



POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DOMESTIC ASSAULT INVOLVING A WEAPON

ATHENS, TENNESSEE- January 24, 2024- City of Athens Police Department responded to the local hospital in reference to a shooting incident. Officers made contact with nurses and advised they had a female patient with an apparent gunshot wound to her lower extremities.

Upon arrival officers made contact with a male subject who stated he was with the female when the shooting occurred. The Patrol Division turned the scene over to Detectives with the Special Services Division, the case is active and still under investigation. The shooting stemmed from an argument between the male and female and alcohol was likely a factor in this incident.

The shooting occurred in the back parking lot of the Athens Walmart, which was contained to inside the vehicle, right as Walmart was opening up for normal business hours. Officers and Walmart's Loss Prevention team made sure that this was an isolated incident, and no patrons were in danger. Both parties involved in the incident were not affiliated with Walmart.

The female victim has been transported to a local trauma center for further care.

"I am proud of the quick response by the Patrol division and the information they were able to obtain on a hectic scene. The information was relayed to Detectives and a person of interest was detained quickly. This communication between the two divisions played a crucial role in locating and apprehending the suspect within minutes of the shooting. Our thoughts and prayers go out to both parties involved in this unfortunate incident," stated Lieutenant Witt.

For more information, please contact the Athens Police Department, Chief Fred Schultz at 423-744-2730.