



**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
ERIC M. HOFFMAN, PROSECUTOR
46TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
DELAWARE COUNTY, INDIANA**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric M. Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
prosecutor@co.delaware.in.us
Date: August 4, 2023

**PROSECUTOR FILES FORMAL CHARGES AGAINST JOHN L. VANCE JR.
FOR OFFENSES RELATING TO THE JULY 30, 2023 MUNCIE SHOOTING**

Muncie Indiana – On today's date Prosecuting Attorney Eric M. Hoffman formally charged John L. Vance Jr. (DOB 4/29/1987) for the following criminal offenses:

- Count 1: Aggravated Battery, a Level 3 Felony
- Count 2: Aggravated Battery, a Level 3 Felony
- Count 3: Possession of a Firearm by a Serious Violent Felon, a Level 4 Felony
- Count 4: Criminal Recklessness, a Level 5 Felony

Habitual Offender sentencing enhancement.

It is important to remember that any accusation that someone has committed a crime, an arrest and/or the filing of a criminal charge is simply an allegation and is not evidence of guilt. All suspects are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt at trial.

The charges are pending in the Delaware Circuit Court No. 2. Judge Kimberly Dowling will set the case for an initial hearing. Copies of the Charging Information and Affidavit of Probable Cause that were filed with the Court are attached.

Pursuant to Indiana law:

- Each Level 3 Felony is punishable by 3 – 16 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- A Level 4 Felony is punishable by 2 – 12 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- A Level 5 Felony is punishable by 1 – 6 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- The Habitual Offender Enhancement can add an additional 6 – 20 years to the total sentence.

At this time, the offenses for which Vance was arrested do not include charges relating to the killing of Joseph Bonner. As such, there have been a lot of questions, rumors, and speculation. The Muncie Police Department has repeatedly said, the investigation into Bonner's death and the events of July 30 is rapidly evolving and ongoing. No one should infer or speculate that there will or not be additional charges filed against Mr. Vance or any additional arrests. This investigation is far from over. The investigation and any subsequent prosecution will go where the facts and evidence take it.

Indiana's ethical rules for prosecutors prohibit further comment on this pending case. Unless and until additional arrests are made or additional criminal charges are filed there will be no further comment on the specific facts and circumstances of the investigation.

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STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF DELAWARE)

IN THE DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT 2
CAUSE NUMBER. 18C02-2308-F3

INFORMATION:

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

JOHN L. VANCE

2812 S Walnut Street
Yorktown, IN 47396

DOB: 4/29/1987

SSN: xxx-xx-2334

Count 1:

Aggravated Battery
I.C. 35-42-2-1.5
a Level 3 Felony

Count 1:

The undersigned says that on or about July 30, 2023 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, John L. Vance did knowingly inflict injury on Jazlin N Williams that created a substantial risk of death or caused serious permanent disfigurement; protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member or organ, contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-42-2-1.5 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

BY: /s/ Eric M. Hoffman
Eric M. Hoffman 24232-18
Prosecuting Attorney
46th Judicial Circuit of Indiana

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT 2
) SS:
COUNTY OF DELAWARE) CAUSE NUMBER. 18C02-2308-F3

INFORMATION:

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VS

JOHN L. VANCE

2812 S Walnut Street
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DOB: 4/29/1987
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Count 2:
Aggravated Battery
I.C. 35-42-2-1.5
a Level 3 Felony

Count 2:

The undersigned says that on or about July 30, 2023 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, John L. Vance did knowingly inflict injury on Taz'ihyli'c L. Isom that created a substantial risk of death or caused serious permanent disfigurement; protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member or organ, contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-42-2-1.5 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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Count 3:
Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a
Serious Violent Felon
I.C. 35-47-4-5(c)
a Level 4 Felony

Count 3:

The undersigned says that on or about July 30, 2023 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, John L. Vance having previously been convicted of a serious violent felony, to wit: Dealing in Cocaine, a Class B Felony under 18C04-0603-FA-000006, did possess a firearm, contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-47-4-5(c) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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Count 4:
Criminal Recklessness
I.C. 35-42-2-2(a) and I.C. 35-42-2-2(b)(2)(A)
a Level 5 Felony

Count 4:

The undersigned says that on or about July 30, 2023 in Delaware County, State of Indiana, John L. Vance did recklessly, knowingly perform an act that created a substantial risk of bodily injury to another person by shooting a firearm into a place where people are likely to gather contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided by I.C. 35-42-2-2(a) and I.C. 35-42-2-2(b)(2)(A) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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STATE OF INDIANA)
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SS:
COUNTY OF)
DELAWARE)

IN THE DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT 2
CAUSE NUMBER: 18C02-2308-F3

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

JOHN L. VANCE

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SEEK HABITUAL OFFENDER STATUS

Comes now the State of Indiana and states that John L. Vance is an Habitual Offender in that John L. Vance has accumulated at least two prior unrelated felony convictions, to-wit:

On May 13, 2011, John L. Vance committed the felony offense of Battery Resulting in Bodily Injury, a Class D Felony. On April 5, 2012 in the Superior Court No. 5, of Madison County, Indiana, John L. Vance was convicted of said felony in cause number 48D05-1105-FD-000964. Based upon said conviction, on April 5, 2012 John L. Vance was sentenced.

Further on May 29, 2012, John L. Vance committed the felony offense of Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Serious Violent Felon, a Class B Felony. On August 18, 2014 in the Circuit Court No. 6, of Madison County, Indiana, John L. Vance was convicted of said felony in cause number 48C06-1302-FB-000384. Based upon said conviction, on August 18, 2014 John L. Vance was sentenced.

All of which is contrary to the form of the statutes in such cases made and provided, to-wit: I.C. 35-50-2-8 and against the peace and dignity of the State of Indiana.

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STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE DELAWARE CIRCUIT COURT 2
) SS:
COUNTY OF DELAWARE) CAUSE NUMBER. 18C02-2308-F3

STATE OF INDIANA

VS

JOHN L. VANCE

State of Indiana's Witness List

Jazlin N Williams
Taz'ihyli'c L. Isom
Trevor Adelsperger
ISP Analyst
Johnny Angel
Breanna Antrim
Dylan Arens
Carl Barber
Carl Barber Jr.
Emily Benslay
Matthew Berger
Zachary Bradbury
Aaron Brooks
Jami L. Brown
Kevin M Brown
Cody Campbell
Joshua Carrington
Jolene Clouse M.D.
Steven Coffman
Cory Conlon
Luke Cooper
Mariah Copeland
Steve L Cox
Dylan Craver
Melissa Criswell
Adam Curtis
Sean Dennis
Bradley Downing
Joseph Duckham
Kristopher M. Duncan
Trenten Ellis
Jacob Folkner
Brian Frantz
Adam Garrett
Corbin Garrett
Drake Hall

Larry D. Harless
Clinton Cody Harper
Anthony Johnson
Matthew Kubiak
Richard Little
Joshua Maxwell
John J McCain
Ryan McCorkle
Kevin McNamara
Ryan Miley
Zachary Morgan
Michael J. Nickens
Zach Osborn
Kevin Pierce
Mike Pyles
Brandon Qualls
Nicholas Ramsey
Riley Reese
Michael F. Rehfus
Blake Reynolds
Isaac E Rodriguez
Brittany Roe
Dante Roque
Daniel Sarten
Joseph Schafer
Dawson Schmidt
Andrew Sell
Logan Shoemaker
Gregory Skaggs
Nathan Andrew Sloan
Kegan Smith
Kira Smith
Jonathon Snodgrass
Nathan Soliday
Donnie Sparks
Jeff Stanley
Michael Stephens
Andrew M Storie
Damon Stovall
Kristofer Swanson
Jacob Teters
Matthew Thompson
Mark Thornburg
Cory Turner
Jay A. Turner
Daniel Vogel
Nicholas Vollmar
Anthony L. Wehrle
Robert C. Wells
Gabriel Wilmes
Gage Winters
Jacob Wood
IUBMH Personnel

MFD Personnel
DCEMS Personnel
DCSO Personnel
GPD Personnel
YPD Personnel
EPD Personnel
DPD Personnel
APD Personnel
BMHPD Personnel
BSUPD Personnel
CPD Personnel
ISP Personnel
DC Emergency Management Personnel
ISP Lab Firearms Examiner
ISP Lab DND Analyst

STATE OF INDIANA)
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)
) 2023 TERM

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AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

COMES NOW, **Mariah Copeland**, a police officer of the Muncie Police Department, and being first duly sworn upon oath, deposes and says that the following described person was arrested, without Warrant, upon the charge(s) and circumstances hereinafter stated, and makes this affidavit for the purpose of establishing probable cause for said arrest.

MPD CR # 23-29188

NAME OF ARRESTEE: **John L. Vance Jr.** D.O.B.: 04/29/1987

ADDRESS OF ARRESTEE: 2812 S. Walnut St. Yorktown, IN 47396

DATE OF ARREST: 8/1/23 TIME OF ARREST: 1640

CHARGE 1: Aggravated Battery	A Level 3 FELONY
CHARGE 2: Aggravated Battery	A Level 3 FELONY
CHARGE 3: Possession of a Firearm Serious Violent Felon	A Level 4 FELONY
CHARGE 4: Criminal Recklessness	A Level 5 FELONY
Habitual Offender	p.c. established

The basis and reasons why this officer believes that said Arrestee committed the aforesaid offense (s) are as follows:
I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my information and belief.

On 07/30/2023 at approximately 01:14am, officers of the Muncie Police Department were dispatched to the area of E. Willard St. and S. Hackley St. in reference a shooting. It was previously known there was a large gathering of people at this location attending a block party. Photos and video footage of the party showed an enormous amount of people in the area. Dispatch received multiple calls reference the shooting stating one male had been shot and was bleeding. As dispatch continued to receive calls they advised multiple people had been shot. Officers and EMS personnel arrived on scene and began rendering aid and transporting victims to Ball Memorial Hospital. Several other agencies responded to the incident due to the large amount of people in the area and at BMH.

Members of the Muncie Police Department, responded to BMH to assist in identifying who suffered injuries during the shooting. During this time, Victim 1 and Victim 2 were identified as individuals who suffered gunshot wounds.

On 07/31/2023, Victim 1 and 2 were interviewed while at BMH. Victim 1 suffered a gunshot wound to the right arm which was said to have traveled through the body causing a lung injury, 2-3 broken ribs and exited the upper left part of the body. Victim 1 was still receiving treatment at BMH during the time of this interview. Victim 1 advised, the damage caused to their right arm resulted in impairment of the function of the arm. I observed Victim 1 to have difficulty raising their arm and was unable to write. Victim 1 advised, they arrived at the party at Willard and Hackley at approximately 11pm. Victim 1 advised, they were 2-3 feet away from the DJ booth which was set up in the parking lot right in front of,

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) 2023 TERM

900/904 E. Willard St. At approximately 1am, Victim 1 was looking around the large crowd and observed “Bubby”, who Victim 1 later identified as, John L. Vance Jr. (04/29/1987) physically fighting another subject, later identified as Joseph Bonner, who is now deceased. Victim 1 knows “Bubby” as Bubby Vance. Victim 1 had seen Vance earlier in the night and was able to identify him by his clothing and his face realizing he was actively involved in the altercation.

During the altercation, Victim 1 saw punches being thrown and Vance brandished a firearm. Victim 1 described the firearm as having similar features as a Glock style handgun. Victim 1 stated the gun was in Vance’s hand, in between him and Bonner, pointed in the direction of the crowd. The firearm was discharged and Victim 1 saw the flash from the gun then got shot. During this time, Victim 1 heard approximately 5-6 gun shots. Victim 1 advised, they walked a couple feet forward, away from the DJ booth then fell to the ground.

Victim 1 described themselves as being in the middle of the crowd when the gun was brandished and discharged.

Victim 1 was also accompanied by Victim 2, arriving at the party together. Victim 2 was standing next to Victim 1 near the DJ booth, in the middle of the parking lot. Victim 2 advised they were standing in close proximity behind Bonner and Vance, close enough they could have reached out and touched them. Victim 2 advised, the music was loud but observed Bonner and Vance verbally arguing. Victim 2 then observed Bonner swing at Vance, which is when a physical altercation ensued. Victim 2 felt as if something bad was going to happen and began to walk away. Victim 2 attempted to run away, heard several gun shots and felt a burning sensation in their arm, realizing they had been shot. Victim 2 heard Victim 1 yelling their name so they ran back to where Victim 1 was at and observed Victim 1 to be on the ground.

Victim 2 was brought to BMH by a family member to receive medical treatment. While speaking with Victim 2 at the hospital, Victim 2 had gauze wrapped around the area of their arm which needed to be periodically changed due to continuous bleeding.

Both Victim 1 and 2 were in close proximity to the altercation and both sustained gunshot wounds during the initial shots fired.

Victim 1, along with Victim 2, both positively identified Joseph Bonner and John L. Vance Jr. (04/29/1987) during a photo lineup.

A criminal history for Vance was completed which revealed the following previous convictions” 18C03-2010-F5-150 Domestic Battery, Level 5 Felony, 18C04-0603-FA-06 Dealing in Cocaine, Class B Felony, 48C06-1302-FB-384 Unlawful Possession of Firearm by a Serious Violent Felon, B Felony, 48D05-1105-FD-964 Battery Resulting in Bodily Injury, D Felony. Vance is a Habitual Offender as defined by Indiana law in that he has accumulated at least 2 prior unrelated felony convictions, those being Dealing in Cocaine and Unlawful Possession of a Firearm by a Serious Violent Felon as described in more detail above. Therefore your Affiant is asking the Court to add an additional \$50,000 cash only bail to the bail the Court sets for counts 1-3.

DATE: 07/31/2023 OFFICER: _____ \s\ Mariah Copeland  #1889

STATE OF INDIANA)
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DELAWARE COUNTY)

IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURTS

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JUDICIAL DETERMINATION

The undersigned, being a Judicial officer of Delaware County, and having reviewed the foregoing affidavit, now determines that probable cause existed for the arrest of said arrestee, and now fixes bond in the penal sum of \$ 105,000.00 cash bond only

DATED: 08/02/2023 SIGNED: *Zane M. Rudy*, Judge of Delaware
Circuit #3

CHARGES TO BE FILED BY: _____

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT