



## PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Mark Metz (952) 361-1400

Carver County Attorney Mark Metz announces that his office has filed formal criminal charges against four adults in connection with an incident on June 25, 2019, where an adult male motorcyclist traveling on a rural Carver County road was hit in the chest by a bullet.

The crux of the charges is that these four adults intentionally discharged handguns under circumstances that endangered the safety of the public based on the following allegations:

On June 25, 2019, at approximately 6:14 p.m., deputies with the Carver County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a report of an adult male with a gunshot wound to the chest in the area of County Road 40 and Homestead Road in San Francisco Township, Carver County, Minnesota. The first responding deputy to the scene observed a number of motorcycles on the shoulder of the road with a number of people standing around the adult male who appeared to have a significant, bleeding chest injury. This adult motorcyclist stated that he thought he was going to die as a result of being shot. This male was transported by ambulance to the Hennepin County Medical Center for emergency medical treatment.

An investigation conducted by the Carver County Sheriff's Office revealed that four adults had been target shooting with pistols near County Road 40 at the residence located at 16385 Homestead Road. The Sheriff's Office identified these adults as Blake Azurin Martin, William Azurin Martin, Ian Alexander Stinson, and Jasmine Symone Morrow.

The Sheriff's investigation revealed this group had been shooting at a silhouette target placed near a pile of logs but without an adequate backstop at the residence. 16885 Homestead Road is located near the top of a hill, and without an adequate backstop, the trajectory of the bullets that did not strike the

logs flew off the hill and down towards County Road 40. The estimated distance between location of the target area and where the adult motorcyclist stated he was shot is approximately 1,200 to 1,900 feet.

The investigation further revealed that Ian Stinson was the first person to shoot approximately fifteen 9mm rounds using a CZ Model 75 P-01. Blake Martin was the second person to shoot approximately fifteen 9 mm rounds using a Glock 19. William Martin was the third person to shoot, using a Heckler and Koch Model USP .40 caliber shooting approximately twelve rounds. Finally, Jasmine Martin shot last, firing several rounds from the CZ Model 75 P-01. These four adults stopped shooting when a third-party drove into the driveway of the residence and yelled at them that a motorcyclist on County Road 40 had been shot.

Having been shot, the adult male motorcyclist sustained an significant injury to his axillary artery, which supplies blood to the right arm, and a fractured right scapula. The bullet was surgically removed and provided to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) for analysis. Subsequently, the BCA determined that the bullet that struck the adult motorcyclist was not fired by the Heckler and Koch Model USP or the CZ Model 75 P-01.

In announcing these charges, County Attorney Metz commented that while hunting and target shooting remain traditional, legal, and popular activities in rural Carver County, it remains a fundamental safety tenet that every shooter remains 100% responsible for assuring they have a sufficient backstop before shooting commences.

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