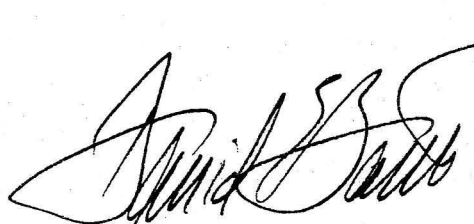



EXHIBIT "A"

On Wednesday, January 2, 2008, Meredith Hope Emerson was reported missing by family and friends when she failed to return home on Tuesday, January 1, 2008. Her white, 2000 Chevy bearing Georgia License Plate [REDACTED] was found abandoned at the Byron Herbert Reece Memorial Trailhead parking near Blairsville, Union County, Georgia. Witnesses reported seeing Emerson in the area with and in conversation with Gary Michael Hilton. Located on the trail near where Emerson and Hilton were seen, individuals found two water bottles, a police style baton, a dog leash, and dog treats. The water bottles and the dog leash were identified as items belonging to Meredith Hope Emerson. Hilton was known to carry a police style baton of the same type while hiking on the Appalachian Trail.

On Friday, January 4, 2008, Georgia Bureau of Investigation agents recovered items of clothing consistent with those reportedly worn by Meredith Hope Emerson upon last being seen along with a black leather wallet containing Georgia Drivers License and UGA Student I.D. belonging to Meredith Hope Emerson discarded within a dumpster located at the Quick Trip convenience store at Highway 306 and Freedom Parkway in Cumming Georgia. The clothing was found to contain substantial amounts of human blood. Also within the dumpster, Agents recovered a portion of Automobile seatbelt with apparent blood transfer stains as well. A Black Lab mix dog was found wandering around the Kroger grocery store parking lot in the area of the Quick Trip Convenience Store. The dog was later determined through micro-chip implant to belong to Meredith Hope Emerson. The dog was seen with Emerson at the time of her disappearance. A telephone call was determined to have been placed from a pay phone at that Quick Trip location by Gary Michael Hilton around this same time. Hilton was later Detained by Dekalb County Police Officers at a business at 3500 Ashford Dunwoody Rd. Within Hiltons 2001 Chevy Astro van agents determined that the rear seat belt had been cut out. Hilton was attempting to vacuum the vehicle and wash portions of it with a bleach and water solution.

On Saturday, January 05, 2008, Agents viewed surveillance photos taken at a Regions Bank Branch in Canton, GA of an individual attempting to use a credit card belonging to Emerson. The individual was determined to be Gary Michael Hilton.

   
01-05-08

*Bond denied pending hearing David Evans 1/3/08*

**BOND FOR APPEARANCE**

State of Georgia, \_\_\_\_\_ County. Know all men by these presents that we, \_\_\_\_\_ as Principal and \_\_\_\_\_ Security agree jointly and severally to pay \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars and for the true payment of which we bind ourselves by these presents. The condition of the above obligation is such that the above principal shall personally appear at the \_\_\_\_\_ Court holden in and for said county on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M., and from day to day and term to term thereof until discharged by law to answer the offense of \_\_\_\_\_ as charged in the affidavit of \_\_\_\_\_, then the obligation to be null and void, else in full force and effect. In addition to all other requirements of the foregoing, we, principal and security agree that the above bond and recognizance is conditioned also upon the appearance of the principal before the court at the time fixed for his arraignment. And as to this obligation, we severally waive our rights to the benefits of Homestead Exemption laws of this State and of the United States as fully as we are authorized to do by the Constitution and laws of this State and the United States.

Signed with our hands and sealed with our seals this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

(L.S.)  
(L.S.)  
(L.S.)  
(L.S.)

**EXAMINATION**

After having fully advised the defendant of the accusation against him, his right to have a committal hearing, his right to be represented by an attorney, (and his right to sign a waiver of said committal hearing) (and defendant having elected to sign a waiver of committal hearing), it is ordered that the defendant give bond in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for his appearance before the \_\_\_\_\_ Court located at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ M. Given under my hand and seal

This \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

Judge \_\_\_\_\_

**BILL OF COST**

AGGREGATE

Issuing Warrant.....  
Arrest.....  
Keeping Prisoner.....  
Trial.....  
Issuing Subpoenas..... each  
Sub..... Witnesses..... each  
Ex..... Witnesses..... each  
Attendance.....  
Taking Preliminary Bond.....  
Taking Appearance Bond.....  
Commitment.....  
Total.....

**WITNESSES**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence \_\_\_\_\_

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**CRIMINAL WARRANT**

THE STATE

VS.

*Gary Michael Hilton*

Residence \_\_\_\_\_

*Chamblee, GA*

CHARGED WITH

*Kidnapping with Bodily Injury 16-5-40*

Prosecutor

Residence *681 Chestnut*

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Warrant executed on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.; By \_\_\_\_\_

FORM 52

CLYDE CASTLEBERRY COMPANY

Georgia, Union County

## AFFIDAVIT

Personally came [REDACTED], who on oath says that, to the best of his knowledge and belief, Gary Michael Hilton did, in the County aforesaid, commit the offense of, TO-WIT 16-5-40 Kidnapping with Bodily Injury.

in said County, between the hours of 11 A M. and 11 P M. on the First (1st) day of January, 19 2008. The place of occurrence of said offense being Byron Herbert Reece Memorial Trailhead Parking (AID) Union County and against Meredith Hope Emerson.

Said offense being described as On Tuesday, January 1, 2008, did abduct or steal away Meredith Hope Emerson without lawful authority or warrant and held such person against her will, Meredith Hope Emerson, during said abduction, did receive bodily injury as set forth in Exhibit A.

and thus deponent makes this affidavit that a warrant may issue for his arrest.

Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5 day of January, 19 2008

[Signature]  
Judge Superior Court Clerk, Magistrate Court

Georgia, Union County

## WARRANT

To any Sheriff or his deputy, Coroner, Constable, or Marshall of said state, GREETING:

For sufficient causes made known to me in the above affidavit and from other oral testimony given under oath, you are hereby commanded to arrest Gary Michael Hilton the defendant named in the foregoing affidavit charged by the prosecutor therein with the offense against the laws of this State as enunciated in said affidavit and bring him before me or some other Judicial Officer of this State to be dealt with as the law directs.

Herein fail not. This January 5, 2008

Judge

Georgia, \_\_\_\_\_ County

## ORDER

After hearing the evidence in the above case it is ordered that said defendant be bound in a bond of \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars for his appearance on the first day at the next term or session next after this day of the \_\_\_\_\_ Court of \_\_\_\_\_ to be held in and for said County to answer the charge of \_\_\_\_\_

In default thereof that he be committed to the common jail of said County, there to be safely kept until thence delivered by due course of law.

Given under my hand and seal this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19 \_\_\_\_\_.

Judge