

Shreveport Police Dept.



Date: March 22, 2021
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Contact: Cpl. Glen Eckard, Public Information Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Man wanted in connection with shooting involving child



Joseph Lee Smith

Shreveport Police is asking the public's help in locating a man believed to be wanted in connection with a child being shot earlier today. On March 20, 2021, just after noon, Shreveport Police responded to the 4900 block of Monkhouse Drive at the Super 8 motel relative to a shooting. Officers located a 5-year old who had sustained a single gunshot injury to the head. Also injured was the child's mother who was grazed by a gunshot. The child was immediately transported to Ochsner LSU Health with life-threatening injuries. The mother was transported to Willis Knighton North for a minor injury and later released.

Violent Crimes and Crime Scene investigators responded to the scene and began their investigation. Detectives interviewed multiple witnesses, collected evidence and surveillance. Investigators were able to determine that Joseph Lee Smith (07/25/87) and another adult male engaged in an altercation while in the Super 8 parking lot. Joseph Smith produced a firearm and fired a shot towards the male. The gunshot traveled into a nearby hotel room and struck both the mother and the child. Investigators have procured an arrest warrant charging Joseph Lee Smith with one count of Second Degree Cruelty to a Juvenile. This is a no-bond warrant. The child remains in critical condition. If convicted, Lee faces a maximum of forty years in prison.

Police are asking anyone with information about Joseph Lee Smith's whereabouts to contact Shreveport Police immediately at 318-673-7300 #3 or 318-673-6955. Those wishing to remain anonymous are asked to call Caddo-Shreveport Crime Stoppers at 318-673-7373 or via their app, P3Tips. Smith should be considered armed and dangerous.