

October 03, 2012

News Release

For Immediate Release

Police Investigate Gunman Arrested at Immaculate Conception

Update

Bobby Joe McHaffie of Springfield has been charged with 1st Degree Burglary, Unlawful Use of a Weapon, and Felon in Possession of a Weapon in reference to this case.

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On 10/02/2012, at 9:09 p.m., the Springfield Police Department responded to the Immaculate Conception Church located at 3555 S. Fremont, in reference to a person with a gun. When SPD officers arrived at the location, they spoke with one of the priests and learned that the suspect, a 33 year old white male, was inside the church with a gun.

The priests stated that they had discovered vandalism to the front of the church and, while doing a walkthrough of the church, found the suspect inside damaging more church property. A Boy Scout leader at the church confronted the suspect, who displayed a weapon, pointing it at the Boy Scout leader. The two priests and the scout leader were able to exit the church unharmed, leaving the suspect inside.

Additional SPD officers were dispatched to the location, and established a perimeter around the church. The suspect eventually exited the church a short time later, and dropped a handgun as he was being taken into custody. He was later booked into the Greene County jail for Unlawful Use of a Weapon. The church was searched by the SPD Special Response Team, and no other persons were located.

Formal charges will be presented to the Greene County prosecutor's office at a later time. This investigation is ongoing.

SPD Case Number: 12-41744

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Release authorized by: Lieutenant Ben King