



ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ILLINOIS STATE POLICE FINDS SUSPECT WITHIN MINUTES AFTER I-57 SHOOTING, ATTEMPTED MURDER CHARGE FILED

PESOTUM – Illinois State Police (ISP) Divisions of Patrol and Criminal Investigation announce the arrest of 40-year-old LeJoshua C. Smith of East St. Louis, IL for Attempted Murder and multiple other criminal charges, stemming from a road rage shooting on Interstate 57 in Champaign County.

On September 12, 2024, ISP Troop 7 received the report of shots fired in the area of Interstate 57 northbound near milepost 223. A minor crash between two vehicles occurred, resulting in a road rage situation where the suspect, later identified as Smith, reportedly fired a weapon at the victim's vehicle, causing damage to the vehicle, but the victim was not injured. ISP officers located Smith's vehicle within minutes and attempted a traffic stop, but Smith fled. Officers engaged him in a pursuit, continuing northbound on I-57 through Ford County, and into Iroquois County. ISP Troop 5 officers deployed stop sticks and Smith's vehicle eventually came to a stop on I-57 near milepost 285, in Gilman, IL. Smith was taken into custody.

On September 13, 2024, Smith was charged in Champaign County for Attempted Murder (Class X Felony), Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm (Class 1 Felony), and multiple traffic violations. Additional charges in Iroquois County related to this incident are pending consideration. No further information is available.



LeJoshua C. Smith (M/40)

The charges are not evidence against the defendant, and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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