

Crescent City teen facing attempted murder charges

December 10, 2021



Nineteen-year-old Gage Rowen Brassfield was arrested Dec. 4 and is facing several charges, including attempted murder, after he allegedly tried to pick the lock of a home that was occupied by a woman and at least one small child.

According to Crescent City Police Chief Richard Griffin, the incident occurred at a residence located on the 500 block of Pacific Avenue at about 6:45 pm.

“He went over to a residence with a loaded AR 15 pistol and attempted to gain entry,” Griffin said. “He could not gain entry and the subject (intended victim) ended up not being home.”

According to Griffin and comments posted on Facebook by the alleged victim, Brassfield attempted to pick the lock of the front door, then circled the house and tried to climb through a window. The woman inside the home noticed that Brassfield had a weapon.

According to Griffin, Sgt. Anthony Lopez located the weapon in a bush shortly after Brassfield's arrest. Griffin said that police responded to the incident almost immediately, and were able to arrest Brassfield without incident.

The charges against Brassfield include attempted assault with a deadly weapon; carrying a loaded firearm in public; possession of an assault weapon; exhibiting a deadly weapon and second degree attempted murder. In California, two elements must be met in order to be convicted of attempted murder: the defendant must take at least one direct, but ineffective step toward killing another person and there must be specific intent to kill that person.

When asked whether Brassfield stated after his arrest that he intended to kill the alleged victim, Griffin responded to the Triplicate, "We went on the intent as going over to the residence with a loaded firearm and trying to get into the front door and windows after the subject as the next step toward committing that felony."

Griffin added that officers with the Crescent City Police Department are working to track down who may have supplied the firearm to Brassfield. "We do believe someone else supplied it to him," Griffin said. The dispute between Brassfield and the intended victim may be long-standing.

"It appears to be something that stemmed from an Internet dispute between the group that led to a physical altercation at Walmart possibly a year or two ago, and a grudge has been held since then," Griffin said. The alleged victim posted several messages on Facebook after Brassfield's arrest, including an expletive-laden statement that ended with "...since I beat both they ass in Walmart."

In another Facebook post, the alleged victim briefly held a weapon to his own head and stated: "I'm just gonna address this one time. The fact that y'all had the nerve to pull up to my place of residence where I live, where my family stays, where they supposed to be safe. You all put away guns and lookin' for me tryin' to take away my life when y'all know damn well you had just seen me and I had left for work. My girl cut the lights so y'all try to break in the crib and (expletive) do whatever you gonna do and try to take my life. Put my family at risk. You all stupid knowin' damn well I been stayin' strapped. I ain't never not stayed strapped. You lucky my girl didn't blow your (expletive) back when you opened the window and she seen you with a (expletive)."