

LEON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RELEASE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION



Larry Campbell, Sheriff

Leon County Sheriff's Office
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DATE: 3/30/2009

One Arrested in Connection with McDonalds\Circle K Shooting

Yesterday morning at approximately 4:20am, Leon County Sheriff's Deputy Adam Wilkinson was on patrol in the area of Airport Drive and Epps Street when he heard the sound of gun shots in the area of Lake Bradford Road. As Deputy Wilkinson checked the area he observed a large panicked crowd of approximately 150 people fleeing the parking lot of the McDonalds\Circle K located at 811 Lake Bradford. Deputy Wilkinson discovered that one male victim had been shot and was dead in the front parking lot and that another male had been wounded by a gun shot. Additional Deputies and Officers with the Tallahassee Police Department quickly responded to the scene and immediately began an investigation.

The deceased was identified as Curtis Brown, 26yoa. The injured subjects were all males, ages 15, 18, 21, 22 and 33. The injured are all expected to recover from their gun shot wounds. During the ensuing investigation, Violent Crime Detectives were advised by a witness that one of the shooters involved in this incident was known as "Lil Earl". "Lil Earl" had previously been identified as Earl Anthony Jackson, a validated gang member of "2502" a.k.a "Holton Street", a.k.a. "West Side". Detective Dawn Dennis made contact with Jackson who was also one of the subjects who was transported to the hospital in reference to a gun shot wound to the groin. At first Jackson only admitted to being at the store at the time of the shooting, but denied being involved. After Jackson was treated for his injury he was transported to the Leon County Sheriff's Office for further questioning.

At the Sheriff's Office Detective Wiley Meggs interviewed Jackson who initially stated in essence that he was at the store at the time of this incident but was not involved in the shooting. Jackson denied having a firearm or shooting at anyone. After being confronted with store surveillance video footage of him armed with a handgun and shooting into the parking lot, Jackson stated that several subjects were gathering near the bicycle rack in front of the McDonald's and appeared to be preparing to fight. As he entered the store, they began to shoot so he drew his gun and pointed it in the direction of the subjects who were exchanging gunshots and he fired multiple shots.

During the processing of the crime scene Detectives located a black .38 caliber revolver in the bushes located just north of the McDonald's. According to a witness, the black revolver was seen briefly on the ground where Jackson reported he dropped it, but it was quickly moved by an unknown subject. This gun is believed to be the firearm used by Jackson.

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During a second interview Jackson admitted that he did approach the subjects near the bicycle rack. Jackson reported the reason he approached them was because they were going to fight one of his friends and he wanted to prevent it. As he approached, one of the subjects displayed a gun and began firing. Jackson reported he fired his handgun in return. Jackson was arrested for Possession of a Firearm by a Delinquent and Carrying a Concealed Weapon. Jackson has been booked into the Leon County Jail. Additional charges may be filed as this investigation continues and evidence is obtained and processed.

Violent Crime Detectives continue to follow up on numerous leads and it is believed that several unknown suspects fired shots during this incident. It is unknown if Brown was targeted during this shooting or if he was caught in the cross fire; however, detectives continue to seek answers to these questions and additional arrest are expected as more information is obtained during the course of this complex and intensive investigation. Sheriff Larry Campbell said “I am pleased that in less then 24 hours, one of the gang members involved in yesterdays deadly shooting is off our streets, but more work is yet to be done. This agency will work tirelessly until all those responsible for the mayhem and violence at the McDonalds\Circle K have been brought to justice. There should be no doubt that gangs and gang members pose a serious threat to our community. This office recognizes this threat and is committed to taking gang members off our streets”

Arrested:

Earl Anthony Jackson

DOB: 07/05/1990

Charges:

Possession of a Firearm by a Delinquent

Carrying Concealed Weapon

