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<b>FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:</b>	<b>CONTACT INFORMATION:</b>
	<b>Kimberly Bruce</b>
	<b>Strategic Communications Manager</b>
<b>August 3, 2016</b>	<b>Phone: 779-348-7331</b>
	<b>E-mail: Kimberly.Bruce@rockfordil.gov</b>

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**UPDATED  
ARREST RELEASE**

**ROCKFORD, Ill.** – On Sunday, June 19, 2016, shortly before 3:00 a.m. Rockford Police patrol officers responded to the 900 block of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue in reference to a report of a large fight with shots fired. A short time later officers were notified that a 25-year-old male shooting victim, **later identified as Billy Manning**, had been transported to the hospital by witnesses. Manning had been shot multiple times during the incident on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. He was treated for life-threatening injuries which he survived.

Detectives from the Rockford Police Department conducted a follow-up investigation into this incident and reviewed the results with the Winnebago County State’s Attorney’s Office who issued a warrant for:

**Damarius Nelson, B/M, Age 21, Rockford, IL**  
**Charge: Attempted Murder**  
**Bond: \$1 million**

On Wednesday, August 3, 2016, Rockford Police patrol officers and members of the Rockford Police Specialized Community Oriented Policing Enforcement (SCOPE) team received information that Nelson was at an apartment in the 500 block of North Court Street. Officers located Nelson in possession of a handgun that had previously been reported stolen. He was taken into custody without incident.

In addition to the warrant, Nelson was charged with:

**Unlawful Use of Weapons by a Felon**  
**Unlawful Use of Weapons by a Gang Member**  
**No F.O.I.D.**  
**Possession of a Stolen Firearm**

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





Nelson also had a warrant from the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) for a Parole Violation.

Nelson was lodged in the Winnebago County Jail where he is being held in lieu of bond. A photo of the suspect is attached.

This is an active investigation and no further information is available for release at this time. Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

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