



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:	CONTACT INFORMATION:
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November 14 th , 2016	Phone: 779-500-6475 E-mail: walter.felton@rockfordil.gov

ARREST RELEASE

ROCKFORD, IL - On Monday November 14th, 2016, at about 1:10 a.m., Rockford Officers were dispatched to the area of 16th Street and Pershing Avenue in response to several citizens' calls of gunshots being fired in the area. Upon arrival, officers learned from a witness that the shots were fired from a silver Cadillac travelling in the area. Officers searched and, only a few blocks away, located a silver Cadillac occupied by a female driver and male passenger parked in a driveway in the 2300 block of Reed Avenue. Officers conducted an investigative stop of the vehicle. A search of the vehicle first revealed spent cartridge casings. After further searching, officers located a partially loaded revolver. The male fled on foot, but was caught after only a short chase on foot. Information was developed that identified the male occupant of the Cadillac as the person who had possessed the revolver and fired it from the moving car. It is believed he was firing into the air and no persons or things were found to have been shot after officers checked the area.

The male arrested was identified as 36-year-old Albert Dowthard of Rockford, IL. Dowthard is a known gang member and felon who was on probation at the time of his arrest. Dowthard was charged with

- Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapon (vehicle)
- Unlawful Use of Weapons by a Felon
- Unlawful Use of a Weapon by a Gang Member
- Violation of the Firearm Owner's Identification Card Act (No FOID)
- Reckless Discharge of a Firearm
- Resisting/Obstructing an Officer (Physical Confrontation)

The charges against the suspect are mere accusations and he is presumed innocent unless proven guilty in court.

All charges are merely allegations and parties are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.

