



**Schenectady Police Department**  
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 Wayne E. Bennett – Public Safety Commissioner  
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***NEWS RELEASE***

**Subject: Shots Fired near 501 State St**

**Date/Time: 27 March 2016/0700**

The Schenectady Police Department has made three arrests following a shots fired call near 501 State St, the Citizen’s Bank. Officers responded to a reported fight outside of Nico’s Pizza, located at 441 State St, at approximately 2:22 am, this date. As the crowd was dispersing a second fight broke out on Barrett St, near the rear lot of Citizen’s Bank. Two of the combatants, Ronald N. Diggs, age 25, and Ramell G. Steward, age 29, both of Schenectady, produced handguns and began to shoot at a third party, endangering a large crowd and the police officers who were within feet of the incident.

Steward was taken into custody after a short foot pursuit. Diggs was located a short distance from the scene and was taken into custody without incident. The two guns used in the commission of the crime where recovered. Steward has been charged with:

- One count of **Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup>**, a felony
- One count of **Menacing 2<sup>nd</sup>**, a misdemeanor
- One count of **Obstructing Governmental Administration 2<sup>nd</sup>**, a misdemeanor
- One count of **Resisting Arrest**, a misdemeanor.

Diggs was charged with:

- One count of **Criminal Possession of a Weapon 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

A third individual, Damien Bethea, age 24, of Rotterdam was also arrested and charged with:

- One count of **Obstructing Governmental Administration 2<sup>nd</sup>**, a misdemeanor
- One count of **Resisting Arrest**, a misdemeanor.

All three of the defendants are currently being held in the city lockup and will be arraigned this morning by the sitting judge. One member of the Schenectady Police Department, Sgt. J. Moore, injured his ankle during the incident. There were no other reported injuries.

The Schenectady Police Department would like to thank the Rotterdam PD, NYSP, Guilderland PD, Schenectady County Sheriff’s Department and the UCC for their assistance.

There are no further details.

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