

TEEN HELD ON \$1-MILLION BOND IN SHOOTING OF OFF-DUTY OFFICER

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A 19-year-old accused of trying to kill an off-duty Detroit narcotics officer was ordered held on a \$1-million cash bond Sunday by 36th District Court Magistrate Irma Chenevert-Bragg.

James Edward Thomas ' attorney pleaded with the judge not to be swayed in setting bond by news coverage, police sentiment or a city in a bad mood over recent unsolved shootings of officers.

"The only way he is going to get a fair trial is if the court remains dispassionate in setting bond," said Detroit Attorney James McGinnis, standing with Thomas, who was wearing a hospital gown and a head bandage with faint blood stains.

Nevertheless, Chenevert-Bragg ordered Thomas held on \$1- million bond.

"The fact that the press is here does not concern me at all," she said. Neither does the fact that Chief Isaiah McKinnon called her to "express his concern," she added.

She said the statute that calls for her to protect all citizens, including police officers, was the only thing that influenced her decision.

McGinnis said McKinnon's interference with the court denies his client due process. He called for an investigation into the police chief's actions.

Thomas is charged with assault with intent to commit murder and a felony firearms count. Police say he fired several shots Friday at Officer Randall Miller during a chase that began when Thomas mouthed off at the off-duty officer at about 5 p.m.

Miller was shot once in the upper right arm, but police said Sunday they don't know if the bullet came from Thomas' gun.

It could have been fired by a man who shot at Miller as the police officer returned fire in the direction of Thomas' car, police said. The man ran and has not been identified or located.

According to the police report, the incident began when Thomas and a 22-year-old female in a red Ford Aerostar pulled up next to Miller at a traffic light at 6 Mile and John R.

Miller's drug-raid jumpsuit was draped over his passenger seat, apparently tipping off Thomas that he was a police officer.

Thomas cursed at Miller for being a cop and pulled away from the light, according to the report.

Miller followed Thomas, who stopped moments later and fired several shots, which hit Miller's vehicle, police said.

Miller followed Thomas to Charleston just north of West Savannah, where Thomas fired several more shots, according to the police report.

From inside his car, Miller fired his police-issued Glock several times. At least one bullet grazed Thomas on the left side of the head.

Then the unidentified man fired from the corner and ran.

Miller escaped in his car and called for help. He was treated and released a few hours later.

Thomas' companion drove him to Henry Ford Hospital, where he was treated for his head wound.

Miller's shooting was the latest in a weeklong spate of attacks on police.

Police are still looking for a 16- to 22-year-old male who they believe shot officers Kelvin Patrick and Kathy Warren of the 12th (Palmer Park) Precinct on May 24 as they questioned him and a friend about missing school.

Warren, 45, was treated for a gunshot wound on her upper right arm and released two days later.

Patrick has been transferred from Grace Hospital to a rehabilitation center where he is undergoing therapy for a gunshot wound to the lower back, a Grace Hospital nurse said Sunday. The name of the center was not released, nor was the extent of his injuries. He was also shot in the right forearm.

A gang squad officer, Jim Broxton, was believed to have been shot Friday while on duty in a separate incident. A suspect opened fire on his police car, but he was not shot.

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