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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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**October 9, 2016**

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### **WARRANT RELEASE**

**ROCKFORD, Ill.** – On Saturday, October 8, 2016 shortly before 4:00 p.m. patrol officers from the Rockford Police Department were investigating a shooting incident when they located the suspect vehicle near the intersection of Fremont Street and Fulton Avenue. When officers attempted to stop the vehicle, a Gold Buick, the vehicle fled and a brief vehicle pursuit ensued. Officers eventually lost sight of the vehicle near the intersection of Spring Creek Road and Alpine Road.

A few minutes later, calls were received for a hit-and-run accident at the intersection of New Towne Road and State Street. The description of the suspect vehicle was the same Gold Buick that had fled from officers earlier. When the victim of the hit-and-run attempted to follow the suspect vehicle in order to obtain a license plate number the driver, later identified as Donald Ashford Jr., fired several rounds from a handgun at the victim’s vehicle. The suspect vehicle then fled the scene. No one was injured during the shooting.

Detectives from the Rockford Police Department conducted a follow-up investigation into the incident and the results were reviewed by the Winnebago County State’s Attorney’s Office. As a result, charges were authorized and a warrant was obtained for Donald Ashford Jr. for the following charges:

<b>WANTED:</b>	<b>Donald Ashford Jr.</b>	<b>22-years-old</b>	<b>Rockford, Ill.</b>
<b>CHARGES:</b>	<b>Aggravated Discharge of Firearm</b>		<b>\$250,000 bond</b>
	<b>Aggravated Fleeing to Elude</b>		<b>\$250,000 bond</b>

The Rockford Police Department is asking for the public’s help in locating Ashford. A photo of Ashford is attached. Anyone with knowledge of his whereabouts is asked to contact the Rockford Police Department Investigations Bureau at 779-500-6551 or Crime Stoppers 815-963-7867.

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

