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September 27, 2019

Wallace Joseph Moreland receives 126 month prison sentence for NE Portland shooting, robbery

Today, Multnomah County District Attorney Rod Underhill announced 40-year-old Wallace Joseph Moreland received a 126 month prison sentence after he pulled out a handgun while committing a robbery on a TriMet MAX train and then attempted to shoot his former girlfriend in the legs.

On August 19, 2019, Moreland pleaded guilty to two counts of robbery in the first degree with a firearm and one count of unlawful use of a weapon constituting domestic violence.

By pleading guilty, Moreland admits that on March 30, 2019, while in the course of committing theft, he used a weapon and threatened the immediate use of physical force in an attempt to unlawfully take property belonging to another person and on that same day he carried, with intent, and unlawfully used a firearm against a third person.

This investigation started when Portland Police and Transit Division Police responded to reports of a person armed with a gun on a MAX train. Police learned the man, later identified as Moreland, was threatening passengers and pointed the gun at multiple people.

Officers contacted a woman who told them that she was on MAX with another woman and that while they were about to take a photo, they observed Moreland with the firearm. Moreland directed his attention towards them and threatened to shoot both of them while he attempted to take \$20 and a purse belonging to one of the women.

By the time police arrived, Moreland had fled the area.

Several hours later, police responded to reports of a shooting in the 2600 block of Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. When officers arrived, they contacted a woman who told them that a man, later identified as Moreland, began yelling at her, pulled out a handgun and started shooting towards her legs. At the time, Moreland and the woman were in a romantic relationship and were living together. The woman told police that she was scared and believed that Moreland could have killed her.

Police located Moreland on scene and took him into custody.

During the investigation police determined that Moreland was the same person involved in the disturbance and robbery that happened on board the MAX in the Lloyd neighborhood.

This case was litigated by Multnomah County Deputy District Attorney Nicole Bockelman and the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit.

The primary responsibility of the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit is to prosecute felony and misdemeanor domestic violence cases. The DV Unit is also responsible for screening, issuing, negotiating, and prosecuting allegations of contempt of court for violations of a Family Abuse Prevention Act (FAPA) restraining order.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Unit is committed to ending family abuse. The unit engages in evidence-based prosecution of domestic violence. It emphasizes the importance of victim advocacy services for all victims and their children. Even when the prosecutor decides to proceed with a case without a victim's participation, every effort is made to offer the victim advocacy services from available resources.

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Office recognizes the Portland Police Bureau and Transit Division Police for their dedicated efforts investigating this case.

Resources:

- [Multnomah County District Attorney's Office: Victim Assistance Program](#): 503-988-3222
- [Call to Safety](#): 1-888-235-5333
- [The Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services](#): 503-988-6400