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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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**RE: LOCAL STREET GANG MEMBERS CHARGED WITH FIREARMS OFFENSES;
ALL REMAIN IN CUSTODY**

The following individuals have been formally charged by the Sangamon County State's Attorney's Office as a result of recent arrests by the Springfield Police Department:

1. Anthony Strange (3/11/97)
 - a. Unlawful Possession of Weapon by Street Gang Member (Class 2 Felony)
 - b. Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 2 Felony)
 - c. Unlawful Possession of Weapon by a Felon (Class 3 Felony)
 - d. Unlawful Possession of a Weapon – No FOID Card (ineligible) (Class 3)

Strange faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted on all counts. His bond remains set in the amount of \$300,000.

2. Mysean Burden (5/12/02)
 - a. Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by Street Gang Member (Class 2 Felony)
 - b. Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 2 Felony)
 - c. Possession of a Stolen Firearm (Class 2 Felony)

- d. Unlawful Possession of a Weapon – No FOID Card (ineligible) (Class 3)

Burden faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted on all counts. His bond remains set in the amount of \$250,000.

3. Jahquel D. Pearsall (10/11/02)

- a. Unlawful Possession of Weapon by Street Gang Member (Class 2 Felony)
- b. Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 2 Felony)
- c. Possession of a Stolen Firearm (Class 2 Felony)
- d. Unlawful Possession of a Weapon – No FOID Card (ineligible) (Class 3)

Pearsall faces up to 10 years in prison if convicted on all counts. His bond remains set in the amount of \$250,000.

4. Michael A. Smith (12/30/93)

- a. Armed Violence (Class X; 15-30 years in prison)
- b. Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by Street Gang Member (Class 2)
- c. Possession of Stolen Firearm (Class 2)
- d. Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 2)
- e. Unlawful Possession of a Weapon By a Felon (Class 3)
- f. Possession of a Weapon – No FOID (ineligible) (Class 3)
- g. Possession of a Controlled Substance (Class 4)

Smith faces up to 30 years in prison if convicted on all counts. His bond remains set in the amount of \$250,000.

5. Jerry E. Broomfield (5/8/02)

- a. Armed Violence (Class X; 15-30 years in prison)
- b. Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by Street Gang Member (Class 2)
- c. Possession of a Stolen Firearm (Class 2)
- d. Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 2)

- e. Unlawful Possession of a Weapon By a Felon (Class 3)
- f. Possession of a Weapon – No FOID (ineligible) (Class 3)
- g. Possession of a Controlled Substance (Class 4)

Broomfield faces up to 30 years in prison if convicted on all counts. His bond remains set in the amount of \$300,000.

6. Michael A. Benning (9/25/01)

- a. Armed Violence (Class X; 15-30 years in prison)
- b. Unlawful Possession of a Weapon by Street Gang Member (Class 2)
- c. Possession of a Stolen Firearm (Class 2)
- d. Aggravated Unlawful Use of a Weapon (Class 4)
- e. Unlawful Possession of a Firearm While in Bond (Class 4)
- f. Possession of a Weapon – No FOID (ineligible) (Class 3)
- g. Possession of a Controlled Substance (Class 4)

Benning faces up to 30 years in prison if convicted on all counts. His bond remains set in the amount of \$200,000.

Sangamon County State's Attorney, Dan Wright, stated "My office will continue to fight alongside the men and women of law enforcement to combat gun violence in our community. These charges reflect the tireless and proactive efforts of the Springfield Police Department to get firearms off of our streets and out of the hands of gang members."

All of the above individuals were arraigned this morning and remain in the custody of the Sangamon County Jail. Each is scheduled to appear in court for a preliminary hearing on April 15, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The public is reminded that criminal charges are only allegations and all individuals charged are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.