E-FILED 2026 NOV 12 11:46 AM HARRISON - CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT

IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR
HARRISON COUNTY

This Complaint and Affidavit is to be:

- [x] Filed with Court Clerk (cc: CA)
- [ ] Submitted to County Attorney
- [ ] Filed with JCO - Defendant is a Juvenile

Form Number: **2026-03000389**

Arrest Date: _____

THE STATE OF IOWA

VS.

OFFENDER

Last	First	Middle	Suffix
MCLAUGHLIN	**TRISTA**	**MARIE**	

Address	City	State	Zip Code
	MISSOURI VALLEY	**IA**	**51555**

DL#	State	DL Class	DL Endorsements	DL Restrictions
	IA	**C**		

Date of Birth	Gender	Race	Ethnicity
	FEMALE	**WHITE - W**	

Height	Weight	Eye Color	Hair Color

VEHICLE

Year	Make	Model	Color

VIN	CDL Req?	Pass End Req?	HazMat End Req?	Style

Plate/Registration #	State	Year	US DOT Number	ICC/MC #

OFFENSE

State	County	Local	Code Section	Crime Description	Speed	in Zone
[x]	[ ]	[ ]	**714.9**	**FRAUDULENT PRACTICE 1ST DEGREE**		

Class	Serious P.I.	Fatal Accident	Civil Damage Assessment	Other
FELC	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

Location Type
20 - RESIDENCE/HOME

Address	City	State	Zip Code
	MISSOURI VALLEY	**IA**	

Is Date and Time of Incident Known?	Incident Date or Low Range	Upper Date Range	Incident Time or Low Range	Upper Time Range
NO	**04/01/2025**	**07/01/2026**	**00:00**	**00:00**

STATUS OF OFFENDER/JUVENILE

[ ] TAKEN INTO CUSTODY	CUSTODY	[ ] SUMMONS TO APPEAR (Citation Issued)
[x] WARRANT REQUESTED	[ ] NO CONTACT ORDER REQUESTED	[ ] RELEASED TO PARENT/GUARDIAN

NARRATIVE

Narrative of Offense Committed

On or about the above stated date and time, the Defendant did

make an entry in or an alteration of a public record, or a record of a corporation, partnership, or other business enterprise, to-wit: Harrison County Fair Board, knowing the same to be false where the money or the value of the property involved exceeds $10,000

VICTIM INFORMATION (Optionally displayed, especially if NCO is requested)

Last	First	Middle	Suffix

Business/Organization/State/County/Municipality Name

HARRISON COUNTY FAIR BOARD

Address	City	State	Zip

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF IOWA, HARRISON COUNTY

I, the undersigned, being duly sworn, state that all facts contained in this Complaint and Affidavit, known by me or told to me by other reliable persons form the basis for my belief that the defendant committed this crime

State all facts and persons relied upon supporting elements of alleged crime

TRISTA MCLAUGHLIN was employed as the Fair Manager for the Harrison County Fair Board from November 2022 to August 3rd, 2026. The Harrison County Fair Board is a non-profit organization that holds numerous events throughout the year including races, the annual fair and numerous 4-H events among others. As Fair Manager, MCLAUGHLIN was tasked with managing the Fair Boards bank accounts to include writing checks, making deposits, withdrawing funds and keeping track of all these transactions using a QuickBooks application. MCLAUGHLIN provides a copy of the QuickBooks register to the Harrison County Fair Board at every monthly meeting. The Fair Board trusted MCLAUGHLIN that she was providing accurate records of their finances. In April of 2026, the Harrison County Fair Board noticed a discrepancy in their bank account.

It was discovered that MCLAUGHLIN wrote a check out of the Fair Board's account to her own business, McLaughlin Septic, dated April 1st, 2025, for $29,542.40. MCLAUGHLIN wrote another check out of the Fair Board's account to her own business, McLaughlin Septic, dated March 3rd, 2026, for $11,105.12. The Harrison County Fair Board can find no legitimate reason why they would have paid that much money to McLaughlin Septic. These checks were deposited into a McLaughlin Septic account and the money was then dispersed into other accounts owned by MCLAUGHLIN. MCLAUGHLIN never recorded these checks in the QuickBooks register that is provided to the Harrison County Fair Board, therefore, concealing the missing money.

As of the end of June 2026, the Fair Board's bank balance that MCLAUGHLIN provided to the Fair Board at their monthly meeting was $113,479.06. The monthly statement for the end of June 2026 directly from American National Bank (the Fair Boards bank) shows a balance of $56,110.79. This is a difference of $57,368.27.

The total of these two checks that MCLAUGHLIN wrote to her own business is $40,647.52. With this being the bulk of the missing money, the remaining amount of $16,720.75 is believed to be missing cash. A lot of the Fair Board's money is handled in cash due to most of their events being a cash entrance fee. MCLAUGHLIN is the one in charge of withdrawing and depositing cash for these events.

It should be noted that MCLAUGHLIN purposely did not enter these two checks into the QuickBooks program and subsequently the statements MCLAUGHLIN provided to the Fair Board every month have been incorrect since April 2025. TRISTA MCLAUGHLIN has actively misinformed the Fair Board of their finances and concealed these thefts since April 2025.

Hendrix, David **I069**

Signature of Complainant or Officer, Officer Name & Number

STATE OF IOWA, HARRISON COUNTY

Subscribed and sworn to before me by the person(s) signing the Complaint and Affidavit(s) on 11/12/2026

Notary Name **TARALEE A MATTOX**

Commission Number **749925**

My Commission Expires **12/09/2028**

Signature of Verifying Party

☐ Peace Officer ☒ Notary ☐ Prosecuting Attorney