



DARIEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE
RELEASE DATE: October 1

September 23

Possession of Controlled Substance

At 9:38 p.m. on September 23, 2026, officers were dispatched to the 7400 block of Richmond Avenue in reference to a suspicious person. Upon arrival, officers located the subject later identified as Joshua McKinley, 35, of the 700 block of Lafayette Street, LaSalle. During the interaction with McKinley, officers located a white powdery substance on his person believed to be a controlled substance. McKinley was subsequently arrested and transported to the Darien Police Department for processing and charged with possession of methamphetamine. McKinley was then transported to the DuPage County Jail.



September 24

Domestic Battery

At 5:55 p.m., officers were dispatched to the Darien Police Department in reference to a domestic battery report. Upon arrival, the officers spoke with the complainant, who advised what had occurred. Donald Cernok, 77, of the 2100 block of Cottage Lane, Darien, was transported to the Darien Police Department and processed and charged with two counts of domestic battery. Cernok was then transported to the DuPage County Jail.



Unlawful Possession of Cannabis

At 3:30 a.m., an officer in the area of Cass Avenue and 75th Street observed a vehicle parked in the corner of the parking lot at Lace Elementary School, 7414 Cass Avenue. When approaching the vehicle, the strong smell of raw cannabis was noticed. Kevin Barajas, 24, of the 200 block of Haller Avenue, Romeoville was issued a citation for unlawful possession of cannabis by driver and given a mandatory court date of October 25, 2026 at the DuPage County Judicial Center.

Warrant

At 10:13 a.m. officers were dispatched to the Darien Police Department, 1710 Plainfield Road in reference to a subject turning himself in on an active failure to appear bench warrant from DuPage County for a citation from Naperville. Jakari Stevens, 29, of the 7000 block of North Gateway, Downers Grove, was released on a pre-trial with a new court date of November 26, 2026 at the DuPage County Judicial Center.

Warrant

At 8:53 p.m. officers were dispatched to the 1100 block of Willow Lane for a warrant service for a subject who had a failure to appear warrant that needed assistance. Jason Sharma, 27, of the 1100 block of Willow Lane, Willowbrook, was transported to the DuPage County Jail.

September 25 to September 30

No reports to release.