



CITY OF FORT WAYNE

SHARON TUCKER, MAYOR

Police Department • Paul Smith, Police Chief

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MEDIA FACT SHEET

Date: April 23, 2026 – July 17, 2026

Location: Southgate Shopping Plaza

Time: 5:00 AM

Details/Summary:

Between April 23 and July 17, 2026, detectives with the Fort Wayne Police Department's Property Crimes Investigative Support Division investigated a series of burglaries in and around the Southgate Shopping Plaza.

Investigators believed the burglaries were committed by the same individual, who repeatedly targeted businesses in the area while taking steps to conceal his identity. These efforts made it difficult for detectives to identify the suspect.

The Fort Wayne Police Department's Street Crimes Unit assisted with the investigation and conducted surveillance in the area. During the early morning hours of July 17, Street Crimes detectives observed an individual matching the suspect's description walking through the Southgate Shopping Plaza area and appearing to scout potential burglary targets.

Detectives detained the individual and identified him as 20-year-old David Lee Arrington Jr. During a subsequent interview, Arrington admitted his involvement in the burglaries.

Arrington was arrested and preliminarily charged with 11 counts of burglary.

Suspect Arrested #1: David Lee Arrington Jr., 20 years old, Fort Wayne, IN

Preliminary Charges: Level 5 Felony Burglary (11 counts)

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