



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Kimberly Bruce
Public Information Officer**

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Phone: 779-348-7331

E-mail: Kimberly.Bruce@rockfordil.gov

ARREST RELEASE

ROCKFORD, Ill. – On Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at approximately 12:00 p.m., members of the Rockford Specialized Community Oriented Police Enforcement team were on patrol when they observed a Gray Ford SUV turning south onto South Court Street from Elm Street. Officers recognized the vehicle as the same one that had fled from them a few weeks prior in the 3200 block of Broadway during a traffic stop.

Officers attempted to stop the vehicle, but the driver fled. As the vehicle turned onto Rock Street from Montague Street, the vehicle appeared to have mechanical issues and slowed down. The front seat passenger exited the vehicle and attempted to flee on foot. As officers pursued the suspect, they observed him discard a handgun in the alley in the 1100 block of Rock Street. The suspect was taken into custody after a brief foot chase. He was identified as 22-year-old Rockford resident, Jabare McChristian. Officers arrested the driver, who was identified as 21-year-old Rockford resident, Devon Hardnett. Hardnett is on parole. Also located in the vehicle was an 18-year-old male and Hardnett's 11-month-old child.

McChristian was charged with Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon, Possession of a Stolen Firearm, and Resisting Arrest.

Hardnett was charged with Fleeing to Elude, Child Endangerment, and Resisting Arrest.

Both McChristian and Hardnett were lodged in the Winnebago County Jail. The 18-year-old male was released without charge. The 11-month-old child was released to a guardian. No photos are available at this time.

This is an active investigation. No further information is available at this time.

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

