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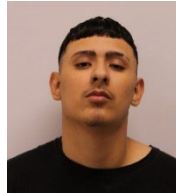
April 28, 2023

For Immediate Release

Contact: Officer Greg Sill
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NEWS RELEASE

Mount Prospect Police Department Arrest One Juvenile for Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon and One Adult for Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor



Marco Arce Jr.

On April 26, 2023, the Mount Prospect Police Department arrested and charged a 14 year old juvenile with one felony count of Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon, one felony count of Possession of Cannabis, and one misdemeanor count of Unlawful Possession of an Unserialized Firearm. Also arrested and charged was Marco Arce Jr, 20 years old, of 489 Leslie Court, Des Plaines, with one misdemeanor count of Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor, one misdemeanor count of Mob Action, and one misdemeanor count of Possession of a Catalytic Converter. These charges stem from an incident that occurred in the 500 block of Dempster Street, Mount Prospect.

On April 26, 2023 at approximately 9:05 PM, the Mount Prospect Police Department was dispatched to the 300 block of Hawthorne Circle after a caller reported to 911 they heard what sounded like gunshots fired in the area. A subsequent caller reported seeing 5 males get into an unknown type sedan and flee the area, towards Dempster Street. Responding officers observed a sedan with 5 occupants exiting from Hawthorne Circle onto Dempster Street. Officers conducted a traffic stop on that vehicle. As the vehicle stopped, two of the passengers jumped from the vehicle and fled on foot. The driver, identified



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as Marco Arce Jr, and two passengers (ages 14 and 17), did not flee. While officers were conducting the investigation on the traffic stop, an unserialized handgun, often referred to as a ghost gun, was found in the possession of the 14 year old juvenile passenger. A search of the vehicle also turned up a large amount of cannabis. All three individuals were taken into custody and transported back to the Mount Prospect Police Headquarters for further investigation.

Officers checked the area, however were unable to locate any victims or anyone else involved or associated with this incident. Mount Prospect Police Officers located and collected shell casings from the 500 block of Dempster Street, as well as the 2800 block of Malmo Drive. Both of these locations are adjacent to one another. Officers also located damage to a nearby business on Malmo Drive which is consistent with being struck by a bullet.

During the investigation, the 14 year old juvenile found in possession of the ghost gun also claimed ownership of the cannabis located in the vehicle. At this time, the juvenile has been charged with one felony count of Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon, one felony count of Possession of Cannabis, and one misdemeanor count of Unlawful Possession of an Unserialized Firearm and transported to the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center in Chicago.

The other juvenile in the vehicle was turned over to their parent(s) pending further investigation. At this time, the driver, Marco Arce Jr., was charged with one misdemeanor count of Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor, one misdemeanor count of Mob Action, and one misdemeanor count of Possession of a Catalytic Converter, and released after posting \$100.00 cash bond, pending further investigation. Arce was provided with a court date of May 22, 2023 at 1:30 PM in room 101 of the 3rd District Cook County Courthouse in Rolling Meadows.

There were no reported injuries as a result of this incident.

The Mount Prospect Police Department continues to investigate this incident. Anyone with information or anyone who has any video footage that might assist with this investigation is asked to call the Mount Prospect Police Department Special Response Team at 847-870-5656.

The public is reminded that criminal charges are not evidence of guilt and that all defendants in a criminal case are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.

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