

# Hills boy arrested in drive-by shooting

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STAFF WRITERS

Shotgun blasts shattered the quiet of an early spring evening Tuesday for residents of a southwest Southfield neighborhood, and four teens are expected to face serious criminal charges in the aftermath.

Southfield police said a gathering of about 15 youths was the target of a drive-by shooting shortly after 6 p.m. on Shiawassee near Indian, in the John Grace area of the city.

"It's a miracle that no one was injured," said police spokesman L.A. Moore.

Despite that, police Wednesday were seeking attempted murder warrants in connection with the shooting against a 16-year-old Southfield girl, a 17-year-old Southfield boy, both neighborhood residents, and a 16-year-old Westland boy and a 13-year-old Farmington Hills boy.

The 13-year-old boy was identified by witnesses as being the shooter.

The three males were passengers in a 1988 Pontiac Grand Prix driven by the girl, police said.

Police said the group of intended victims was gathered around a car that had just come by. They were talking with those in the car "and milling around" when some of the youths saw the approaching Pontiac come through a stop sign at an accelerated speed, Moore said.

"I think that alerted them that something might be happening and as the car went by, two, maybe three shots, sprayed buckshot toward the crowd. The kids scattered and ducked for cover."

"That type of weapon and that ammunition, because it spreads out as it goes, could have caused serious injury or death," he said. Police found two ammunition casings at the scene.

Police aren't sure what the motive was, Moore said. But the intended victims and those in the drive-by car knew each other. Most of those involved live in or around the area.

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L.A. Moore  
police spokesman

Moore said he doubted the incident was gang-related.

"It doesn't appear to be. But there does seem to be bad blood between some of the people involved."

Police arrested the girl shortly after the shooting while she was still behind the wheel of the car, which belongs to her family.

The 17-year-old was arrested at his home on Inkster Road, less

than a mile from the shooting site. Moore said Wednesday that a warrant against him had not yet been obtained.

The 13-year-old and the Westland youth were arrested at a gas station at the nearby intersection of Beech and Eight Mile roads.

The three juveniles were lodged in Children's Village in Pontiac while charges against them were being pursued.

The 17-year-old is considered an adult in the eyes of the law. The prosecutor's office was expected to seek waivers so that the two 16-year-olds could also be prosecuted as adults. The 13-year-old will probably be prosecuted as a juvenile, Moore said.

Police said they recovered the shotgun at Lola Valley Park, Redford Township, roughly three miles from the shooting site.



RON POWLEY

Drive by shooting: Southfield police talk to witnesses on Shiawassee near Indian Tuesday night after shots were fired at a group of youths standing in the southwestern Southfield neighborhood.

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