



Press Release: Shooting Incident at 5th and Joplin

Date: 01-01-2026

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On January 1st, 2026, at approximately 1:10 am, a Joplin police officer was patrolling near the 500 block of Joplin Avenue. The officer heard what was believed to be gunshots and immediately responded to investigate. Upon the officer's arrival, several witnesses and evidence of gunfire were located.

Officers were advised that there had been a physical altercation between several adults inside Club Night Life prior to the shooting. While speaking with witnesses on scene, information was obtained that the individuals involved in the altercation inside Club Night Life were involved in a second altercation in the parking lot, and shots had been fired. All individuals involved fled the scene prior to police arrival. Officers learned that the person who had discharged the weapon had fled in a dark colored SUV with several other individuals.

A short time later, a Joplin police officer observed a vehicle matching the description of the suspect vehicle near 8th and Ohio. The officer attempted to stop the vehicle, but the suspect vehicle fled. Joplin officers pursued the vehicle until it went off-road near the intersection of Douglas Place and Texas Avenue. The suspect vehicle crashed and became disabled. Once disabled, all occupants fled the scene on foot. A firearm was located inside the vehicle.

JOPLIN

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Police Department

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No injuries were reported as a result of the shooting. During the pursuit, two Joplin police vehicles were involved in a crash. Two Joplin police officers were treated and released from the hospital for minor injuries sustained in the crash.

At this time, this incident appears to be isolated and does not pose an ongoing threat to the public. During the investigation, further information and evidence was obtained about the shooting that indicates the parties involved were known acquaintances. This is still an active, open investigation, and anyone with knowledge about this incident is encouraged to contact Detective Tiffany Osborne at 417-623-3131 extension 1649.