



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Contact: Sherry Llewellyn
Elizabeth Schroen
410-313-2236

Police charge Columbia man in non-fatal shooting earlier today
Suspect accidentally shot acquaintance, made false statements to police

Howard County police have charged a Columbia man for an accidental shooting that occurred earlier today in Wilde Lake. Jamal Stevenson Strickland, 19, of no fixed address, has been charged with reckless endangerment, making false statements to police, illegal possession of a handgun and two other firearms charges.

The victim, 18-year-old Walter Richardson, of the 5500 block of Sheffield Court in Columbia, was visiting Strickland at an apartment in the 5000 block of Green Mountain Circle where Strickland was staying. Strickland accidentally discharged a gun and struck Richardson in the leg. Richardson was transported to Shock Trauma by ambulance with a non-life threatening injury.

Strickland initially told police a suspect had entered the apartment through an unlocked rear door, fired at the victim and fled. Through investigative efforts, police determined that statement was false and identified Strickland as the shooter.

Strickland is awaiting a bail hearing.

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