



COUNTY OF FRESNO

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Multiple Defendants Charged with Various Firearm Related Offenses

The Fresno County District Attorney's Office has filed charges against Isaiah Pirtle (23, of Chowchilla), Joseph Hunter (19, Fresno), and Vonkell Damar Holmes (21, of Sacramento) for conspiring to commit firearms trafficking and other firearm related charges that occurred between on or about April 9, 2023, through May 16, 2023.

The Felony Complaint filed in the Superior Court alleges that Isaiah Pirtle committed:

- One (1) Count of CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT FIREARMS TRAFFICKING [Penal Code §182(a)(1)]
- One (1) Count of POSSESSION OF A FIREARM BY A FELON [Penal Code §29800(a)(1)]
- One (1) Count of POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION BY A FELON [Penal Code §30305(a)(1)]

The Felony Complaint filed in the Superior Court alleges that Joseph Hunter committed:

- One (1) Count of CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT FIREARMS TRAFFICKING [Penal Code §182(a)(1)]
- One (1) Count of POSSESSION OF AN ASSAULT WEAPON [Penal Code §30605(a)]

The Felony Complaint filed in the Superior Court alleges that Vonkell Damar Holmes committed:

- One (1) Count of POSSESSION OF A FIREARM BY A FELON [Penal Code §29800(a)(1)]
- One (1) Count of POSSESSION OF AN ASSAULT WEAPON [Penal Code §30605(a)]

Defendant Pirtle is alleged to have suffered prior serious or violent felony conviction (Prior Strike) [Penal Code §667(b)-(i)].

If convicted of the charges and allegations, Pirtle faces a maximum sentence of eight years and eight months. If convicted of the charges and allegations, Hunter faces a maximum sentence of three years and eight months. If convicted of the charges and allegations, Holmes faces a maximum sentence of three years and eight months.

Following an investigation by the Central Valley Gun Crime Task Force, and after the completion of multiple search warrants, Pirtle and Hunter were arrested on May 26, 2023, and booked into the Fresno County Jail. Defendant Holmes is still remains at large. The arraignment for the two defendants in custody is scheduled for June 1, 2023, at 8:30 AM in Department 33 of the Fresno County Superior Court.

[23-14777]