



KANAWHA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

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Sheriff Michael Y. Rutherford

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NEWS / MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 19, 2024.

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Shots Fired

Institute, WV- On Sunday, May 19, 2024, just before 3:00 p.m., Kanawha County Sheriff's Deputies were dispatched to a shots-fired call around the Shawnee Sports Complex in the Institute area. Metro 911 received calls that multiple shots had been fired in the area and within moments off-duty officers were on scene in the 200 block of Smoot Avenue where the incident occurred.

Deputies arrived on the scene and found evidence that shots were fired around the apartment complex on Smoot Avenue; however, no victims or injuries were discovered as part of that investigation. Deputies obtained information about the alleged suspects and the potential vehicle they left the scene in. Nitro Police located a vehicle matching the suspect vehicle and conducted a traffic stop on Tyler Ridge Road. Deputies have detained several individuals concerning this incident and the investigation remains underway.

Shawnee Sports Complex was having an event during this time frame when the shots were fired. Due to the incident, it was decided as a precautionary measure that all remaining activities for today at Shawnee Sports Complex would be suspended. West Virginia State University was also placed on lockdown; however, the lockdown has been lifted and deputies reported this was an isolated incident with no ongoing threat to the community.

Expect a police presence in the area as deputies continue to investigate and we will provide additional information as it becomes available.



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