



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attempt- Murder charges added

January 3, 2018

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 on 12/20/17 and held pending review by the McLean County States Attorney. Sweeney was indicted by the McLean County Grand Jury today on the Attempted Murder charge. His bond has been set at \$50,000.

Attempt Murder

720ILCS 5/8-4(b)

Attempt Aggravated Discharge of Firearm/Occupied Vehicle.

720ILCS 5/24-1.2(a)(2).

Aggravated Battery/Public Place

720ILCS 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 *****