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Press Release
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For Immediate Release

Highland Park Man Charged in Police Stand Off

Prosecutor Kym L. Worthy has charged James Gist, 21 (DOB: 12/21/93), of Highland Park, with Kidnapping, Unlawful Imprisonment, Home Invasion First Degree, Carrying a Concealed Weapon, Felon in Possession of a Firearm and Removing a Tether. On August 10, 2015 at 11:50 a.m., it is alleged that Gist fled from police with a gun and dove through a front window of a home located in the 60th block of Grove in Highland Park. The homeowner was asleep on the couch and was awakened as the defendant crashed through his window. The defendant ran upstairs where there were four children ranging in age from nine months to nine years-old in the home. Gist remained in the house, holding the children captive for several hours. The special response team responded to the location and allowed a person known to Gist to speak with him over a loud speaker. After several minutes he came out of the house carrying the nine-month-old infant as a shield. Gist was arrested by the police and the infant and other children were removed to a place of safety.

Gist is expected to be arraigned this morning at 9:00 a.m. in 30th District Court before Judge Bridgette Officer.

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