



RELEASE DATE: April 14, 2010

CONTACT: 2nd Deputy Chief John M. Roach

POLICE ARREST SUSPECT IN SHOOTING OF 2-YEAR-OLD CHILD LAST WEEK

- *Shooting allegedly stemmed from father's drug dealings*

Detroit Police have arrested a 37-year-old man they say fired shots that struck a two-year-old girl sitting in the back seat of her father's car on the city's east side last week as the father was attempting to purchase drugs, Chief Warren Evans said today.

Don Turner has been charged with two counts of assault with intent to murder, felony firearms and as a habitual offender (prior auto theft and drugs) after being arrested Monday night by Detroit Police narcotics officers near the drug house that shooting occurred.

Evans said while the father initially had stated he was randomly shot at while driving his car near Morang and Kelly, several miles away from the actual shooting scene, he later said the shooting happened at a home in the 1200 block of Newport where he was attempting to purchase drugs.

Because Detroit Police then knew the incident stemmed from drug activity at the location, they began conducting surveillance. Narcotics officers on Monday took enforcement action at the house and one of the individuals arrested was Turner, who also was armed with a handgun.

Subsequent investigation revealed that Turner was one of the suspects to have allegedly fired the shots that struck the two-year-old girl in the back seat of the vehicle. On the day of the shooting, the girl, who was struck in the hip, was in temporary serious condition.

"This was not as easy a case to solve as it should have been, given the misinformation provided to us by the father," Chief Evans said. *"Our investigators did an excellent job of getting the facts and locating the suspect."*

#more#

Evans said he is appalled at the actions of the girl's father. "First, he has his children with him at a drug house and then he wastes precious time that could have been used to catch the suspect to instead make up stories to cover his own misdeeds," Chief Evans said.

Turner is being held at the Wayne County Jail on \$200,000 cash bond.

NR 10-35

For additional information, please contact the Office of Public Information at 313-596-2200.