

Arraignments set on Friday for suspects in Westland shootout

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Author: Tanveer Ali / The Detroit News

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By Tanveer Ali

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WESTLAND – **Arraignments** are scheduled **for** 9 a.m. **Friday for** three of the four **suspects** arrested in Tuesday's shootout with police at the Merri-Warren Shopping Center, according to Westland police.

Benjamin Pringle, 32, Joseph Boldizar, 49, Demond Sanders, 29 and Roberto Reed, 32, all of Detroit, were charged Thursday afternoon **for** their role in the shootout, said Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Maria Miller. Westland police are expected to announce the litany of charges after the **arraignments**. Another **suspect**, Brian Thomas, 28, died in the shootout of multiple gunshot wounds through his lower extremities, according to the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office.

One of the **suspects** surrendered late Wednesday night, Westland police said Thursday; another who fled the scene was picked up the night before.

Five men who police say were targeted in a drug bust instead shot it out with Romulus police officers conducting the sting. The **suspects** were being **set** up to purchase three kilos of cocaine from an informant, but instead planned to rob the seller, Romulus Public Safety officials said.

Up to 100 shots were exchanged, witnesses said. No officers or bystanders were injured, but Randy Hermiz, owner of Café Fire **on** Ice, said a patron sitting outdoors said she was 18 inches from a bullet that shattered the front window of the business.

Two others were arrested at the scene, including one who ran into the Bob's of Canton-Westland supermarket, where he ran in holding a gun and was wounded. He will not be arraigned **Friday** and remains at an area hospital, police said.

Police arrested another man Tuesday night, when they tracked him to Detroit based **on** license plate information from the green Chevrolet Lumina he was driving.

You can reach Tanveer Ali at (734) 462-2094 or tali@detnews.com.

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