

STATE OF WISCONSIN**CIRCUIT COURT****SHEBOYGAN COUNTY**

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

-VS-

Eilene K Ribbens
111 S East Street
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020
DOB: 02/11/1954
Sex/Race: F/W
Alias: Eilene K Ribbens-Rhode;
Eilene K Rhode

DA Case No.: 2013SB000244
Assigned DA/ADA: Joe DeCecco
Agency Case No.: C13-00041
Court Case No.: 2013CF192

Defendant.

Kristine Thurs, Sheboygan Police Department, being first duly sworn on oath deposes and says on information and belief:

Count 1: OBTAIN PRESCRIPTION DRUG BY FRAUD

The above-named defendant on or about July 24, 2012, in the City of Sheboygan, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, did obtain a prescription drug by fraud, deceit or willful concealment of a material fact, contrary to sec. 450.11(7)(a), 450.11(9)(a) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, **a Misdemeanor, the defendant may be fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) or imprisoned not more than six (6) months or both.**

Count 2: PRESCRIPTION DRUGS - DELIVERY/POSSESSION/MANUFACTURE

The above-named defendant on or about July 24, 2012, in the City of Sheboygan, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin, did possess, with intent to deliver, Tramadol HCl, a prescription drug, contrary to sec. 450.11(7)(g), 939.50(3)(h) Wis. Stats.

Upon conviction for this offense, **a Class H Felony, the defendant may be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or imprisoned not more than six (6) years, or both.**

The basis of complainant's charge of such offense is: Official reports prepared by Officer Piotr Gordziej of the Sheboygan Police Department, which reports indicate that on January 1, 2013, he met with Dr. Frederick Lord, the Veterinarian employed by the Sheboygan Humane Society, who stated he had discovered documentation referring to an order and shipment of prescription animal medication, specifically, 1,000 50mg pills of Tramadol Hydrochloride and 480 ml

of Potassium Bromide oral solution from Wedgewood Pharmacy in New Jersey. The documentation notes the order was placed by Eilene Ribbens of the Humane Society, who is identified as a veterinary technician on the document. Dr. Lord stated he did not order or authorize these purchases and that Ribbens is not a veterinary technician, but is the Interim Executive Director of the Humane Society, and is not authorized to order prescription medication. Your complainant notes that under Wisconsin law, only veterinarians and certified veterinary technicians are authorized to place such orders. Dr. Lord also provided the officer with a Fed Ex document indicating the order had been delivered to the Humane Society on July 24, 2012. Dr. Lord further stated that this order of prescription medication could not be located in Humane Society storage and are missing and unaccounted for.

Officer Gordziej subsequently made contact with Samantha R. Wehse, DOB 11/9/88, an employee of the Humane Society. Samantha stated that in the summer of 2012, Ribbens told her there would be a shipment of medication arriving and that Samantha was to put the shipment on Ribbens' desk. Samantha stated that normally arriving drug shipments are placed with the Society's stock of medications. Samantha stated that Ribbens told her Ribbens had purchased the drugs with her own money to help out to give to a woman for that woman's dog as the price of the medications had increased and that Ribbens was doing this out of the "kindness of her heart." Samantha stated she was surprised by the amount of Tramadol ordered (1,000 pills), which Samantha stated was unusual in and of itself. Samantha stated she informed the Humane Society's certified veterinary technician of these circumstances.

Officer Gordziej made contact with Melissa S. Dekanich, DOB 1/13/87, who identified herself as that technician. Melissa confirmed that Samantha had approached her with her concerns over the shipment. Melissa stated she contacted the New Jersey pharmacy, who confirmed that the order had been placed by Eilene Ribbens. Melissa stated that medication orders are placed either by Dr. Lord or herself. Melissa stated that when she checked the Society's drug inventory, she could not locate any entry reflecting the receipt of the ordered drugs nor could she locate the drugs from that shipment.

Officer Gordziej made contact with Eilene K. Ribbens, DOB 2/11/54, the Defendant. The Defendant stated that she had placed the order in question and sent the medications to two of her relatives for their dogs, at least one of who was experiencing severe financial

problems. She admitted that she knew Tramadol is a prescription medication.

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 3rd day of April, 2013
and approved for filing:

Assistant District Attorney
Sheboygan County, Wisconsin

Complainant