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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric M. Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
Date: August 28, 2023

SECOND ARREST MADE IN JULY 30 SHOOTING

Muncie Indiana – On today's date, Investigators with the Muncie Police Department arrested Justin Bonner (DOB 6/8/1994) on an outstanding arrest warrant. He was also arrested for Possession of a Firearm by a Serious Violent Felon, a Level 4 Felony and Criminal Recklessness, a Level 5 Felony. A copy of the Affidavit of Probable Cause for Arrest Without a Warrant is attached. In the coming days, the Prosecutor's Office will review the case and determine if formal charges will be filed.

It is important to remember that any accusation that someone has committed a crime, an arrest and/or the filing of a criminal charge is simply an allegation and is not evidence of guilt. All suspects are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

The investigation into Joseph Bonner's death and the events of July 30 is rapidly evolving and ongoing. This is a wide ranging investigation that includes, but is not limited to: the homicide, the shooting, injuries sustained by a victim from being hit by a vehicle, as well as violations relating to hosting loud and late night parties. It will all take time to complete and is far from over.

Indiana's ethical rules for prosecutors prohibit further comment on this pending case. Unless and until additional arrests are made or additional criminal charges are filed there will be no further comment on the specific facts and circumstances of the investigation.

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STATE OF INDIANA)
)
DELAWARE COUNTY)

IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURTS

2023 TERM

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

COMES NOW, **Matthew Berger**, a police officer of the Muncie Police Department, and being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that the following described person was arrested, without Warrant, upon the charge(s) and circumstances hereinafter stated, and makes this affidavit for the purpose of establishing probable cause for said arrest.

NAME OF ARRESTEE: Justin Bonner CASE REPORT #:23-29188

ADDRESS OF ARRESTEE: 720 W Centennial Ave Apt 16

ARRESTEE DATE OF BIRTH: 06/08/1994

DATE OF ARREST: 08/28/2023 TIME OF ARREST: **1:29pm**

CHARGE 1: Possession of a Firearm by a SVF A Level **4 FELONY**

CHARGE 2: Criminal Recklessness A Level **5 FELONY**

CHARGE 3: Warrant Circuit Court 1

The basis and reasons why this officer believes that said arrestee committed the aforesaid offense (s) are as follows:

On 07/30/23 multiple people were shot and injured during a shooting that happened during a block party in the area of Hackley and Willard St. As a result of the shooting Joseph Bonner lost his life. During the course of the investigation two names keep coming up. Those names are John “Bubby” Vance and Justin E. Bonner. Vance was arrested and questioned for his part of the incident.

On 08/28/23 Justin Bonner was located and arrested for a Level 4 warrant he had. As a result Bonner was taken to City Hall CID. Once at City Hall I read Mr. Bonner his rights acknowledgment and waiver form. Mr. Bonner signed both parts of the form and agreed to speak with me.

While speaking with me, Justin Bonner confessed to pulling out a Glock 43X 9mm handgun from his waistband and shooting at and towards John “Bubby” Vance after he had witnessed Vance pull out a handgun and shoot his brother Joseph Bonner. Several people were gathered in the area of the shooting and near Vance when he was shot by Bonner.

Justin Bonner stated that he observed John “Bubby” Vance pull out a handgun from his waistband and shoot Joseph Bonner. Justin stated he observed his brother fall to the ground and Vance still holding the firearm up towards him and where his brother was so he pulled out his Glock 43x and had to rack one round into the chamber and fire his gun towards Vance in self-defense.

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Prior convictions for Justin Bonner include Dealing in a Narcotic Drug, a level 4 felony on 09/27/2018.

I affirm under perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my information and belief.

DATED: 08/28/2023

OFFICER: /s/ Matthew Berger



JUDICIAL DETERMINATION

THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING A JUDICIAL OFFICER OF DELAWARE COUNTY, AND HAVING REVIEWED THE FOREGOING AFFIDAVIT, NOW DETERMINES THAT PROBABLE CAUSE EXISTED FOR THE ARREST OF SAID ARRESTEE AND NOW FIXES BAIL IN THE PENAL SUM OF \$ _____.

DATED: _____ SIGNED: _____ TITLE: _____

NAME OF ARRESTEE:

CASE REPORT #: