



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Police arrest local man in Walmart shooting

Howard County police have made an arrest in the Oct. 8 shooting at a Walmart store that left one man injured. De'Andre Edward Eason, 20, of West Springs Drive in Ellicott City, was charged with first-degree attempted murder, assault and handgun violations.

Police were called around midnight for a report of a fight with shots fired at the store in the 3200 block of North Ridge Road in Ellicott City. Officers arrived and located Matthew Allen Spencer, 23, of Baltimore, near the scene with a gunshot wound to the side of his face.

Investigators believe Spencer was leaving the store and passed Eason as he was entering. The two exchanged words and gestures as they passed, the context of which is unknown. Detectives believe Spencer turned around and reentered the store to confront Eason, who pulled out a gun and fired one shot, striking Spencer. Eason then fled from the store through a side door.

Spencer was transported to Shock Trauma, treated and released.

Preliminarily, there is no indication that Spencer and Eason knew each other before this incident. Police are continuing to investigate and gather details. Anyone with information should call police at 410-313-STOP or email HCPDcrimetips@howardcountymd.gov.

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