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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bond Set for Hanover Park Man Accused of Breaking into Gun Shop/Stealing Guns

WHEATON - DuPage County State's Attorney Robert B. Berlin, Aurora Chief of Police Kristen Ziman and authorities with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms announced today that bond has been set for a Hanover Park man accused of breaking into an Aurora gun shop and stealing thirteen guns. Malcom Haynes, 21 (d.o.b. 11/16/1997) of 2283 Wildwood Lane, appeared in Bond Court this afternoon where Judge Thomas Else set bond at \$250,000 with 10% to apply in accordance with a previously issued arrest warrant. Haynes is charged with one count of Aggravated Possession of Stolen Firearms, a Class X Felony.

In the early morning hours of March 27, 2017, Aurora police officers were dispatched to JR Shooting Sports regarding a burglary that had just occurred. Upon their arrival, officers noted that several glass cases had been smashed and that thirteen guns were missing from the store. A joint investigation into the matter was conducted by the Aurora Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Through the course of their investigation, which included examination of DNA at the store, authorities were able to identify Haynes as a suspect in the case. On September 9, 2019, DuPage County Circuit Court Judge Ann Celine Walsh issued a \$250,000 with 10% to apply arrest warrant for Haynes. Early this morning, agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms along with officers from the Aurora and Hanover Park Police Departments took Haynes into custody from his home without incident.

“This case is an outstanding example of local, state and federal agencies working together to keep our streets safe,” Berlin said. “While it has been quite some time since the alleged break-in, the cooperative efforts displayed by all the agencies involved in this case led us to a man who is accused of stealing thirteen dangerous weapons which unfortunately were most likely headed for the streets. I would like to thank the Aurora Police Department, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and the Hanover Park Police Department for their work on this case. I would also like to thank Assistant State’s Attorney Kristin Sullivan for her efforts in securing charges against this defendant.”

"Over the past two years, our investigators have worked tirelessly with our local, state and federal partners to follow-up on leads and their tremendous work has led to charges in this case," Ziman said. "Crimes like this, especially when it comes to illegal guns on our streets, will not be tolerated in the City of Aurora and we will continue to bring people to justice who break those laws."

Haynes’ next court appearance is scheduled for October 7, 2019, for arraignment in front of Judge George Bakalis. He is extended term eligible and faces a penalty of up to forty years in the Illinois Department of Corrections if convicted.

Members of the public are reminded that this complaint contains only charges and is not proof of the defendant’s guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial in which it is the government’s burden to prove his or her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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