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DELAWARE COUNTY, INDIANA**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Eric M. Hoffman, Prosecuting Attorney
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Date: September 14, 2024

**JURY CONVICTS TARRON CONWELL OF
UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF A HANDGUN AND POINTING A FIREARM**

Muncie Indiana – Yesterday, a Delaware County jury deliberated for approximately 29 minutes before convicting Tarron H. Conwell (DOB 12/29/2003) of Unlawful Carrying of a Handgun, a Level 5 Felony, and Pointing a Firearm, a Class A misdemeanor. A copy of the Affidavit of Probable Cause that was originally filed with the case is attached. The Honorable Judi L. Calhoun, Judge of the Delaware Circuit Court No. 1 set sentencing for October 7, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. Pursuant to Indiana law:

- A Level 6 Felony is punishable by 6 months – 2.5 years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.
- A Class A Misdemeanor is punishable by up to 1 year in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

On June 27, 2024 a different Delaware County jury convicted Conwell of:

- Count 1: Attempted Murder, a Level 1 Felony
- Count 2: Criminal Recklessness, a Level 5 Felony as a lesser included offense of Attempted Murder, a Level 1 Felony
- Count 3: Attempted Murder, a Level 1 Felony
- Count 4: Unlawful Carrying of a Handgun, a Level 5 Felony
- Count 5: Resisting Law Enforcement, a Level 6 Felony

These counts arose from a different case which involved the attempted murder of sheriff's deputies. On July 24, 2024, Judge Calhoun sentenced Conwell to 79 years for these convictions.

After the verdicts were returned, Delaware County Prosecuting Attorney Eric Hoffman said "As evidenced by his convictions, Conwell poses a danger to the community. I am proud of Deputy Prosecutors Steve Sneed and Prosecutor's Investigator Kira Curtis for their hard work and dedication in this case as well as their dedication to see that justice was served in all of Conwell's pending cases."

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PC Tarron Conwell

STATE OF INDIANA)
DELAWARE COUNTY)
IN THE DELAWARE COUNTY COURT SYSTEM
2023 TERM

AFFIDAVIT OF PROBABLE CAUSE FOR ARREST WITHOUT WARRANT

COMES NOW: John Branson, a police officer of the Delaware County Sheriff's Office, 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 herein after stated, and makes this affidavit for the purpose of establishing probable cause for said arrest.

NAME OF ARRESTEE: Tarron Hayden Conwell D.O.B. 12-29-2003

ADDRESS OF ARRESTEE: 3608 S Mock Ave Muncie, IN 47302

DATE OF ARREST: June 26, 2023 TIME OF ARREST: 741 AM PM

Table with 6 columns: CHARGES, a class, Felony, Misdemeanor, checkboxes for Felony and Misdemeanor. Rows include 'Possession by a Prohibited person' and 'Pointing a Firearm'.

The basis and reasons why this officer believes that said arrestee committed the aforesaid offense(s) in Delaware County, State of Indiana, are as follows:

On June 6, 2023 at approximately 1520pm, Victim, Michael Hancock had been involved in a road rage incident in Delaware County at W River Vally Rd and 900 W. Hancock reported this incident to the Delaware County Sheriff's office and Deputy Carter Smithson arrived to take the complaint from Hancock. Hancock reported to Smithson that Hancock were heading east on River Valley Rd. A suspect, in a light green Honda had passed Hancock at a high rate of speed. Hancock then honked at the person in the light green Honda. Hancock said that the reckless operator, a white male, stopped at the stop sign at 900 W and had gotten out of the the light green Honda. Michael described the driver as a young white male, late teens or

I affirm under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and accurate to the best of my information and belief.

DATE: June 26, 2023 Officer: /s/ John Branson

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 bail in the penal sum of \$

Dated: Signed: Title:

PRE-INITIAL HEARING INFORMATION

Pre-initial Hearing Date: Charges to be filed by Date: Time:

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DELAWARE COUNTY) 2023 TERM

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NARRATIVE CONTINUED:

early 20's, approximately 5'10-6'0 feet tall, skinny build, wearing a dark colored sweatsuit, possibly a black sweat shirt with the hood up, possibly a, "dew rag or sweatband" and Grey pants. Hancock said that the suspect then pointed a, "Large black handgun" at him as he got out of the suspect vehicle. The suspect was asking the victim, "why are you honking at me"? The suspect was yelling at Hancock. The suspect again, turned while in the suspect car, pointed the firearm out of the vehicle towards the victim. The suspect then fled the scene eastbound on River Valley Rd. No shots were fired when he pointed the firearm at Hancock.

On June 23, 2023, Affiant received the complaint to follow up on and had developed a suspect on this case. I met with the victim, Michael Hancock in Madison County to show a photo lineup of 6 like looking white males on a Photographic lineup . After meeting with Hancock, I read him the Delaware County Photographic Lineup paperwork to which Hancock said that he understood and signed. At 1033am, Hancock identified the suspect in this case as, Tarron Conwell. Hancock signed initialed and circled the suspect and dated it.

On 6-23-2023,at 1945 hours, Tarron Conwell's vehicle was located at 3608 S Mock Ave Muncie, Delaware County, Indiana. Conwell fled on foot from Deputies that were trying to apprehend him. Conwell shot several times at Delaware County Sheriff's Deputies, Sgt Mitchell, and Deputies, Smithson and Parks. Eventually, Conwell had to be struck by a vehicle to stop his deadly force. On June 25, 2023, Detective Ron Halbert of Indiana State Police interviewed the suspect, Tarron Conwell. Conwell said that he did not drive in the county and he lets other persons drive his car. This is even after the fact that Conwell was identified in a photographic lineup. Conwell is a convicted felon and was convicted on 10-18-2022 of Level 6 Resisting by vehicle under cause #48C04-2207-F6-001996. He is prohibited from carrying a firearm for this reason.