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STATE OF MICHIGAN

56A DISTRICT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF EATON

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN,

v

Complaint No. 96-21900149-01

JOHN GERALD GEDDERT,

Defendant.

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SWEARING OF FELONY COMPLAINT AND WARRANT

BEFORE THE HONORABLE JULIE A. O'NEILL, DISTRICT JUDGE

Charlotte, Michigan - Wednesday, February 24, 2021

APPEARANCES:

Bridget Frost

Recorded by:

Sara Lincoln, CEO#9167  
Certified Electronic Operator

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Angela L. Curtiss CER#6183  
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Charlotte, Michigan

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 - 10:58 a.m.

THE COURT: We are on the record in the matter of the State of Michigan versus John Gerald, G-E-R-A-L-D, Geddert, G-E-D-D-E-R-T. This is a felony complaint with a complaint number 96-21900149-01.

And could you state your first name and spell your last name for the record?

MS. FROST: Bridget Frost. Frost, F-R-O-S-T.

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

Would you raise your right hand? Do you swear that the information you're about to provide to this court is true to the best of your knowledge, information and belief ...

MS. FROST: I do.

THE COURT: ... under the penalty of perjury?

MS. FROST: I do.

(At 10:58 a.m. witness sworn)

THE COURT: All right, thank you. You may proceed.

THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

I, Bridget Frost, being duly sworn, state the following.

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the State of Michigan. I'm here to make this sworn

1 statement in support for a request for a felony warrant for  
2 John Geddert to stand trial in the above captioned matter.

3 In February, 2019 the Michigan Department of  
4 Attorney General assumed the investigation into John  
5 Geddert, including investigations conducted by the Michigan  
6 State Police and Eaton County Sheriff's Department. This  
7 case also includes actions committed by the defendant in two  
8 tho-- 2016 when the Michigan State University Police were  
9 conducting the sexual assault investigations into Larry  
10 Nassar. Larry Nassar pled guilty to these sexual assaults  
11 in 2017 in Ingham County, Michigan.

12 This sworn statement will outline the human  
13 trafficking of 22 victims, the sexual assault of one victim  
14 and the lying to law enforcement during a criminal  
15 investigation.

16 The venue for these crimes is 9410 Davis Highway,  
17 Dimondale, located in Eaton County, Michigan. The building  
18 at this location is a business named Twistars that has been  
19 owned and operated by John Geddert since 1996.

20 Each victim listed in this swear-to reported  
21 similar acts perpetuated by the defendant, in that he would  
22 control, harass, stalk and assault them. Victims reported  
23 developing eating and behavioral disorders, self-harming  
24 behavior and suicide attempts due to the treatment they  
25 received from Defendant Geddert.

1                   This treatment included excessive physical  
2 conditioning; repeatedly being forced to perform even when  
3 injured; extreme emotional abuse; physical abuse, including  
4 sexual assault.

5                   For count one for victim B.A. Victim B.A. began  
6 training at Twistars between 2010 and 2013. She was five  
7 three and 118 pounds. Defendant Geddert repeatedly called  
8 her fat, blamed her weight for not performing, performing up  
9 to his standards. He subjected her to daily weigh-ins,  
10 controlled what she ate, including during a four overnight  
11 meet, allowing her only to eat fruits and vegetables while  
12 exerting thousands of calories on conditioning and exercise  
13 routines. Because of her perceived weight issues, Defendant  
14 Geddert would enforce excessive conditioning.

15                   Victim B.A. described a time when she was required  
16 to get on a treadmill at top speed while he screamed at her.  
17 The defendant's verbal abuse caused her to quit eating in an  
18 attempt to achieve his desired weight. In addition, the  
19 excessive conditioning caused her to develop the self-  
20 harming habit of picking at her skin. Victim B.A. began to  
21 have panic attacks.

22                   Victim B.A. experienced numerous injuries while  
23 training at Twistars. The worst injuries were to her elbow  
24 and her knee requiring surgery. Defendant Geddert would not  
25 allow an appropriate amount of time for the injuries to

1 heal, and Victim B.A. was re-injured, which caused her to  
2 have a patellar reconstructive surgery on her knee cap.  
3 Victim B.A. states that she was forced to train after she  
4 had her wisdom teeth removed, even when doctors advised  
5 against going upside down. By the end of practice her mouth  
6 was swollen to the point she could barely talk.

7 In October of 2012, Victim B.A. attempted suicide.  
8 After her suicide attempt, Defendant Geddert required her to  
9 apologize to him for her suicide attempt. During the  
10 meeting, the defendant was concerned that Victim B.A.,  
11 Victim B.A.'s suicide attempt would ruin him and would ruin  
12 her as well, ensuring that she never got a scholarship. At  
13 the meeting it was decided that they would lie and she would  
14 say she had an allergic reaction.

15 Victim B.A. left Twistars in summer of 2013 and  
16 later obtained a scholarship to college. The defendant  
17 called the victim's coach and advised the coach to pull the  
18 scholarship from the victim because the victim was lazy and  
19 did not want to work. The victim, or excuse me. Defendant  
20 Geddert asked the coach to put in writing that he had never  
21 contacted her.

22 Victim B.A. informed investigators that Defendant  
23 Geddert would go to, into the girls' locker room to yell at  
24 them. While at Twistars, Victim B.A. grew increasingly  
25 fearful of Defendant Geddert and his ability to ruin her if

1 she went to a different gym.

2 For the count for Victim M.T. Victim M.T. trained  
3 at Twistars from 2004 until 2013, beginning approximately at  
4 the age of eight until she was 17. Specifically as it  
5 related to Nassar's treatment of the gymnast, Victim M.T.  
6 indicated that Defendant Geddert would routinely walk in  
7 during Larry Nassar's treatment of the gymnasts that took  
8 place at Twistars.

9 Victim M.T. reported that in December of 2012 she  
10 had surgery on her neck where they numbed the nerves on the  
11 left side of her neck due to the pain and repeated  
12 concussions. Defendant Geddert required Victim M.T. to  
13 return to practice after one week. Her depth perception was  
14 off, causing her to strike the back of her neck on the bar.  
15 Defendant Geddert screamed at her, called her a baby and a  
16 sissy. Victim M.T. advised she could not feel any pain in  
17 her neck because of the surgery, which caused weakness in  
18 her arms and legs. This weakness made it difficult for M.T.  
19 to compete at the level that Defendant Geddert wanted her to  
20 compete at.

21 Sometime in 2012 to 2013, Defendant Geddert was  
22 spotting Victim M.T. on the uneven bars. While spotting  
23 her, he grabbed her at the waist and threw her into the  
24 bars, striking her face and neck on the low bar. The victim  
25 fell and hit the ground. This caused her to rupture her

1 lymph nodes in the right side of her neck, causing a black  
2 eye and tore her abdominal muscles.

3 Victim M.T. recalled a separate occasion where a  
4 different coach was attempting to correct her skill and  
5 Defendant Geddert pulled her aside to berate her. He told  
6 her that she was a "disrespectful bitch" and that "should  
7 climb off the top of the rafters of the gym, jump off and  
8 kill herself". She explained Defendant Geddert would  
9 frequently grab her by the arms and yank her toward him,  
10 often leaving marks.

11 When Victim M.T. was approximately 13 years old,  
12 Defendant Geddert became angry and grabbed a spray bottle  
13 out of her hand, causing an injury that eventually left a  
14 scar. Defendant Geddert became even more enraged, throwing  
15 a bottle directly at her, telling her to 'get back on the  
16 fucking ba--' -- excuse me -- quote, "Get back on the  
17 fucking bar".

18 When M.T. injured her leg, Nassar put a boot on him  
19 (sic). While telling her mother what happened, Defendant  
20 Geddert got between Victim M.T. and her mother and screamed  
21 at the top of her (sic) lungs that she needed to get back to  
22 work. When victim's parent attempted to intervene,  
23 Defendant Geddert continued to scream at Victim M.T.

24 Defendant Geddert would get mad while the, while  
25 Victim M.T. was working on the balance beam and he would

1 push her off. She indicated this happened 15 to 20 times.

2 When Victim M.T. left Twistars in June 2013 and was  
3 interviewed by USAG regarding a complaint against Defendant  
4 Geddert on May 9th, 2014, Victim M.T. told the investigator,  
5 "She is concerned about taking part in this interview for  
6 fear of retaliation by John Geddert. That he does a good  
7 job selling appearance. He will make their gymnast into a  
8 collegiate or Olympic gymnast. He gets everyone to buy into  
9 his program, then parents start seeing positive results from  
10 their gymnast, then they are hooked. The parents then  
11 decide to tolerate Geddert's style or they turn their heads.  
12 The gymnasts become too afraid to complain together or their  
13 parents for fear of retaliation. Geddert will punish them  
14 by making them run, climb the ropes or do numerous  
15 repetitive exercises as punishment'.

16 Victim M.T.'s parent observed Defendant Geddert  
17 toss Victim M.C. in-- M.T. into the side, to the side and  
18 confronted him. Defendant Geddert denied wrong-doing and  
19 denied that the victim even hit the bars, even though Victim  
20 M.T. has visible injuries.

21 In May 2014, Victim M.T. attempted suicide by  
22 overdosing on medications. Victim M.T. also witnessed  
23 Defendant Geddert abuse other gymnasts while at his gym.

24 For the charge concerning Victim B.H. Victim B.H.  
25 trained at, trained under Geddert from 2010 until 2012.

1 When Victim B.H. was in the seventh grade she began to  
2 experience abuse from Defendant Geddert. In February of  
3 2012, Victim B.H. injured herself on a landing, causing  
4 injury to her knee.

5 THE COURT: Okay, I'm gonna interrupt you just for  
6 a moment.

7 I have a clarification question, I guess.

8 THE WITNESS: Mm-hmm.

9 THE COURT: You, you need to tell the court facts  
10 that I can find probable cause for each of the counts to  
11 issue. But I don't know if you just reading word for word  
12 all kinds of statements and facts is really the best route  
13 to go, especially when ...

14 THE WITNESS: Okay.

15 THE COURT: ... we're looking at 24 counts. And  
16 it looks like you have an extremely long document there.

17 THE WITNESS: I do.

18 THE COURT: So when you asked me in the beginning  
19 about the affidavit and I said no, we would just need to go  
20 on the record, it seems like there would be a better route  
21 for you to take.

22 THE WITNESS: Okay.

23 THE COURT: Especially if this is gonna be  
24 something that you insist on just reading the entire  
25 document. I don't know how long that's gonna take, frankly.

1 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I apologize.

2 I'm tryin' to find a way that I should explain it.  
3 Because it's such a large case involving so many separate  
4 facts to, to hit the element of human trafficking, that --  
5 because each count involves a separate victim that is  
6 alleging different acts that are similar, that's why I did  
7 it this way.

8 I have another copy of the affidavit if it --

9 THE COURT: Procedurally the court cannot read  
10 that. So I don't know why ...

11 THE WITNESS: Okay.

12 THE COURT: ... you keep asking me to do that.

13 THE WITNESS: Okay. I guess I need to come back  
14 and figure out a different way to do this.

15 I was under the impression that I would be able to  
16 submit this to the magistrate when I was, when we were  
17 coming in. So I apologize. It was a miscommunication on  
18 our part.

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 THE WITNESS: Um, because it's --

21 THE COURT: Yeah, for a swear-to you don't submit  
22 documents, you just put a factual basis on the record to  
23 establish the elements for each count. And then after the  
24 court hears that, it makes a determination for each count.

25 THE WITNESS: Okay.

1 THE COURT: I mean, we can do it that way if you  
2 feel like you're ready to proceed on that.

3 THE WITNESS: There's just so many details in  
4 each. I don't want to miss certain elements that the  
5 victims have stated to hit on the human trafficking.  
6 Because he was essentially forcing them through their  
7 injuries and putting them through abusive tactics to get  
8 them to keep performing.

9 And so, because there's twenty-- there's 22 victims  
10 for the human trafficking, and then a victim for CSC, and  
11 then the conducting the criminal enterprise would be for the  
12 actual business itself, conducting the business with the  
13 human trafficking being the predicate acts.

14 I just wanna, I wanna make sure that it, that it's  
15 put on the record properly, because it's so much information  
16 and it's such a big case.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Well, I mean, you can proceed  
18 how you choose to proceed. I mean, this is your  
19 opportunity. I'm just providing, I guess, a little bit of  
20 feedback and some concerns.

21 THE WITNESS: Okay.

22 THE COURT: You can proceed how you choose.

23 THE WITNESS: Is there -- I can -- if I can come  
24 back and shorten it out to make it easier, I'll do that.

25 THE COURT: It's not necessarily the court, the

1 court isn't requesting that you do anything to make it  
2 easier, it's just requesting that you focus on what's  
3 required.

4 So, but you can go about it however you want.

5 THE WITNESS: Okay.

6 THE COURT: It's up to you.

7 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Do you have a couple minutes?

8 THE COURT: Sure.

9 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

10 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Would you mind if we had a  
11 couple minutes, Your Honor?

12 THE COURT: Sure. I do have a docket, so then  
13 I'll have another case at 11:30.

14 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Okay.

15 THE COURT: We just had an opening for a few  
16 moments.

17 THE WITNESS: I apologize. This is --

18 THE COURT: No, that's fine. No need to  
19 apologize.

20 We're gonna go off the record.

21 (At 11:11 a.m. court in recess)

22 (At 11:20 a.m. court reconvenes)

23 THE COURT: All right, the court is back on the  
24 record after a brief recess regarding the felony complaint,  
25 People of the State of Michigan versus John Gerald Geddert.

1 It has a CTN complaint number of 96-2190014901.

2 And would you state your first name and spell your  
3 last name again for the record?

4 THE WITNESS: Bridget Frost. Frost, F-R-O-S-T.

5 THE COURT: Thank you.

6 You were previously sworn in, and so we are going  
7 to continue with that oath. And you may proceed if you are  
8 ready.

9 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 My apologies. We were on count?

11 THE COURT: I believe we were on count three.

12 THE WITNESS: Count three, okay. Thank you.

13 Gonna refer to my documents. One second.

14 I'm sorry, Your Honor. I'm tryin' to find the spot  
15 I left off on.

16 For count three, human trafficking, forced labor  
17 resulting in injury. Victim B.H. trained at Twistars  
18 located on Davis Highway in Eaton County from 2010 until  
19 2012. During this time she suffered an extreme injury to  
20 her knee. After suffering her injury, she experienced  
21 verbal abuse from Defendant Geddert, who called her "a  
22 fucking retard" and a "fucking idiot".

23 Victim B.H. rout-- stated Defendant Geddert would  
24 routinely yank her off the bars, causing more injury to her  
25 knee. Specifically, she had a fall from 15 to 16 feet where

1 she was simply let go off the bars by Defendant Geddert, who  
2 was using a training apparatus to help her.

3 On a separate occasion when Victim B.H. was limping  
4 off the floor, Defendant Geddert yelled at her to "stop  
5 fucking limping, you're fine". Victim B.H. eventually tore  
6 her Achilles tendon.

7 At a separate event she injured her knee, tibia,  
8 fibia and tore her hamstring and calf muscle. Victim B.H.  
9 later went to the hospital and discovered she had a broken  
10 knee. Throughout this, Victim B.H. continued to experience  
11 abusive behavior from Defendant Geddert. She feared  
12 Defendant Geddert because he would often scream in her face,  
13 often spitting. The victim stated she didn't know if the  
14 defendant was gonna grab, push her or hurt her.

15 During this time she continued training while her  
16 family paid the fees for Defendant Geddert to collect while  
17 training her.

18 Victim B.H. eventually quit gymnastics her junior  
19 year due to the treatment she had received from Defendant  
20 Geddert.

21 For the charge of human trafficking on count for  
22 for victim M.J. On October 15th, 2013, Defendant Geddert  
23 became angry and took Victim M.J. into the locker room,  
24 where he stomped on her toes, grabbed her arm and threw her  
25 into a wall. Defendant Geddert denied ever assaulting the

1 victim. But he did admit that he took her into the locker  
2 room alone.

3 Charges were presented to the prosecutor's office  
4 regarding this case, but they were denied; and Geddert,  
5 Defendant Geddert was ordered to complete counseling.

6 During this time, Defendant (sic) M.J. continued to  
7 experience abusive behavior from Defendant Geddert while her  
8 parents paid for continued gymnastics training.

9 For count five, human trafficking or forced labor  
10 resulting in injury. Victim A.C. trained at Twistars from  
11 2006 until 2009. She is quoted as saying she was often  
12 racked by her coach, where she, where the coach pushes on  
13 the gymnast to stretch out their muscles.

14 Victim A.C. experienced a rack, or a leg injury  
15 while being put in this position. When she was injured,  
16 Defendant Geddert rolled his eyes and told her to get up.  
17 Victim A.C. eventually sought treatment at a hospital and  
18 was diagnosed with a hip fracture and provided crutches to  
19 use for walking. Doctors provided a victim, the victim with  
20 a doctor's note not to practice, but Defendant Geddert  
21 forced her to continue.

22 Defendant Geddert forced the victim to see Larry  
23 Nassar before he would accept that she was actually injured.  
24 The victim was eventually sexually abused by Larry Nassar.

25 Defendant Geddert, or excuse me. Victim A.C. also

1 witnessed Defendant Geddert throw objects at gymnasts,  
2 including water bottles.

3 Victim A.C. also witnessed a girl break her leg  
4 during an exercise and Defendant Geddert grabbed the le--  
5 grabbed the girl off the ground and forced her to keep  
6 running. During this time, Victim A.C. experienced verbal  
7 and emotional abuse from Geddert and Victim A.C.'s family  
8 was paying gymnastics fees for her to train at his gym.

9 For the count of human trafficking for Victim I.H.  
10 Victim I.H. began training at Twistars in two thousand and  
11 tw-- 2008 until approximately 2012. During this time,  
12 Victim I.H. injured her leg, was hesitant to say anything  
13 because she was fearful Defendant Geddert would become  
14 upset. After she told the defendant she was injured, she  
15 was ordered to see Larry Nassar, who treated the injury.  
16 And she was forced to continue on with gymnastics.

17 Victim I.H. advised Defendant Geddert would yell,  
18 scream, humiliate and belittle her with insults and threats.

19 On a separate incident, Victim I.H. stated that  
20 when she was changing out of her leotard in the locker room,  
21 Defendant Geddert slammed the door so hard on her it bounced  
22 back open.

23 Defendant Geddert would call her lazy, a spoiled  
24 brat. She -- her injury became so severe she was eventually  
25 diagnosed with a broken leg.

1                   Defend-- or Victim I.H. was also dropped by  
2 Defendant Geddert five to ten times while on the ropes and  
3 on the belt. She was approximately 12 years old when this  
4 occurred. Victim (sic) Geddert would intimidate and  
5 threatened her into doing well, which she claims made  
6 gymnastics into a job.

7                   When victim was 13 years old, she began cutting  
8 herself on the wrists, the inside of her ankles, her hip and  
9 developed ideations of suicide.

10                  During this time her parents paid fees towards  
11 Twistars for her to continue training.

12                  For Victim C.W., count seven. Victim C.W. trained  
13 under Defendant Geddert from 2010 until 2013 and informed  
14 investigators she was very terrified of him. The defendant  
15 would alienate the victim from other athletes and not allow  
16 the other athletes to speak to her. He would also call her  
17 a fat cow and slap her thighs during practice.

18                  The defendant would make her practice on a beam for  
19 over two hours. The defendant would also scream at the  
20 victim's face and spit, spit in her face while he was  
21 screaming. The victim stated she was so terrified of the  
22 defendant that she would often vomit during practice.

23                  On one occasion Defendant Geddert head-butted her  
24 and stomped on the top of her foot causing a severe injury  
25 to her foot. The victim attempted to go to the locker room

1 where Defendant Geddert followed her inside the locker room,  
2 screamed at her, took away her cell phone and threw it.  
3 Defendant Geddert then slapped her rib cage, calling her a  
4 "waste of talent". He spit and head-butted her and stomped  
5 on her bare feet with his shoes. Victim C.W. was terrified  
6 to leave the locker room and had no way to call her parents.

7 During this time -- during the entire time she  
8 trained at Twistars, her parents paid fees for her to train.

9 Victim C.W. also experienced nightmares and  
10 depression due to the treatment she experienced from  
11 Defendant Geddert.

12 For the count eight for Victim L.S. Victim L.S.  
13 began training at Twistars from, began training at Twistars  
14 in 2012 when she was ten years old. The victim would often  
15 cry during, before practice due anxiety. She claimed  
16 Defendant Geddert had a fat club and would ridicule the  
17 girls in this club, making them do extra conditioning.

18 Victim L.S. experienced injuries in her knees,  
19 hyper-extending them during a drill. Victim L.S. also had  
20 to wear knee braces, which were very painful.

21 Victim recalled an incident where Defendant  
22 Geddert, after she was injured, was making her run and she  
23 landed on her foot wrong. She said the pain was so extreme  
24 she began to cry and Defendant Geddert made her do 1,000  
25 sit-ups.

1 Larry Nassar eventually diagnosed Victim L.S. with  
2 a broken bone on the top of her foot.

3 Defendant Geddert forced Victim L.S. to train,  
4 making, making her take the boot off. Victim L.S.  
5 eventually sought counseling due to the treatment at  
6 Twistars and was later diagnosed with PTSD.

7 During this time, her parents paid fees towards  
8 Twistars to continue training.

9 For count nine, human trafficking, Victim B.L.  
10 Victim B.L. trained at Twistars for 12 years, with the last  
11 three years being coached by Defendant Geddert. The most  
12 significant thing that happened to Victim B.L. at Twisters,  
13 Twistars was when she broke her neck. She broke her neck  
14 by, by landing from a, or falling nearly ten feet. When  
15 this happened, Defendant Geddert came over, told her what  
16 happened; Defendant Geddert immediately made her sit up.  
17 Victim B.L. said she could not sit up. Defendant Geddert  
18 grabbed her, pulled her up into a seating position and told  
19 her it was probably just a torn muscle. Defendant Geddert  
20 told her if she was unable to continue the exercise, she  
21 would have to sit in the splits for the remainder of the  
22 practice, which she did. Defendant Geddert never informed  
23 the victim's parents of the fall.

24 Victim B.L. was eventually taken to the emergency  
25 room where she was diagnosed with fractures to her

1           vertebrae.

2                       Even after breaking her back, Victim B.L. cont--  
3 was forced to continue with gymnastics. Defendant Geddert  
4 made the victim run sprints during practice and said that  
5 she was out of shape and needed conditioning. Three years  
6 later, Victim B.L. injured her back again, fracturing her  
7 lumbar five vertebrae.

8                       Defendant Geddert also told her that she was fat  
9 and looking chunky, and would make, spend -- make her spend  
10 practices running. Victim B.L. believes the defendant did  
11 this so her parents had to continue to pay for training,  
12 even if she was just running on a treadmill.

13                      Defendant Geddert wanted Victim B.L. to participate  
14 -- I'm sorry -- wanted Victim B.L. to participate in a meet,  
15 and when Victim B.L.'s father attempted to intervene,  
16 Defendant Geddert said that she was just being a baby.

17                      She was constantly told she wasn't good enough and  
18 was worthless and overweight.

19                      During this time and through all the treatment that  
20 she received from Geddert, her parents were paying fees  
21 towards Twistars so she could continue her training.

22                      For count ten, Victim T.M., trained from Twistars  
23 from 2001 until 2008. Victim T.M. was 12 to 13 years old  
24 during, during the time that she was verbally and  
25 emotionally abused by victim, or by Defendant Geddert.

1 She was told that she needed to count 500 calories  
2 a day to lose weight. Defendant Geddert would become angry,  
3 grab her by the back of the neck and take her to secl-- a  
4 secluded back room. The victim stated Defendant Geddert  
5 would often scream in her face and step on her toes.

6 During this time, the victim's parents paid  
7 training fees towards Twistars for her to continue training.

8 Victim T.M. provided testimony to investigators  
9 stating that Defendant Geddert att-- attempted to contact  
10 her coaches with a new gym after she left Twistars.

11 Victim E.F. trained -- I'm sorry.

12 For count 11 for human trafficking concerning  
13 Victim E.F. Victim E.F. trained at Twistars from 2009 until  
14 2011. Victim E.F. stated Geddert would yell, scream and  
15 place gymnasts on a tracker.

16 Victim E.F. stated that Defendant Geddert would  
17 often pinch the skin behind her arms and step on her bare  
18 toes. At a regional event, Defendant Geddert grabbed her by  
19 the back of the neck and shook her when she did not perform  
20 to his standards.

21 On one incident when Defendant Geddert was spotting  
22 her, he allowed her to fall and she struck her neck on the  
23 bar. She recalled not being able to breath while Defendant  
24 Geddert walked away and laughed and told her to get up.

25 On a separate occasion, Victim E.F. fell again

1 during a routine and Geddert left her laying there.

2 During this time, Victim E.F. was forced to  
3 continue training at Twistars and her parents paid fees  
4 towards that training.

5 Similar to the prior victim, vic-- Defendant  
6 Geddert also contacted the victim's coach after she left  
7 twist-- Twistars, claiming that she needed to have her  
8 scholarship taken away.

9 For count 12, Victim K.C. One, or excuse me, K.C.  
10 Victim K.C. trained from Twistars from 2000 until 2008. She  
11 was five seven and weighed 90 pounds, but Defendant Geddert  
12 would call her fat and control what she ate.

13 She also stated she witnessed Defendant Geddert  
14 telling gymnasts to "just go kill yourself". On one  
15 incident, she split her palm open and was bleeding. Victim  
16 K.C. attempted to get a treatment from the injury and  
17 Defendant Geddert told her she should just go kill herself.

18 Sometime in 2004 when Victim K.C. was performing on  
19 a vault exercise, she landed and felt a snap in her foot,  
20 and she was told by Defendant Geddert to continue with a  
21 separate exercise. During this exercise, the victim felt a  
22 separate snap on her foot. The victim was even eventually  
23 diagnosed with a broken foot.

24 During this time, victim, the victim's parents paid  
25 fees towards Twistars for the victim to continue training.

1 THE COURT: Is this just in 2004?

2 THE WITNESS: For, it's -- between 2000 and 2008  
3 with the, her injury being in 2004.

4 THE COURT: Kay.

5 THE WITNESS: For Victim K.C. on count 13. Victim  
6 K.C. reported that she was scared of Geddert to the point  
7 that she had night terrors every night. When she was  
8 attempting a new skill on a high bar, she missed with her  
9 hands and landed on her head. She started crying because it  
10 hurt. Defendant Geddert yelled at her, told her to stop  
11 crying and to get up and to do it again.

12 On a separate incident, Defendant Geddert threw her  
13 in the pit while she was spotting from the high bar because  
14 she feared it. On a separate occasion, Defendant Geddert  
15 pulled Victim K.C. forcibly off a bar, throwing her legs,  
16 throwing her legs around into the pit.

17 The victim explained that she was terrified to go  
18 to practice. The victim also stated that the defendant was  
19 very aggressive, would get in her face, would use his arms  
20 and while pointing and swearing at her. The victim also  
21 remembers Defendant Geddert having a scale and having her on  
22 a strict plan to lose weight.

23 Victim K.C. also witnessed abuse from other  
24 victims.

25 During this time, while she was forced to continue

1 gymnastics, her parents paid fees for her to continue in the  
2 training.

3 For Victim L.L., count 14. Victim L.L. trained at  
4 Twistars from 2003 until 2013. On one incident she was  
5 working on the vault routine and fell and hit her head.  
6 Defendant Geddert became so angry with her that he threw a  
7 hand mat at her and struck her. Defendant Geddert also came  
8 over to her and began screaming at her, where she could  
9 taste his spit in her mouth.

10 On a separate incident, Victim L.L. broke her foot  
11 during practice. Defendant Geddert insisted that she  
12 compete anyways. Defendant Geddert told the victim -- I'm  
13 sorry -- victim -- Victim L.L. stated that Defendant Geddert  
14 stated that if she was injured it was due to a lack of focus  
15 and called her a wimp and lazy.

16 Victim was later diagnosed with Sherman's Disease,  
17 but was forced to train. She continues to struggle with  
18 body image issues.

19 Now, Victim L.L. also told investigators she  
20 observed Defendant Geddert in the girls' locker room  
21 unannounced, and believes it was to retrieve a video camera  
22 that was under some clothes.

23 During the time that Victim L.L. was injured, her  
24 parents paid fees to Twistars for her to continue training.

25 THE COURT: Okay, before we move on to count 15,

1           which is a different charge ...

2                   THE WITNESS:    Mm-hmm.

3                   THE COURT:     ... I just need to take a quick break.

4                   THE WITNESS:    Sure.

5                   THE COURT:     I'm gonna ask my assistant to let the  
6 attorneys know, we have an 11:30 and an 11:45 hearing.  If  
7 we could send them an email or some kind of a message to let  
8 them know that we are running extremely behind so that they  
9 know.

10                   I just wanna give my assistant an opportunity to do  
11 that before we proceed.  So it'll be just a moment.

12                   MS. LINCOLN:    All set.

13                   THE COURT:     All right.  You may continue.

14                   THE WITNESS:    Thank you, Your Honor.

15                   I believe we are on count 15 with Victim K.G.  
16 Human trafficking of a minor.  Victim K.G., K.G. trained at  
17 Twistars starting at the age of ten.

18                   In April of 2015 she began training regularly with  
19 Defendant Geddert.  The victim began to -- the victim  
20 suffered an injury and complained about being hurt, and  
21 Defendant Geddert began yelling and screaming at her.

22                   The victim's family reportedly paid, while she was  
23 being trained by Geddert, a hundred dollars for cash in the  
24 morning sessions, on top of \$500.00 quarterly fees and  
25 \$2,000 to the booster, the booster's club for uniforms.

1           Victim K.G. suffered from sleeping disorders and  
2 panic attacks from the verbal abuse that she experienced  
3 from Defendant Geddert.

4           The victim also stated that Defendant Geddert would  
5 become enraged and scream at her, clench his fists, throw  
6 exercise mats at the girls, and "anything she could, that  
7 he, that he could get his hands on".

8           Defendant Geddert, per Victim K.G., Defendant  
9 Geddert forced gymnasts to train during an injury even if  
10 the doctor's recommendation would be to rest.

11           There was also no concussion protocol.

12           Specifically, Victim K.G. was forced to practice  
13 after she heard a snap and her arm was broken.

14           During this time where she was receiving training  
15 from Twistars, her parents paid fees towards Twistars so she  
16 could continue on with her training.

17           Victim K.G. told investigators Defendant Geddert  
18 controlled everything they did.

19           For count 16, human trafficking of a minor. Victim  
20 R.L. trained with Twistars from 2010 until 2016. Victim  
21 R.L.'s first major injury occurred in 2013 with a broken  
22 elbow, which she was later forced to compete on for a month.

23           Victim R.L. began experiencing verbal abuse from  
24 Defendant Geddert after this injury and would punish the  
25 entire gym if exercises weren't done correctly.

1 Defendant, or Victim R.L. stated Defendant Geddert  
2 controlled his gym with fear and that he would make gymnasts  
3 run until they vomited.

4 During this time, Victim R.L.'s parents paid fees  
5 towards Twistars for her to continue on with her training.

6 For count 17 --

7 THE COURT: You're alleging in count 16 that R.L.  
8 is a minor; do you have any information regarding that?

9 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. She was a minor when she  
10 was training at Twistars between 2010 and 2016.

11 THE COURT: How are you gonna establish that right  
12 now ... (inaudible)? How old was she? What's her date of  
13 birth?

14 THE WITNESS: I do not have her date of birth with  
15 me.

16 THE COURT: You don't know how old she was during  
17 the alleged time frame?

18 THE WITNESS: I have it written down that she was  
19 a minor, but that is all, the only details I have.

20 THE COURT: All right.

21 THE WITNESS: I apologize.

22 THE COURT: You may continue.

23 THE WITNESS: Victim A.D. for count 17, human  
24 trafficking. Victim A.D. trained at Twistars from 2011  
25 until 2018 while she was a minor. Specifically during

1 practice in 2015, she injured her Achilles tendon. When  
2 Victim A.D. told the defendant that it hurt, he applied more  
3 pressure to her injury area. Vic-- Defendant Geddert had  
4 her sit in the splits. While she was sitting in the splits,  
5 he had pushed down onto her shoulders. Even while she told  
6 him that it hurt, and he continued to push down, he did this  
7 for approximately five to ten minutes and then made her stay  
8 in this position for 15 minutes. Victim A.D. was unable to  
9 walk and had to crawl off the gym floor. It was later  
10 discovered that she had torn her Achilles tendon completely  
11 off her calf from her muscle.

12 During this time, Victim A.D.'s parents paid fees  
13 towards Twistars so she could continue on with her  
14 gymnastics training.

15 THE COURT: Same question for alleged Victim A.D.

16 THE WITNESS: I do not have her date of birth.

17 THE COURT: You may continue.

18 THE WITNESS: For count 19, human trafficking --

19 THE COURT: I believe you're on 18.

20 THE WITNESS: Eighteen, I apologize.

21 Victim M.M. began training at Twistars in 2016.  
22 Specifically when she was ten years old, the victim injured  
23 her thumb on the bars and observed that it immediately  
24 became puffy and bruised. Defendant Geddert told her she  
25 was lying about her injury and made her complete five rope

1 climbs and do an extra hour of beam. The following day, the  
2 victim went to the doctor and discovered her thumb was in a  
3 cast. She was forced to continue on with gymnastics, even  
4 though she had her cast on. Specifically, Defendant Geddert  
5 wanted her to attempt to complete exercises that the, that  
6 the doc-- the doctor advised against completing.

7 Defendant Geddert would scream in her face, tell  
8 her she was too dumb for this sport and that she would never  
9 make it.

10 Oh, when Victim M.M. became too scared to complete  
11 the, complete certain moves after she broke her thumb,  
12 Defendant Geddert grabbed her by her hands and threw her off  
13 the bars and screamed at her for "not going for it".

14 During this time, Victim M.M.'s parents paid fees  
15 towards Twistars for her to continue on with her gymnastics  
16 training.

17 For count 19 --

18 THE COURT: For count 18, same question. Do you  
19 have anything to establish that the alleged Victim M.M. is a  
20 minor?

21 THE WITNESS: She stated she was ten years old  
22 when it happened.

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 THE WITNESS: For count ...

25 THE COURT: Nineteen.

1 THE WITNESS: ... 19, Victim S.L. trained at  
2 Twistars from 2008 until 2015. Oh, specifically when she  
3 was nine years old -- I'm sorry -- Defendant Geddert sent  
4 her to the locker room and followed her inside and was  
5 yelling at her. The victim did not know if Defendant  
6 Geddert was going to strike her.

7 She also recalls on a separate incident when she  
8 was balancing on a beam that she needed to use the bathroom.  
9 Defendant Geddert would not allow her to use the bathroom  
10 until she completed the exercise properly. She was unable  
11 to complete it properly and became frustrated, fell off the  
12 beam and hit her head while she was falling. She was nine  
13 years old when this occurred.

14 During this time, victim's parents paid fees  
15 towards Twistars so she could continue with her training.

16 For count 20, Victim C.P. trained at Twistars from  
17 2009 until 2014. Victim C.P.'s parents believed that  
18 attending Twistars was an opportunity to earn a scholarship.  
19 At one incident, Victim C.P. landed on her head during an  
20 exercise and believed she had broken her neck. Defendant  
21 Geddert told the victim to get back up and to keep, to  
22 continue competing.

23 Victim C.P. experienced stress fractures. Victim  
24 C.P.'s parents advised investigators that Defendant Geddert  
25 would tell the victims to wait and notifying Larry Nassar

1 until after a meet if they became injured so they could  
2 continue on with the meet.

3 During this time, Victim C.P.'s parents paid fees  
4 towards Twistars so she could continue on with her training.

5 Count 22 --

6 THE COURT: Do you have a factual basis for C.P.  
7 being a minor?

8 THE WITNESS: I do not have her date of birth.  
9 Other than she was, she was a minor at the time.

10 THE COURT: All right, you may continue.

11 THE WITNESS: Victim A.M. trained at Twistars from  
12 2005 until 2016. She was assaulted by the suspect in 2012  
13 when she was 14 years old. During this incident she went  
14 into the locker room after practice and Defendant Geddert  
15 followed her inside, threw her up against the wall. At this  
16 time she was only in her leotard, which was pulled down to  
17 her waist and her sports bra. Victim states that Defendant  
18 Geddert then firmly pushed up underneath her sports bra and  
19 squeezed. He then slid his hand down to grab the top of her  
20 leotard by the waist area and pulled it upwards. Victim  
21 A.M. recalls the leotard rubbing against her genital area.

22 Defendant Geddert then grabbed the genital area of  
23 the victim with one hand, sliding his fingers into her  
24 vagina in the process. She states that he lifted her up  
25 with his bottom hand, with the other hand on her shoulder

1 and leaned in close to his face. At the time this occurred,  
2 Defendant Geddert was her coach. Victim's, victim states  
3 that Defendant Geddert angered whisp-- whispered angrily at  
4 her, 'This wouldn't be happening if you just completed my  
5 assignment at practice like you were supposed to the day  
6 before'.

7 At home, Victim A.M. found blood on her underwear  
8 and she threw up multiple times and cried herself to sleep.

9 For the count of conducting a criminal enterprise.  
10 Defendant Geddert incorporated Twistars in 1998 and has  
11 operated it as his owner until 2018 when the resident  
12 engin-- resident agent was changed to his wife, Kathryn  
13 Geddert. The acts outlined, outlined in this swear-to are  
14 not isolated acts, but rather a scheme that Defendant  
15 Geddert used to achieve profitable success.

16 Defendant Geddert used a pattern of abusive  
17 tactics, including stopping, stomping on and stepping on  
18 victims' bare feet when he was wearing shoes.

19 When the victims left and went to other gyms,  
20 Defendant Geddert had a pattern of stalking behavior,  
21 contacting the new gyms and the coaches to slander the  
22 victims.

23 Investigators executed search warrants at Defendant  
24 Geddert's business and residence. We recovered IRS tax  
25 documents indicating that between the years 2012 and 2018,

1 specifically, Twistars had a gross of, gross sales of  
2 approximately 9.3 million dollars. Individual tax returns  
3 were also recovered that show Defendant Geddert reported  
4 between the years 2014 to 2018 approximate totals, or excuse  
5 me, approximate gross income of 2.7 million.

6 For count 24, lying to a police officer.

7 THE COURT: Did you do the factual basis for count  
8 23?

9 THE WITNESS: So Defendant Geddert was in control  
10 of the business and was collecting the income from the  
11 gymnasts who were forced to continue on in gymnasts while  
12 injured.

13 THE COURT: All right. That may relate or not  
14 relate to count 21. I asked if you laid the factual basis  
15 for count 23.

16 THE WITNESS: Oh, I'm sorry. I have it out of  
17 order.

18 So count, count 33 for, 23, excuse me, for CSC  
19 second degree was when Defendant Geddert reached up and  
20 fondled Victim A.M.'s breasts before he digitally penetrated  
21 her vaginally.

22 THE COURT: Okay. Do you have any probable cause  
23 information to establish her age at the time?

24 THE WITNESS: Victim was 14 at the time.

25 THE COURT: Okay.

1 THE WITNESS: For count 24, lying to a police  
2 officer during a violent crimes investigation. Defendant  
3 Geddert was interviewed in 2016 at Twistars by the Michigan  
4 St-- Michigan State University Police on information that he  
5 had with Larry Nassar. Larry Nassar was made aware that  
6 they were law enforcement and that the interview was being  
7 recorded.

8 During this time, Defendant Geddert told  
9 investigators that Nassar came to Twistars once a week and  
10 had a limited role at the gym. Defendant Geddert denied  
11 that Larry Nassar would be alone in the locker room with  
12 female gymnasts.

13 Defendant Taro (sic) asked Defendant Getter if he  
14 was aware if any of the athletes were receiving any kind of  
15 intravaginal treatments while at Twistars. Defendant Getter  
16 indicated that he would not be privy to this information;  
17 however, he then stated, 'I could limit by deductive  
18 reasoning which athletes might have had it because of the  
19 nature of their injuries, such as a hamstring, strain, lower  
20 back injury or broken tailbone'.

21 Defendant Geddert also claimed that victim's --  
22 excuse me -- female gymnasts were not allowed, or were not  
23 in the locker room alone with men, which is contradicted by  
24 statements provided by multiple victims who stated he would  
25 foll-- that stated he would follow them into the locker

1 room, where he would assault and verbally abuse them.

2 On a separate occasion -- or, I'm sorry.

3 Investigators also asked Defendant Geddert if he  
4 had ever heard or had someone tell him or complain about  
5 Larry Nassar's treatments of gymnasts and he said he did  
6 not. This was a lie, as Defendant Geddert, as investigators  
7 learned that Defendant Geddert was in a vehicle in, sometime  
8 in 2011 with a victim who stated she had been sexually  
9 abused by Larry Nassar.

10 THE COURT: Okay, the court has listened to  
11 statements to establish probable cause in regard to issuing  
12 a felony complaint against Mr. Geddert.

13 Count one through 14 are all charges entitled human  
14 trafficking, forced labor resulting in jury, a 15 year  
15 felony. Each count, one through 14 has a separate victim  
16 with initials listed only. The court at this time does find  
17 probable cause for that felony complaint charges to issue  
18 count one through 14.

19 Count 15 is a 20 year felony, human trafficking of  
20 a minor or forced labor with the initials K.G. that shall  
21 also be issued.

22 Count 16 and 17, there was no establishment that  
23 the alleged victims, R.L. and/or A.D. was a minor at the  
24 time, so those are not going to be approved at this point  
25 for the felony complaint.

1                   Count 18 is human trafficking a minor or forced  
2 labor, another 20 year felony, which probable cause was  
3 established to issue.

4                   The same thing with count 19.

5                   Count 20 is an additional human trafficking of a  
6 minor or forced labor where there was no establishment that  
7 the alleged Victim C.P. was a minor at the time that is  
8 being alleged. So that is being denied.

9                   Count 21 is criminal enterprises, racketeering  
10 proceeds with multiple victim's initials listed as part of  
11 the rationale and probable cause. That shall be issued.

12                   Count 22 is criminal sexual conduct in the first  
13 degree, a life offense. That shall be issued.

14                   Count 23 is a criminal sexual conduct second degree  
15 with the same alleged victim. That is a 15 year felony that  
16 shall be issued.

17                   And count 24 is lying to a peace officer during a  
18 violent crime investigation, a four year felony; and that  
19 shall be issued as well.

20                   So is Mr. Geddert in custody right now?

21                   THE WITNESS: He is not, Your Honor.

22                   THE COURT: All right. So then I will go ahead  
23 and sign the complaint as stated.

24                   We are off the record.

25                   (At 12:02 p.m. proceedings concluded)

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CERTIFICATION OF COURT RECORDER

STATE OF MICHIGAN )  
COUNTY OF EATON )

I certify that this transcript consisting of 38 pages, is a complete, true, and correct transcript of the proceedings and testimony taken in this case by Sara Lincoln on Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

Dated: February 25, 2021

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