles naming Jazmarie Melendez as Negron's sister. One such article that appeared on the CTpost.com website on 9/02/2023 was titled "Former Police Chief, Jayson Negron Sister Among 29 Democrats Vying For Bridgeport City Council Seats." Also, when one individual interviewed observed Jazmarie Melendez's name listed as the assister on his AB app, he stated "Oh yeah, she's with Maria Pereira." Jazmarie Melendez did in fact appear on the 2023 Primary ballot as a Council Member choice in the 138<sup>th</sup> District.

11. On 8/27/2024, Inspectors Vazquez and Bennett interviewed Angel Rivera at her home located in the Augustana building. Rivera confirmed her own signature on a green form dated September 3, 2023, however none of the other writing on the form was hers. Rivera stated she does not know how to read or write. A "skinny girl", who "spoke both languages" (English and Spanish) came to her apartment and asked her to sign the form. Rivera stated this female "filled everything out, and she said sign it, that's it." She said the female told her, "sign here, sign here", so she signed it. Rivera also stated that this female did not read any portions of the form, and specifically did not review the "Statement of Applicant", which requires the applicant to select the reason they are eligible to vote by absentee ballot. Rivera stated that she was sick in September of 2023, but did not discuss this with the female, or check the "my illness" box as the reason why she expected to be unable to appear at the required polling place during the hours of voting. Rivera also stated that she is not disabled and would have been able to vote in person in the Primary.

12. Rivera was also shown the following, which was handwritten on the green form: "Joe Ganim operative entered my home and directed me to vote row A, was present when filled, I already mailed it." Rivera adamantly denied having written that or claiming that to anyone. Given Rivera's limited knowledge of the female, inspectors conducted a folder shuffle identification procedure, in which Rivera positively identified Jazmarie Melendez as the female she described who assisted with her

(This is page 3 of a 8 page Affidavit.)

Date	2/06/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector Luis Hernandez #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2-6-2025	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	Michael R. C.I.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-6-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/6/25

**ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION**

JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11  
C.G.S. § 54-2a  
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
SUPERIOR COURT**  
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Melendez, Jazmarie	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	2

**Affidavit - Continued**

green form. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Angel Rivera's name was not received or tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

13. On 8/28/2024, the affiant and Inspector Ryan interviewed James Raiford at his home located in the Fireside Apartments in the presence of his daughters Tambria Raiford and Jennifer Brown. James stated that he doesn't vote, and that he "*stopped with Mandanici*" (a former Bridgeport Mayor) in the 1980's. When asked about people coming around for the 2023 Primary, Tambria stated that James was hospitalized from mid-September through December 4, 2023, after a fall in which James suffered a broken neck and was paralyzed. James recalled that a lot of people came around knocking on doors, and asking him to sign papers for voting.

14. James Raiford's absentee ballot application was signed on 6/17/2023, and his green form was signed on 8/29/2023. Both dates preceded James' fall and subsequent hospitalization. James reviewed his AB app and confirmed his signature on same. He denied that the other writing on the application was his, stating "whoever had this paper filled out the top." When pointed out that sickness was checked off as the reason for requesting an absentee ballot, Tambria blurted out "*That's a lie! He just got an absentee ballot this year to vote because of his situation.*" James stated that before his fall in September of 2023, he had no illness or disability. James recalled that during the 2023 Primary period, two women visited his home: referring to them as "the young girl and the other lady." He recalled signing a form for the women and they told him they would take care of it. James stated that the AB eligibility requirements were not reviewed with him. Sickness was checked off on his AB app, which James neither checked off nor claimed. He stated the women told him that absentee ballot voting is what they do for the seniors, and by signing the form they would take care of it. Jazmarie Melendez is listed as James' assister on his absentee ballot application.

15. James was shown his green form, dated 8/29/2023, which indicated "my physical disability" as the circumstance making him eligible to vote via absentee ballot. In the space provided "sent it out wrong by mail" was handwritten as the reason he could not return the original set issued to him. James and his daughters reiterated that he was not sick or disabled during the summer of 2023. In fact, he had been in Virginia that August, at a family reunion "dancing and everything." James recalled that someone came back and told him he "sent the wrong one out." James recalled having sent in a ballot, stating that he put it in an envelope. James told Inspectors "I didn't know which one to vote for, I didn't know how to use this." The name "Abraham Duque" appears as James' assister on his green form. James denied that any male party visited him with any election forms. While gesturing to Maria Pereira's photo, he was adamant that the "older one" was the one who told him he voted wrong. This prompted him to tell Pereira that he had filled it out (the absentee ballot), but he didn't know if he did it right.

(This is page 4 of a 8 page Affidavit.)

Date	2/6/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector [Signature] #332
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2-6-2025	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	[Signature] C.I.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-6-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/6/25



**ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION**

JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11  
C.G.S. § 54-2a  
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3

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SUPERIOR COURT**  
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Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)	Residence (Town) of accused	Court to be held at (Town)	Geographical Area number
Melendez, Jazmarie	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	2

**Affidavit - Continued**

16. The Affiant notes that Inspectors interviewed Bridgeport Town Clerk Christina Resto on August 14, 2024. According to Resto, an elector can change their vote by requesting an additional absentee ballot. Resto further stated that once the Town Clerk's Office receives the green form, the elector's original vote is cancelled. When asked if the green form "kills the first vote", her reply was "that's it, yes." If the green form has the effect of cancelling a previously submitted absentee ballot, it is more likely from the context of Pereira's statements that she is the person who assisted him with the green form, and not Mr. Duque.

17. Given his limited knowledge of the women he described, inspectors conducted two separate folder shuffle identification procedures, in which James positively identified both Maria Pereira and Jazmarie Melendez as being present at his home with the absentee balloting forms. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an AB in James Raiford's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

18. On September 19, 2024, the affiant and Inspector Ryan interviewed Marinda Taylor at her Bridgeport residence. Taylor recalled that a "young" "Spanish girl", who was very "articulate" and "precise", came to the house and was talking about Mr. Gomes. Taylor seemed so impressed by the female that she thought "maybe I might think about voting for Gomes." Taylor stated that the female had a brother who had an accident. Taylor added that the female was very professional and told her that she (the female) could not touch the ballot. Taylor also stated that "She's a pretty little thing. She said she's a council lady."

19. Taylor recalled that she signed absentee ballot applications for both her and her daughter, Ashayla Stewart because Ashayla was not home and she (Taylor) wanted her to vote. Taylor stated the female had the AB apps and that she (Taylor) brought them inside to fill them out and then brought them back outside to the female. Taylor reviewed her own application dated 8/11/2023, and confirmed her signature on her own application. She also identified her handwriting where she signed Ashayla's name on the application intended to be for her. Taylor stated she thought it was an option to vote AB, adding that it was her impression that anybody could vote AB, because "I know in the nursing home they do it. I'm like, ooh, I want to do that." When asked if anyone reviewed the eligibility requirements with her, or if she had checked off any of the eligibility requirements on either form, Taylor stated, "No, I like the ballot." Inspectors believed this to mean in context that none of the eligibility requirements applied to her, and she simply wanted to vote by absentee ballot. When shown that sickness was checked off on both forms as the reason for requesting an AB, Taylor denied that she had checked the box.

20. Given Taylor's limited familiarity of the female she described, inspectors conducted a folder shuffle identification procedure, in which Taylor positively identified Jazmarie Melendez as the female who

(This is page 5 of a 8 page Affidavit.)

Date	2/06/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector [Signature] #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2-6-2025	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	[Signature], C.I.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-6-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/6/25



**ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION**

JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11  
C.G.S. § 54-2a  
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3

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Melendez, Jazmarie	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	2

**Affidavit - Continued**

failed to review AB eligibility requirements while assisting with her AB app. A review of both applications shows they were both stamped as received by the Bridgeport Town Clerk's office on 8/23/23 at 1:34 PM. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Marinda Taylor's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

21. On September 19, 2024, the affiant and Inspector Ryan interviewed Yvette Tavares at her Bridgeport residence. Tavares reviewed her AB app dated 6/21/2023, and confirmed her signature on same, adding that the other writing on the form was not hers, and that she did not check off anything on the form. "Physical disability" is checked off as the reason for requesting an AB on the application. Tavares did say that she was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease over thirty years ago.

22. Jazmarie Melendez is listed as Tavares' assister on the absentee ballot application. Tavares recalled that Jazmarie Melendez, whom she referred to as "Jazzy," brought her an AB app and assisted Tavares with it, stating "she's the best, I love her." Tavares talked about having known Melendez for years, as Jazmarie went to school with Tavares' daughter "since they were kids." SEEC investigators queried the CVRS for Tavares' voting history. Tavares voted almost exclusively in-person in Bridgeport between the years of 2000 and 2015, except that she voted via absentee ballot in November of 2020 (COVID pandemic Presidential election) and in the 2023 Primary. Tavares stated that despite her medical diagnosis, she drives (currently owns a car) and is physically able to do things such as walk her dog around the neighborhood. When asked about voting in the upcoming Presidential election, Tavares stated she didn't get an absentee ballot application, so she will have to vote in person if she votes, adding that she is able to vote in person if the polling location is across the street from her residence (where it usually is). Tavares added that voting via AB is easier as she doesn't have to stand in line.

23. Given her familiarity with her, Tavares was shown a single photograph of Jazmarie Melendez, whom she positively identified as "Jazzy," the person who delivered, and assisted her with her AB app. As stated above, Tavares' CVRS shows an absentee ballot in her name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

24. On 9/20/2024, the affiant and Inspector Ryan interviewed Michelle Smith at her Bridgeport residence. Smith reviewed her AB app dated 7/3/2023, and stated that she "was present when that was written." Smith confirmed her signature on same, adding that the other writing on the form was not hers, and that she did not check off anything on the form. SEEC investigators queried Smith's CVRS and, upon our reviewing same, determined that Smith voted numerous times in person in Bridgeport from 2008 - 2020. When asked why she voted via absentee ballot in the 2023 Primary, Smith stated that because of her two small children (ages 3 and 4), it would have been difficult to go in person, and that voting via AB is a better option for her. Smith's understanding was she could use an AB if you

(This is page 6 of a 8 page Affidavit.)

Date	2/06/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector Scott Sturges #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2-6-2025	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	Matthew P. [Signature], C.J.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-6-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/6/25

**ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION**

JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11  
C.G.S. § 54-2a  
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
SUPERIOR COURT**

www.jud.ct.gov

Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)	Residence (Town) of accused	Court to be held at (Town)	Geographical Area number
Melendez, Jazmarie	Bridgeport	Bridgeport	2

**Affidavit - Continued**

couldn't make it (in person). Smith stated that no one clarified this, as the eligibility requirements for AB voting were not reviewed with her. When told that sickness was checked off as the reason for requesting her AB app, Smith denied that she checked off sickness and also denied having told the assister on the application that she was sick.

25. Smith stated she reached out to someone to receive her AB app, but was initially unable to recall that person's name. When told the assister's name on the form was Jazmarie, Smith stated "I was about to say Jasmine, but yes Jazmarie." Smith stated she knew Melendez, as they were coworkers in the Norwalk school system during the 2022/2023 school year. Given her familiarity with her appearance, Smith was shown a single photograph of Jazmarie Melendez, whom she positively identified as the person who assisted with her AB app. SEEC investigators queried the CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Smith's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary.

26. On 9/26/2024, the affiant along with Inspectors Vazquez and Ryan interviewed Iris Troncoso at her home located in the Fireside Apartments. Troncoso is Spanish-speaking, and her interview was conducted by Inspector Vazquez who is fluent in Spanish. Troncoso confirmed her signature on her AB app dated 7/27/2023, which listed Jazmarie Melendez as the assister. Sickness was checked off as the reason for requesting Troncoso's AB, but Troncoso denied having checked that box, stating that she simply signed the paper.

27. When asked if she knew Jazmarie Melendez, Troncoso stated yes, explaining that Melendez is the granddaughter of her sister, Ana Rebolle. Troncoso stated that Melendez brought her an AB app and told her to sign it. Troncoso stated that Melendez did not review the AB eligibility requirements with her, and that she was not shown a Spanish version of the AB app. Note that the AB app completed in Troncoso's name was, in fact, an English version and not in Spanish. Troncoso stated that prior to receiving her AB app, her sister Ana Rebolle called. Rebolle asked Troncoso to sign an AB app for Melendez, as the more signatures that Melendez obtains, the more money she makes. Troncoso stated that once her AB came in the mail, she threw it away. Given her familiarity with her, Troncoso was shown a single photograph of Jazmarie Melendez, whom she positively identified as the person who failed to review AB eligibility requirements while assisting with her AB app.

28. SEEC investigators queried CVRS and determined that an absentee ballot in Troncoso's name was received and tabulated in the 2023 Primary. Troncoso's CVRS also indicates that she only voted on one other occasion, which was in-person in 2016.

29. On 12/13/2024, the affiant telephoned Jazmarie Melendez requesting a meeting with her to address the documents in DCJ possession and the information learned from witness interviews. Melendez indicated she prefer to speak with her attorney. Attorney Alex Taubes contacted the affiant

(This is page 7 of a 8 page Affidavit.)

Date	2/06/2025	Signed (Affiant)	Inspector Scott Stevenson #3372
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2-6-2025	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	[Signature] C.I.
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-6-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/6/25

**ARREST WARRANT APPLICATION**

JD-CR-64b Rev. 3-11  
C.G.S. § 54-2a  
P.B. §§ 36-1, 36-2, 36-3

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**Affidavit - Continued**

and requested the absentee ballot documents to review with his client, Melendez. On 12/16/2024, the affiant e-mailed a copy of the assister section of an absentee ballot application bearing his client's name and signature. The affiant received no further communication from Attorney Taubes.


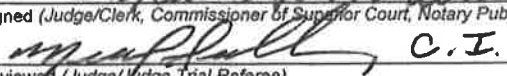
30. Subsection (b) of §9-135 prohibits misrepresentation of the eligibility requirements for voting by absentee ballot. That subsection states, "(b) No person shall misrepresent the eligibility requirements for voting by absentee ballot prescribed in subsection (a) of this section, to any elector or prospective absentee ballot applicant."

31. Based upon the facts and circumstances stated herein, the affiant asserts there is probable cause to believe that Jazmarie Melendez violated Connecticut General Statutes §9-135(b) **Misrepresenting Eligibility Requirements for Voting by Absentee Ballot** in the following manner:

1. Angel Rivera (as detailed in paragraph # 11 of this affidavit)
2. James Raiford (as detailed in paragraph # 14 of this affidavit)
3. Marinda Taylor (as detailed in paragraph # 19 of this affidavit)
4. Yvette Tavares (as described in paragraph # 21 and 22 of this affidavit)
5. Michelle Smith (as described in paragraph # 24 of this affidavit)
6. Iris Troncoso (as described in paragraph # 27 of this affidavit)

32. WHEREFORE, the affiant requests that an arrest warrant be issued for Jazmarie Melendez (DOB 3/29/1998), charging her with Misrepresenting Eligibility Requirements for Voting by Absentee Ballot (6 COUNTS), in violation of C.G.S. 9-135(b).

(This is page 8 of a 8 page Affidavit.)

Date	2/06/2025	Signed (Affiant)	 #3372	
Jurat	Subscribed and sworn to before me on (Date) 2-6-2025	Signed (Judge/Clerk, Commissioner of Superior Court, Notary Public)	 C.I.	
Reviewed (Prosecutorial Official)	Date 2-6-25	Reviewed (Judge/Judge Trial Referee)	Date 2/6/25	