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For Immediate Release

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Highland Park Man Charged in Escape from Police Custody

Prosecutor Kym Worthy has charged David Johnathan Soward, 29, of Highland Park, in connection with escaping from the custody of Highland Park police officers.

On December 12, 2024, at approximately 6:06 p.m., at the Highland Park Police Department in the 14100 block of Woodward Avenue, it is alleged that Defendant Soward physically assaulted an officer while being escorted from his cell. It is then alleged that Defendant Soward disarmed the officer of his taser and deployed it towards the officer. The taser struck the officer in the leg, but did not take effect. When officers outside of the jail area gave commands for the defendant to surrender, it is alleged that Defendant Soward refused and pointed the taser at another inmate. Officers made entry into the jail area and deployed their tasers, allowing them to detain Defendant Soward.

David Johnathan Soward has been charged with Escape from Jail Through Violence, Disarming a Peace Officer, Resisting and Obstructing a Police Officer – Causing Injury, Possession of a Taser, two counts of Felonious Assault, and two counts of Resisting and Obstructing a Police Officer.*

He was arraigned in the afternoon on December 16, 2024, in 30th District Court and given a \$50,000 cash/surety bond. The Probable Cause Conference is scheduled for December 23, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., via Zoom before Judge Brigitte Officer Holley. Please request a photograph of the defendant from the Highland Park Police Department.

*The charges are allegations and defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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