



BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



Jamal A. Simington - Chief of Police
Paul D. Williams - Assistant Chief
Chad E. Wamsley - Assistant Chief
Aaron A. Veerman - Assistant Chief

305 S. East Street
Bloomington, IL, 61701
309-820-8888

For Immediate Release: July 11, 2025

Parolee Arrested on Multiple Gun Charges After Fleeing Traffic Stop

Bloomington, IL - On July 1, 2025, following an investigation by the Bloomington Police Department Patrol Division, an arrest warrant was issued for Caleb Teplitz-Crawford on eight firearms-related offenses stemming from an incident days earlier.

On June 27, an officer conducting a traffic enforcement detail initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle with a suspended registration. The vehicle stopped near the intersection of Grove Street and Evans Street. During the stop, the driver immediately retrieved a handgun from inside the vehicle and fled the scene on foot.

Additional officers responded to the area to search for the suspect. A subject matching the suspect's description entered a nearby venue. As a precaution, BPD officers, along with assisting McLean County Sherriff's deputies, secured the area and temporarily redirected traffic to ensure public safety. After investigation, officers determined that the individual who entered the venue was not the person who fled the traffic stop. The area was cleared and the business resumed normal operations.

A BPD K-9 unit and assisting officers continued to search of the area where the suspect was last seen. During the search, the K-9 Unit located a loaded handgun in a nearby yard.

Officers later identified the driver as Teplitz-Crawford, who was on parole at the time. The Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) was notified, and a full extradition IDOC warrant was issued for a parole violation.

On June 30, Teplitz-Crawford was taken into custody by IDOC officers for the warrant. He remains in custody at Stateville Correctional Center.

In addition to several traffic citations, a McLean County warrant was issued for the following offenses:

Caleb M. Teplitz-Crawford, male, 22, of Normal, IL

- Felon in possession of a weapon while on parole (two counts)
- Possession of a weapon by a felon with a previous conviction for a forcible felony (two counts)
- Aggravated unlawful possession of a weapon in a vehicle with a previous conviction
- Felon in possession of a weapon (two counts)
- Possession of a firearm while not eligible for a FOID card

Media Contact:

Officer Bryce Janssen

Bloomington (IL) Police Department

Desk: 309-434-2355 | **Fax:** 309-829-0662 | **Email:** Police@cityblm.org



All suspects are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in the court of law.

Chief Jamal Simington stated, "This is a prime example of how our officers can encounter unexpected situations during what many may consider 'routine police work,'" stated Chief Jamal Simington. "Thank you to the officers who put themselves in harms way and demonstrated the investigative skills needed to remove another handgun from someone legally prohibited from possessing one. We also appreciate the venue and event participants for their understanding during this evolving situation."

The circumstances behind this incident remain under investigation by the Bloomington Police Department. Anyone with information should contact Officer Jacob Shepard at 309-820-8888 or jshepard@cityblm.org.

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If you wish to submit a crime tip and remain anonymous, please contact the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) at 309-434-2963 or email CIAU@cityblm.org. You can also text the number 847411 by texting the word "BPDTIPS", then a space, followed by your tip information.

The tip line is not monitored 24/7. The CIAU office is staffed from 8am-4:30pm, weekdays. If no one is available to answer your call, please leave the information on the voicemail or send it by e-mail.

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