Police charge middle-aged man linked to shooting on Feb. 25, 2020

Byline: Man charged with multiple counts of weapons-related offences involving a shooting yesterday morning on Florence Street.

By Brendan McWilliam

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London police have placed several charges linked to assault and weapon possession on Craig Bradley Chapman, 39, following his arrest in the investigation of a shooting that occurred shortly after midnight on Florence St. on Feb. 25, 2020.

Around 1:15 a.m. on Feb. 25th, London Police received a 9-1-1 call from a citizen who claimed he had heard gunshots near Florence St. and Kellogg Lane.

Several people living on Florence St. woke up to the sounds of multiple gunshots, and when police arrived, one was assaulted and a suspect fled, but was picked up shortly after carrying a loaded firearm.

A man suffering from several gunshot related injuries had attended the hospital but was treated and released shortly after. Police continued to investigate the circumstances surrounding this incident.

“It was a very scary and unpleasant experience,” said Marianna, who has lived in the area for several years and currently lives on Florence St. “I had never experienced something like this before. I just couldn’t get back to sleep.”

Marianna was awoken by the sound of several fired shots, which also woke up her six-month-old baby. She looked out her window and saw two men running down the street and a red car leaving the area.

Christina Favalaro, another resident in the area, was also awakened by gunshots. She immediately went to check on her two girls, ages 5 and 7. “I was terrified,” she said. “I pulled them from their beds because they were right next to the window.”

Several residents described the home where the shooting happened as a trouble spot, and many claimed the address was 1071½ Florence St., and that police were always there.

“That is the one house that is always making noise, where there’s always trouble and police are there a lot,” said Favalaro.

It is unconfirmed as to whether or not the shooter and the man who was shot knew each other or if either one lived in the house.

Chapman was charged with several offences under the *Criminal Code of Canada* and the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*, including possession of a restricted firearm without a license, possession of a Schedule 1 substance, and assault with intent to resist arrest. His next court appearance is Feb. 28, 2020.

“Right now, officers continue to investigate,” stated Const. Sandasha Bough, a spokesperson with the London Police. “We are looking for any additional information, so if anybody has any information, give us a call.”

Anyone with information concerning this incident is asked to call the London Police Service at (519) 661-5670 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Information can also be sent in on-line anonymously to www.londoncrimestoppers.co