

Shooting witness, accused of evidence tampering, to go to trial

By RYAN SMITH
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A Jefferson City man charged with hiding a car from police in the investigation of the Winfred Kidd shooting was bound over to face trial in circuit court following a preliminary hearing Monday.

Brandon Purvis, 23, is charged with the class D felony of tampering with physical evidence and is scheduled to appear in Division II at 9 a.m. on Nov. 8.

Police say Purvis witnessed the Aug. 28 incident at West Gate Lanes, 2017 Christy Lane, and saw shooter Jeffrey Abbott flee the scene in Purvis's maroon 1998 Chrysler Concorde.

Purvis told police that he met with Abbott

about an hour later at 312 Fulkerson St. to retrieve the car, and then drove to an apartment complex in Holts Summit with two unidentified females in an attempt to conceal the car from police.

The car was found the next day by Callaway County police and Purvis, Abbott, and James Mahaney, another passenger of the car during the shooting, turned themselves in to police.

According to a testimony by Det. Lee Tubbesing, Purvis told him "I can't believe you found (the car), that's why I put it there."

Purvis was also a self-professed gang member of the "Street Hustlers" according to police, the same gang Abbott is in and a rival gang to the "East Block Boys," which Kidd

belonged to.

Police have previously stated the confrontation didn't have anything to do with gangs.

No charges have yet to be filed against Abbott, who was certified as an adult last month and released from jail.

Prosecutor Bill Tackett said his office "is working extremely hard on this case."

"We've spent a lot of time talking to witnesses and we're looking at gunshot residue in the car," said Tackett.

"Given the nature of this case, we're trying to dot all of our I's and cross all of our T's and we are patiently developing this case the way we always do with a case of this nature."

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