BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jamal A. Simington - Chief of Police
Paul D. Williams - Assistant Chief
Kenneth A. Bays - Assistant Chief
Chad E. Wamsley - Assistant Chief

305 S. East Street
Bloomington, IL, 61701
309-820-8888

For Immediate Release: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 16, 2022

BURGLARY SUSPECTS ARRESTED/INDICTED

Bloomington, IL - Following a lengthy investigation by the Bloomington Police Department's Criminal Investigation Division, Peoria Police Department and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, Dajuan Edwards-Melton was arrested and later indicted. Edwards-Melton was sentenced to 37 months in federal prison for his role in a burglary of a federal licensed firearm dealer in the 2000 Block of Ireland Grove Road. At the time of his arrest, Edwards-Melton was in possession of one of the stolen firearms. Three of the stolen firearms had been used in other crimes in Peoria, a shooting of a 13-year-old male in December 2021, one found during the investigation of an armed vehicular carjacking, and the third was recovered during the foot pursuit of a subject wanted for domestic battery.

Edwards-Melton was indicted by a federal grand jury and entered a guilty plea.

Also charged in this burglary was a 14-year-old male from the St. Louis Area. The juvenile male was charged with possession of stolen firearms (class-X felony) and burglary.

Another 17-year-old male was from Peoria was also arrested and charged with possession of stolen firearms (class-X felony) and burglary.

A juvenile female was also charged during this incident.

Chief Simington stated, "I want to thank the BPD dispatchers, officers, detectives, members of the Peoria Police Department, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, who worked tirelessly on this case. Their collaborative efforts were imperative in keeping our community safe. Through diligent and persistent work, those responsible for this alleged crime which resulted in other violent crimes, will be brought to justice. The BPD will focus our

Media Contact:
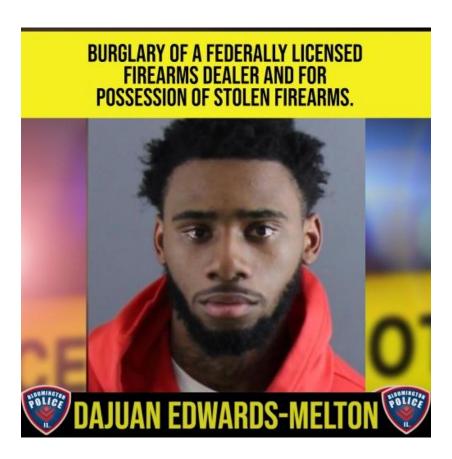Officer Brandt Parsley
Bloomington (IL) Police Department
Desk: (309)-434-2355 I **Fax:** (309)-829-0662 I **Email**:Police@cityblm.org

resources effectively and with resilience to address violence, which is harmful and unacceptable."

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Anyone with information should contact BPD Detective Paul Jones at 309-434-2548 or PJones@cityblm.org.

If you wish to submit a tip and remain anonymous, please contact the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) at (309)-434-2963 or email CIAU@cityblm.org. The CIAU office is staffed from 8am-4:30pm, weekdays. If no one is available to answer your call, please leave the information on the voicemail or send it by e-mail.

BURGLARY OF A FEDERALLY LICENSED FIREARMS DEALER AND FOR POSSESSION OF STOLEN FIREARMS.

DAJUAN EDWARDS-MELTON

Previous Release

Media Contact:
Officer Brandt Parsley
Bloomington (IL) Police Department
Desk: (309)-434-2355 | **Fax:** (309)-829-0662 | **Email**:Police@cityblm.org

Bloomington, IL - On Sunday, 12/12/21, at approximately 5:30 a.m., Bloomington Police officers were dispatched to a retail store in the 2000 block of Ireland Grove Road for a burglary alarm. Upon arrival, officers learned that the retail store was burglarized and approximately $9,000 worth of firearms were stolen.

At this time, there is no suspect(s) information to release and no arrest(s) have been made. Anyone with information should contact BPD Detective Paul Jones at 309-434-2548 or PJones@cityblm.org.

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