

Marcus Morris tells his side of the story after release from Florida jail

BY GARY BEDORE
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Former Kansas/NBA forward Marcus Morris has repaid the debt owed to a pair of Las Vegas casinos, thus has been released from a Broward County, Florida jail where he had been held since Sunday on fraud charges, a Nevada prosecutor has confirmed to the South Florida Sun Sentinel.

Morris, in claiming his arrest ordeal was a result of a misunderstanding, announced his release in passionate statements on his Instagram account Wednesday.

“Thank God I woke up in my bed this morning,” Morris, a 35-year-old Philadelphia native who currently makes his home in Florida, wrote, indicating he’d been released from jail after reportedly repaying the MGM Grand and Wynn Hotel and Casino more than a combined \$250,000 for gambling markers he allegedly purchased on two visits to the casinos in 2024.

“We received a wire transfer in the amount of \$291,750 resolving the debt,” Cal Thoman, Chief Deputy District Attorney for Clark County (Nevada) told the Sun Sentinel. “We’ve released our hold and we will be dismissing the cases in our jurisdiction.”

Morris, who played at KU three seasons (2009-11) followed by a 13-year NBA career, was taken into custody Sunday afternoon at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

At issue, according to TMZ.com, was Morris writing MGM Grand a check for \$115,000 and Wynn \$150,000 for markers. Allegedly, he did not have the cash in his



ROB GRAY USA TODAY Sports

Apr 2, 2024; Salt Lake City, Utah, USA; Cleveland Cavaliers forward Marcus Morris Sr. (24) reacts to a call against the Utah Jazz during the third quarter at Delta Center.

account to cover the markers.

According to the Los Angeles Times, “Records from the Las Vegas Township Justice Court indicate that warrants were issued earlier this year for Morris’ arrest on the same two felony counts in each case — drawing or passing a check for \$1,200 or more with the intent to defraud and theft valued at \$100,000 or more.”

“Money paid back and lesson learned,” Morris wrote on Instagram.

Morris, who did some work for ESPN during the 2024-25 season, promised he and his brother, former KU forward Markieff Morris, “will be on a platform sometime soon, not to clear (bleep) up, but to explain what took place and what lessons were learned for the young athletes that watch and look up to us.”

It appears the situation will not be totally resolved until next week. The Los Angeles Times indicated “as of Wednesday the Las Vegas Township Justice Court records still list both warrants for Morris’ arrest as active, but on Tuesday a new court date was set in both cases for Aug. 6.”

Morris gave his take on the situation Wednesday on Instagram.

“Say what you want but FRAUD will never be something I’m a part of or wasting my time with. Them coins ain’t changing no life styles on this side,” Morris wrote on Instagram, adding, “to sit for 51 hours no bail and not even a chance to pay it back ‘til after two days go by was outta pocket — 24 hour lockdown no food or water for the whole 51 hours. That’s the part that hurt me the most.

“I’ve put my time (and) resources into every (thing) in my life but to be treated in that manner did something to me. I’ve been enjoying myself in Vegas for 10 years plus at a high level and not just gambling if you know us. So take it how you want it.

“Only thing I look back on my kids and family and friends that know where I stand as a MAN that came from nothing,” Morris noted. “Never been a fraud or did fraud (bleep). I will take this moment and learn from it and take slander if that (is) what you call it. Internet undefeated. I’m not going back and forth

with no one. You can’t spend markers outside of the casino. No money was exchanged or taken from any casino and into my pocket. You spend that money there if you don’t know how it works.

“Last thing,” Morris continued, “I never wrote a check at any point to a casino. When you get a marker that’s considered a check which I didn’t know. We could’ve handled this MOB style in the back room at the casinos lol. But seriously though (I’ve) never been a FRAUD or participated in no fraud (bleep). Thank you to whoever (is) in my corner you know where I stand and who I am. Social media undefeated so have at it. God has his plan for me. Me and bro will address this live today stay tuned.”

In his Instagram explanation, Morris did concede: “Did I take out a marker to gamble? Yes. Was this my first time,

no. I’ve been enjoying my off time and doing what I like every year at some point in Vegas at a high level for years and that’s not just gambling. I really thought the amount of money and time I spent there would really have value.

“So yeah I took my time to pay back the money that could have been handled on the spot if I’d known that I would have been locked up like I was trying to flee or a flight risk. I was just in Vegas, no phone call, visit or nothing. Actually gambled and had mansions at both casinos.”

He also wrote: “Did I go past the time I needed to repay? Yeah probably did. Did I know they would lock me up? Helllllll no.”

Citing the time he’s spent in Vegas over the years he noted: “I hate for Vegas to really make me look like a criminal over a petty couple hundred

(thousand dollars).”

According to Spotrac.com, Marcus Morris earned \$107 million in salary during his NBA career with eight teams. His brother, Markieff, has earned \$60 million in a 14-year career.

Morris’ agent, Yony Noy, took to social media site X Sunday night to comment on the arrest and say there was “zero fraud.”

“Just so everyone understands this is zero fraud here or whatever crap outlets have said regarding fake checks or whatever the hell,” Noy wrote on X. “This is due to an outstanding marker with a casino. Apparently if you have over \$1,200 they can issue a warrant for your arrest. Absolute insanity!”

Marcus Morris, the No. 14 overall pick in the 2011 NBA Draft, did not play last season but has not officially announced his retirement from the NBA. He did some analysis during the 2024-25 season on various ESPN telecasts including the show “First Take.”

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ESPN analyst updates summertime ‘bracketology’ as 2025-26 school year nears

BY GARY BEDORE
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Kansas’ men’s basketball team has been awarded a No. 6 seed and Missouri an 8-seed in the current 2026 NCAA Tournament “bracketology” of ESPN analyst Joe Lunardi, which was released earlier this week.

Kansas State, Wichita State and UMKC were not granted tourney bids in the analyst’s current summertime projections.

Lunardi in his picks assigned KU to the West Regional, where the Jayhawks would meet either No. 11 seed Iowa or No. 11 seed SMU in the first round. A KU victory would mean a second-round game against No. 3 Kentucky or No. 14 Furman.

Missouri was placed in the South Regional by Lunardi, with an opponent of No. 9 Baylor in the first round. A victory would mean a second-round game against either No. 1 Purdue or No. 16 Jackson State or No. 16 Long Island.

The sites for first- and second-round games are: Oklahoma City; St. Louis; Buffalo, New York; Greenville, South Carolina; Portland; Tampa, Florida; Philadelphia; San Diego. The West Regional games will be held in San Jose, California and South Regional games in Houston.

Lunardi, who will update his bracketology every month through



GARY BEDORE KC Star

Darryn Peterson met the media during a summer school interview session in Allen Fieldhouse ahead of the 2025-26 season.

October and then at various junctures during the 2025-26 season, believes No. 1 seeds will be secured by Houston (Midwest), Duke (West), Florida (East) and Purdue (South).

It should be noted ESPN analyst Myron Medcalf disagrees with Lunardi and has K-State as a likely tourney team.

“The Wildcats spent millions on talent last offseason but never had enough chemistry to avoid a 16-17 campaign. This season’s roster will be led by PJ Haggerty, the same PJ Haggerty who earned AP second-team All-America honors last season and led Memphis to the best season of the Penny Hardaway era,” Medcalf wrote. “If Jerome Tang can get this talented group — which also features Serbian standout Andrej Kostić — on the

same page, K-State should get back into the NCAA Tournament.”

Also, ESPN’s Jeff Borzello this week mentioned an incoming Jayhawk when discussing “the race to be the No. 1 pick in the 2026 NBA Draft.”

“Cooper Flagg was the odds-on favorite to be the No. 1 pick in the 2025 NBA Draft since the day he reclassified into the 2024 high school class, but there won’t be the same lack of drama in the 2026 draft. There are several legitimate contenders for the top pick: BYU’s AJ Dybantsa, Kansas’ Darryn Peterson, Duke’s Cameron Boozier and Tennessee’s Nate Ament — and don’t count out Louisville’s Mikel Brown Jr.,” Borzello wrote.

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WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS
MP-22001
WYSS PUMPING STATION AND RESERVOIR EXPANSION
August 1, 2025

General Notice
Water District No. 1 of Johnson County, Kansas (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the Project listed above.

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received via QuestCDN VirtuBid until **September 4, 2025 at 4:00 p.m.** local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work:

The Project provides for construction of a 7.5 million gallon below-grade cast-in-place concrete reservoir; addition of one 15 mgd reservoir transfer pump and one 22.5 mgd booster pump to the existing pumping station; associated piping and appurtenances; electrical and instrumentation and controls; mechanical work; sitework; and all other work as indicated on the Drawings and as specified.

The site of the project is located at 22650 W. 159th Street, Olathe, Kansas, 66061.

Obtaining the Bidding Documents

Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found at the following designated website:
WWW.QUESTCDN.COM (QuestCDN Project #9397248)

Bidding Documents may be viewed and downloaded from the designated website. Bidders may view the Bidding Documents at no cost on the designated website. To be considered a plan holder, Bidders must register on the designated website and download the documents for a non-refundable fee of \$22, even if Bidding Documents are obtained from a plan room or source other than the designated website in either electronic or paper format. The designated website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website. Bidders shall contact QuestCDN customer support at 952-233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance with plan holder registration and downloading Bidding Documents.

Bids will only be accepted via the designated website (QuestCDN VirtuBid) from registered plan holders and will be an additional non-refundable fee of \$42. Each Bid shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond (EJCDC Penal Sum Form) of 5% of the amount of the Bid. Bid security must accompany each Bid by uploading a PDF version of the Bid Bond to QuestCDN VirtuBid (vBid). The Bid security shall be made payable, without condition, to Owner. The Successful Bidder will be required to furnish a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond as security for the faithful performance and the payment of all bills and obligations arising from the performance of the contract.

Water District No. 1 of Johnson County, KS 00020
Wyss Pumping Station and Reservoir Expansion AB-1
MP-22001

If the Contract is to be awarded, Owner will award a Contract to the Bidder who, in Owner’s judgment, is the lowest, qualified, responsible, and responsive Bidder.

Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, including without limitation the rights to reject any or all erroneous, nonconforming, nonresponsive, unbalanced, or conditional Bids, and to reject the Bid of any Bidder or all Bids if Owner believes that it would not be in the best interest of Owner to make an award to that Bidder. Owner also reserves the right to waive informalities.

Pre-bid Conference

A mandatory pre-bid conference for the Project will be held on **Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.** at the Wyss Pumping Station, 22650 W. 159th Street, Olathe, Kansas, 66061. Bids will not be accepted from Bidders that do not attend the mandatory pre-bid conference.

Instructions to Bidders.

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

All inquiries about the Invitation to Bid may be made by contacting **Judy Winger, Engineering Manager, Black & Veatch Corporation, at telephone number (913) 458-3464 or email wingerj@bv.com.**
IPL0257876
Aug 1 2025

NOTICE
In accordance with Sec. 106 of the Programmatic Agreement, AT&T TROOST 130’ MONOPILE at 8625 TROOST AVENUE KANSAS CITY, MO 64131. Please direct comments to Gavin L. at 818-391-0449 regarding the site KS6071.
8/1/25
CNS-3952696#
IPL0258908
Aug 1 2025

AUCTION
AUCTION-U-Haul STORAGE If lien is not satisfied, the following units will be released for sale on 08/11/2025 @ 7:00am Online bidding starts on 08/01/2025 at StorageTreasures.com

305 US-24 - 1405, 1614, 0013, 2148, 1623, 1413, 1605, 1438, 2141, 0021, 1573, 1431, 1406, 2129, 2079
1530 Locust- 1081, 4-15, 0007, 5-221, 0091, 4-78
3100 Main- 2266, 3082
9050 NW Prairie View Rd- 3170, 3092, 3031, 6106, 4007, 5170, 1048, 7082, 3049, 3094, 5151, 3047, 9351, 3003, 4033-35, 6029, 4175
4312 S Noland Rd- 1536, 1512
IPL0259628
Aug 1 2025

Notice of Lien Sale
If payment is not received AMG, pursuant to Missouri self-storage lien law, will sell the contents of the following units to satisfy its lien for charges due. The sale will be on 8-8-2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the locations listed below. Terms of sale are cash. Bids accepted at lockerfox.com

Attic Storage of Liberty South 317 N MO-291 Liberty MO Units: H23 Martha Shifflett, U224 Michael Reil – personal items
Attic Storage of NKC 1955 Macon St North Kansas City MO Unit 430 Anthony Mondaine – personal items
Attic Storage Parkville 16035 MO-45, Parkville MO Unit 1214 Vincent Schaffer – personal items
Attic Storage of Platte County 15905 Highway 273 Platte City MO Unit S04 Jamie Minyard – personal items
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