

FEB 24 2025

Salt Lake County

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

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Attorneys for Defendant

**IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH**

STATE OF UTAH,

Plaintiff,

v.

JASON CHRISTOPHER HALL,

Defendant.

No Contest
**STATEMENT OF DEFENDANT IN
SUPPORT OF ~~ALFORD~~ PLEA AND
CERTIFICATES OF COUNSEL**

Case No: 221906445

Judge Paul B. Parker

I, JASON CHRISTOPHER HALL, the Defendant in this case, hereby acknowledge and certify that I have been advised of and that I understand the following facts and rights:

Notification of Charges

CRIME	DEGREE	PUNISHMENT
Count 1: Criminal Mischief, U.C.A. §§ 76-6-106(2)(a)(1)(B)	Class B Misdemeanor	0-6 months in jail and/or fine of up to \$1,000

I have received a copy of the Amended Information against me. I have read it, or had it read to me, and I understand the nature and the elements of the crime to which I am pleading guilty.

Elements: The elements of the crime to which I am entering ^{no contest} ~~an Alford~~ plea are—

Count 1 – Criminal Mischief

The defendant intentionally and unlawfully tampering with the property of another person that results in recklessly endangering human health or safety.

Admission and Factual Basis:

The prosecution has evidence that on or around August 14, 2021, I took the property of another (campaign yard signs) and threw it in an area where other people were standing, recklessly endangering the health or safety of the people in that area. I acknowledge that the prosecution has sufficient evidence to convict me of the charge, but I maintain my innocence. ~~See North Carolina v. Alford, 400 U.S. 25 (1970).~~

Waiver of Constitutional Rights

I am entering my plea voluntarily. I understand that I have the following rights under the constitutions of Utah and the United States. I also understand that if I enter this ^{no contest} ~~Alford~~ plea, I will give up the following rights:

Counsel: I know I have the right to be represented by an attorney and that if I cannot afford one, an attorney will be appointed by the Court at no cost to me. I understand that I might later, if the Judge determined that I was able, be required to pay for the appointed attorney's service to me.

I have not waived my right to counsel. I certify that I have read this statement and I understand the nature and elements of the charges and crime to which I am entering ^{a no contest} ~~an Alford~~ plea. I also understand my rights in this case and the consequences of my plea.

My attorneys are Trinity Jordan, Aaron Clark, and Jake Lee. My attorneys and I have fully discussed this Statement, my rights, and the consequences of my plea.

Jury Trial: I know that I have a right to a speedy and public trial before an impartial (unbiased) jury and that I will be giving up that right by entering this plea.

Confrontation and Cross-Examination of Witnesses: I know that if I were to have a jury trial, (a) I have the right to see and observe the witnesses who testified against me and (b) my attorneys would have the opportunity to cross-examine all of the witnesses who testified against me.

Right to Compel Witnesses: I know that if I were to have a jury trial, I could call witnesses if I chose to, and I would be able to obtain subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of those witnesses. If I could not afford to pay for the witnesses to appear, the State would pay those costs.

Right to Testify and Privilege Against Self-Incrimination: I know that if I were to have a jury trial, I would have a right to testify in my own behalf. I also know that if I chose not to testify, no one could make me testify or make me give evidence against myself. I also know that if I chose not to testify, the jury would be told that they could not hold my refusal to testify against me.

Presumption of Innocence and Burden of Proof: I know that if I do not enter this ^{no contest} ~~Atford~~ plea, I am presumed innocent until the State proves that I am guilty of the crime(s) charged. If I choose to fight the charges against me, I need only plead “not guilty” and my case will be set for trial. At a trial, the State of Utah would have the burden of proving each element of the charges beyond a reasonable doubt. If the trial is before a jury, the verdict would have to be unanimous, meaning that each juror would have to find me guilty.

I understand that if I enter ^{a no contest} ~~an Alford~~ plea, I will maintain my innocence but acknowledge the state has evidence sufficient to convict me of the crime stated above.

Appeal: I know that under the Constitution of Utah, if I were convicted by a jury or judge, I would have the right to appeal my conviction and sentence. If I could not afford the costs of an appeal, the State would pay those costs for me. I understand that I am giving up my right to appeal my conviction if I enter ^{a no contest} ~~an Alford~~ plea. I understand that if I wish to appeal my sentence, I must file a notice of appeal within 30 days after my sentence is entered.

I know and understand that by entering ^{a no contest} ~~an Alford~~ plea, I am waiving and giving up all the statutory and constitutional rights as explained above.

Consequences of Entering a Guilty Plea

Potential Penalties: I know the maximum sentence that may be imposed for the crime to which I am entering ^{a no contest} ~~an Alford~~ plea. I know my sentence may include a prison term, fine, or both.

I know that in addition to any fine, a 90 percent surcharge will be imposed. I also know that I may be ordered to make restitution to any victim or victims of my crimes, including any restitution that may be owed on charges that are dismissed as part of a plea agreement.

Plea Agreement: My ^{no contest} ~~Alford~~ plea is the result of a plea agreement between the prosecuting attorney and me. All the promises, duties and provisions of the plea agreement, if any, are fully contained in this Statement as follows:

- a. Defendant's foregoing ^{no contest} ~~Alford~~ plea to Count 1 shall be held in abeyance for a period of 12 months and Judgment of Conviction shall not be entered against Defendant as to Count 1. During this time period, Defendant shall not have contact with the victim in this case. Contact is allowed, however, solely for purposes of official proceedings (depositions, court hearings, etc.) in the civil case filed by Mr. Gaston. I will pay a

\$690 plea in abeyance fee. I shall have no further violations of the law, with the exception of minor traffic offenses.

Trial Judge Not Bound: I know that any charge or sentencing concession or recommendation of probation or suspended sentence, including a reduction of the charges for sentencing, made or sought by either defense counsel or the prosecuting attorney are not binding on the judge. I also know that any opinions they express to me as to what they believe the court may do are also not binding on the court.

Defendant's Certification of Voluntariness

I am entering this plea of my own free will and choice. No threats or unlawful influence of any kind have been made to get me to enter this ^{no contest}~~Alford~~ plea. No promises except those contained in this Statement and the attached Plea Agreement have been made to me.

I have read this Statement and the attachments hereto, or I have had it read to me by my attorney, and I understand its contents and adopt each statement in it as my own. I know that I am free to change or delete anything contained in this Statement and the attachments, but I do not wish to make any changes because all of the statements are correct.

I am satisfied with the advice and assistance of my attorney.

I am 50 years of age and I can read and understand the English language. If I do not understand English, an interpreter has been provided to me. I was not under the influence of any drugs, medication, or intoxicants which would impair my judgment when I decided to enter an ^{no contest}~~Alford~~ plea. I am not presently under the influence of any drugs, medication, or intoxicants which impair my judgment.

I believe myself to be of a sound and discerning mind and mentally capable of understanding these proceedings and the consequences of my plea. I am free of any mental

disease, defect or impairment that would prevent me from understanding what I am doing or from knowingly, intelligently, and voluntarily entering my plea.

I understand that if I want to withdraw my plea, I must file a written motion to ^{no contest} withdraw my ~~Alford~~ plea. I will only be allowed to withdraw my plea if I show that it was not knowingly and voluntarily made.

DATED this 24 day of February, 2025.



JASON CHRISTOPHER HALL

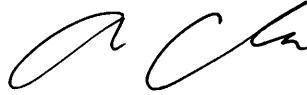
CERTIFICATE OF ATTORNEY

I certify that I am the attorney for JASON CHRISTOPHER HALL, the Defendant above, and that I know he has read this Statement or that I have read it to him and I have discussed it with him and believe that he fully understands the meaning of its contents and is mentally and physically competent.

To the best of my knowledge and belief after an appropriate investigation, the elements of the crime and the factual synopsis of the Defendant's criminal conduct are correctly stated; and these, along with the other representations and declarations made by the Defendant in the foregoing affidavit, are accurate and true.

DATED this 24th day of February, 2025.

DENTONS DURHAM JONES PINEGAR



Trinity Jordan

Aaron Clark

Jake Lee

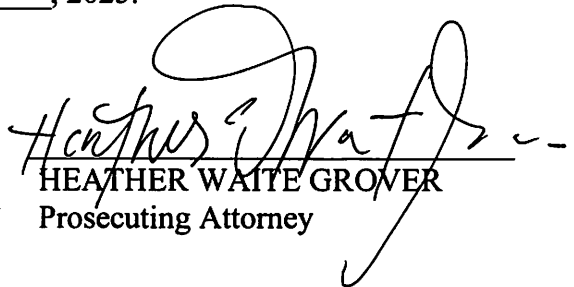
Attorneys for Defendant

CERTIFICATE OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

I certify that I am the attorney for the State of Utah in the case against JASON CHRISTOPHER HALL, the Defendant. I have reviewed this Statement of the Defendant and find that the factual basis of the Defendant's criminal conduct which constitutes the offense is true and correct. No improper inducements, threats, or coercion to encourage a plea have been offered to the Defendant.

The plea negotiations are fully contained in this Statement and in the attached Plea Agreement and as may be supplemented on the record before the court. There is reasonable cause to believe that the evidence would support the conviction of Defendant for the offense for which the plea is entered, and acceptance of the plea would serve the public interest.

DATED this 24 day of February, 2025.


HEATHER WAITE GROVER
Prosecuting Attorney

ORDER

Based upon the facts set forth in the foregoing Statement and the certifications of the Defendant and counsel, and based upon any oral representations in Court, the Court witnesses the signatures and finds that the Defendant's ^{no contest} ~~Alford~~ plea is freely, knowingly, and voluntarily made.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Defendant's ^{no contest} ~~Alford~~ plea to the crime set forth in the Statement be accepted and entered.

DATED this 21 day of February, 2025.

BY THE COURT

PAUL B. PARRER
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

