



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attempt-Aggravated Discharge of Firearm/Occupied Vehicle

December 21, 2017

AGENCY: Normal Police Department
ADDRESS: 100 E. Phoenix Ave.
Normal, IL 61761
CONTACT: Chief Rick Bleichner
CONTACT NUMBER: (309) 454-9526

On 12/20/2017, at 8:12 am, officers from the Normal Police Department were dispatched to the 1700 block of Fredrick Lane in Normal for a report of a subject armed with a gun and a hammer. With assistance from the Illinois State Police, officers located a victim and a suspect, Walter I. Sweeney in the 1500 block of North Main Street. A handgun and ammunition were also located in the area. Preliminary investigation revealed that Sweeney confronted the victim and displayed a handgun. During the confrontation Sweeney allegedly pointed the handgun at the victim and the occupied vehicle. Witness accounts also allege that Sweeney pulled the trigger on the handgun, but it failed to discharge. No injuries have been reported and no shots were fired.

Walter I. Sweeney, a 31-year-old male from Latham, was arrested and is being held pending review by the McLean County States Attorney on the following charges. No bond has been set as of this release.

Attempt Aggravated Discharge of Firearm/Occupied Vehicle. 720ILSC 5/24-1.2(a)(2).
Aggravated Battery/Public Place 720ILSC 5/12-4 (b)(8)

This case remains under investigation and the Normal Police Department is asking for the public's assistance. Anyone with information about this case should contact Sergeant Rob Cherry at (309) 454-9726 or via email at rcherry@normal.org.

Members of the public can also contact McLean County Crime Stoppers at 309-828-1111 to report information related to this incident. Callers can remain anonymous and are eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.

***** All suspects are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law *****