



POLICE DEPARTMENT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 16, 2021

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[Man arrested for firing gun at protest](#)

Salem, Ore. — Just after 9 p.m. on April 15, 2021, a group of approximately 20 protesters advocating for police abolishment gathered in front of the Salem Police station to chalk the sidewalks in front of the building.

While the protest was taking place a man, later identified as Larry McFarland, age 75 of Keizer, drove up to the sidewalk, stepped out of the vehicle armed with a shotgun and approached the group. [He fired one round into the air](#) and pointed the firearm at the crowd. Fortunately, no one was injured.

As these protests have become a regular occurrence in recent weeks, officers were monitoring the protest from a distance, so as not to incite the demonstration further. When officers saw McFarland, they called for more units and yelled for him to drop the weapon. He refused, got into his truck and left the area. Responding officers located McFarland a few blocks north of the police station and conducted a high-risk traffic stop. He was taken into custody and returned to the police station where detectives had been called in to assist with the investigation.

McFarland was charged with the following:

- Menacing, two counts
- Unlawful use of a weapon

McFarland was transported and lodged at the Marion County Correctional Facility.

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