



Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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DATE : May 2, 2015

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ARREST RELEASE

On May 1, 2015 at approximately 9:27 pm Rockford Police Officers were in the area of Fairgrounds Valley Housing Development investigating shots fired. Officers learned that Metro Enforcement Officers, that were patrolling the housing development encountered two black males, one of which possessed a handgun. The black males ran from the Metro Enforcement Officers to the area of 400 North Horsman Street where Rockford Police Officers were able to set up a perimeter. The Metro Enforcement officers saw that the subject with the handgun discarded the gun in some shrubbery behind a home. Metro Enforcement Officers and Rockford Police Officers were able to take the subject who had possessed the handgun into custody in one of the back yards. The other male that fled was not located. The handgun was located and found to be stolen during a residential burglary in December of 2014. The handgun's serial numbers had been defaced. The male taken into custody was later identified as Curtis Hillard. Hillard admitted to officers that he was a gang member.

Subject Arrested:

Curtis Hillard, 19 years of age, Black Male, Rockford resident

Charges:

Aggravated Unlawful Use of Weapon
Unlawful Use of a Weapon by a Felon
Unlawful Use of Weapon by a Gang Member
Possession of Stolen Firearm
Defacement of a Firearm
No FOID
Obstructing Identification
Criminal Trespass to RHA Property



Parole Violation Warrant

Hillard was lodged in the Winnebago County Jail.

The charges against Hillard are accusations and he is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

At 11:55 pm Metro Enforcement Officers contacted the Rockford Police Department advising they received information that an armed subject was in a vehicle in the 1500 block of Birch Ct, which in the Blackhawk Housing Development. Rockford Police Officers met with Metro Enforcement Officers and were provided a description of the car. Officers located the vehicle and observed a black male exit the driver's side of the vehicle and sit on the front stoop of an apartment next to another black male. As officers approached these two subjects officers heard the sound of metal hitting the pavement and immediately noticed a handgun laying on the ground next to the male who had exited the vehicle. Both subjects were taken into custody. The male who had exited the vehicle possessed 33 rounds of ammunition that matched the caliber of the discarded handgun. The other male sitting on the stoop was found to be on parole and had previously been banned form Rockford Housing Authority Property.

Arrested:

Jonnifer Jones, 23 years old, Rockford resident

Charges:

Unlawful Use of a Weapon
Unlawful Use of a Weapon by a Felon
No FOID
No Valid Driver's License

Arrested:

Diantione Suggs, 31 years, Rockford resident

Charges:

Criminal Trespass to RHA Property

The charges against Jones and Suggs are accusations and they are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Both of these incidents are an example of cooperative policing between the Rockford Police Department and Metro Enforcement to provide a crime free environment for the residents living on Rockford Housing Authority property.

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