



Billy Bolin  
Chief of Police

# Evansville Police Department

15 N.W. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Evansville, Indiana 47708

TX 812-436-7896 • TDD 812-436-7975 • FAX 812-435-6175 • E-MAIL [info@evansvillepolice.com](mailto:info@evansvillepolice.com)

## News Release

05/22/2022

22-09538

### Officer Involved Shooting/Attempted Murder Arrest

#### SUMMARY

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, around 2:00 a.m., two Evansville Police Officers, who were working off-duty at The Corner Pocket Bar, heard shots being fired outside in the 1800 block of N Fulton Ave. The Officers observed several individuals crowded together and appeared to be physically fighting. One of the officers saw an individual with a handgun in his hand. The officer walked toward the individual and announced himself. The suspect, later identified as 17-year-old Denali Thomas, ran away from the officer as the officer continued to give loud, verbal commands for him to stop.

During the foot pursuit, Thomas turned around and fired at least one shot at the officer. The officer took protective actions and returned fire but did not strike Thomas. Thomas continued to run away but was apprehended a short time later by another officer. He was taken into custody without further incident. Luckily, no individuals involved in this incident were struck by gunfire.

EPD Crime Scene Detectives located multiple shell casings in the grassy area outside the Corner Pocket Bar. They also located numerous shell casings in the area of the foot pursuit, consistent with the statements given by officers. A firearm was also located laying in the street near the intersection of Florence St. and the alley where Thomas ran.

Since Thomas is a juvenile, he was taken to EPD Headquarters to meet with detectives and his guardian for an interview. Thomas did not give a statement. Thomas is being charged with Attempted Murder and was waived to adult court due to the nature of the charges. Thomas was transported and booked into the Vanderburgh County Confinement Center.

This investigation is still active and anyone with any information regarding this incident is asked to please contact the EPD Adult Investigations Unit at (812) 436-7979.

**Anyone with information concerning this incident is asked to call the Evansville Police Detective Office (812) 436-7979 or the tip line (812) 435-6194**



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