

<http://wgntv.com/2016/11/26/canadian-national-railroad-security-officer-shot/>

## **Manhunt continues for man who shot, killed railroad security officer in Harvey**

POSTED 9:56 PM, NOVEMBER 26, 2016, BY [COURTNEY GOUSMAN](#), [MELISSA BERMAN](#) AND [RANDI BELISOMO](#), UPDATED AT 07:16AM, NOVEMBER 28, 2016

HARVEY, Ill. - The manhunt continues for a man considered armed and dangerous, after he shot and killed a railroad security officer in the South suburbs.

According to his family, 38-year-old Tyrone Hardin of Merriville, Indiana was working one of his two armed security jobs at Canadian National's Markham rail yard yesterday when he was alerted to an intruder. Hardin went to investigate and encountered the armed suspect. There was an altercation, and Hardin was shot.

It all started around 4 p.m. Saturday afternoon in Harvey, when the would- be shooter stole a woman's car from a gas station at 159th and Halsted. That woman managed to trail the suspect in another car while on the phone with dispatchers. Police think the man got nervous when he heard their sirens closing in, and crashed into a viaduct at 159th and Park. He then got out and ran away on top of the viaduct toward the rail yard, where he encountered Hardin. Police believe there were at least eight to nine shots fired, and Hardin's family said he was hit twice.

The shooter took off in Hardin's security car, and eventually ditched it at 171st and Park in East Hazel Crest, and continued fleeing on foot. Police warn residents of Hazel Crest, East Hazel Crest and Markham to be on vigilant and report anything suspicious.

"I can not confirm or even deny whether the suspect was injured in any magnitude, but I will say, we collected a lot of data. We've looked at all the surveillance tapes in the area and we're continuing to do that to help find any little thing that can help take us further down the road," said Harvey Spokesperson Sean Howard.

Hardin was taken to Advocate South Suburban Hospital where he was pronounced dead. He's being remembered as a hardworking husband and father of six.

CN Railway Police, Illinois State Police, East Hazel Crest Police, Hazel Crest Police and Markham Police are assisting the Harvey Police Department. Police in the south suburbs are now urging the gunman to come forward to turn himself in.

"He just needs to be caught and brought to justice," said Hardin's stepson, Jawaun Thurston.

Hardin was not an employee of the rail yard, but a contracted security officer. In a statement, CN Railway said:

Multiple police agencies continue to investigate the shooting death of a security officer who was tragically killed Saturday evening while on duty at the CN railroad yard in Harvey. The guard worked with a private security firm that assists CN Police. We would like to express our sincere condolences on this tragic loss to the guard's family, friends and co-workers.

<http://chicago.suntimes.com/news/he-assured-me-it-wasnt-dangerous-security-guards-wife-says/>

[Chicago News](#) 11/27/2016, 03:49pm

## **‘He assured me it wasn’t dangerous,’ security guard’s wife says**



Tyrone Hardin was working a second job as a security guard for a railroad company Saturday to earn enough money to provide a nice Christmas for his family.

“He assured me it wasn’t dangerous,” said his wife, Gwinette Oliver. “He said the worst thing is ‘I might get chewed up by one of the coyotes that come up there.’”

She agreed, as long he did not work overnight shifts.

But on Saturday, Hardin, 38, of Merrillville, Ind., was [shot and killed while working in a Canadian National Railway yard in Harvey](#) — where he crossed paths with a gunman who’d just crashed a car that he’d stolen minutes earlier.

The incident began after 4 p.m. when a woman called police in Harvey after she saw a man steal her car from a gas station at 159th and Halsted. She was able to get in another car and follow the man while speaking with police, who joined the pursuit, said Harvey city spokesman Sean Howard.

After hearing sirens and realizing he was being followed, the man crashed near 159th Street and Park and ran up a rocky incline of a nearby railroad viaduct where he encountered Hardin in his vehicle, according to Howard and Canadian National spokesman Patrick Waldron.

The man fatally shot Hardin in the abdomen and stole his truck, Howard said. The truck was later found abandoned in the 100 block of 171st Street in East Hazel Crest. Hardin was pronounced dead at 6:25 p.m. at South Suburban Hospital.

At a Sunday news conference, Howard pleaded with the gunman, who is presumed armed and dangerous, to surrender.

“Please turn yourself in. Let’s do it peacefully. We don’t want anything challenging right now. Enough people have been hurt. . . . There’s no way you’re going to get away with this.”

Howard described the suspect as an African-American male of medium build and medium height, who wore a black sweatshirt with blue jeans.

“We’ve got some outstanding leads,” Howard said, adding that detectives have been aided by surveillance video.

As the manhunt continued, Hardin’s wife was left in a state of disbelief.

“Oh my God. This is not real,” Oliver, 40, said through tears Sunday. “It’s just not real at all.”

Hardin had a 5-year-old son with Oliver and was stepfather to her four other children. He also had a son from a previous marriage.

“I just want whatever person who did this to come forward because they done messed up everybody’s life. Now you have children growing up without a father, and a wife who’s too young to have to do this.”

Hardin’s regular job, she said, was working as a security guard in the subdivision community in Merrillville where the couple lived.

Hardin worked infrequently for the railroad company, she said.

“He always texted me before he took an assignment to ask if I’d feel comfortable with it,” she said.

“He didn’t think it was a dangerous. He was doing this for the extra money so we could give these kids a good Christmas.”

Oliver said police told her that the gunman hopped a gate into the rail yard and set off a security alarm, which drew the attention of her husband, who was on patrol in a truck nearby.

Waldron said Hardin worked for a security company that was contracted by Canadian National to assist railroad police in the yard in Harvey where he was killed.

“We would like to express our sincere condolences on this tragic loss to the guard’s family, friends and co-workers,” Waldron said in a statement issued Sunday afternoon.

Hardin was a caring father and husband, Oliver said.

“He was a good father to all my children in every way: birthdays, Christmas. He went to school functions if I had to work. He’d say, ‘Baby, don’t worry about it. I got it.’”

“He was just a wonderful person. He was funny. He was upbeat. He was caring.”

Stepdaughter Sharell Oliver, 26, said: “Even though he came into our lives late. He was there for us. ... He still called me and gave me advice if I was going through something.”

Tamara Huzzie, a friend, said she spoke with Hardin two days ago.

“He said he spent Thanksgiving at his brother’s house in Oswego and had a ball,” Huzzie said. “He was young and doing his job, and I hope there can be a little justice for him.”

Hardin was a ham radio enthusiast who grew up on the far South Side and attended Carver Military Academy, Oliver said.

Oliver, who provides care to adults with mental disabilities, worked overtime on top of her overnight shift Saturday.

“I didn’t get a chance to see him Saturday morning like I usually do,” she said.

In one of their last conversations, she added: “We talked about going Christmas shopping.”

<http://wgntv.com/2016/12/04/suspect-captured-in-harvey-slaying/>

## **Suspect in fatal shooting of Harvey security guard captured after week on the run**

Posted 9:55 PM, December 4, 2016, by [Associated Press](#) and [Courtney Gousman](#), Updated at 12:51PM, December 5, 2016

HARVEY, Ill. — Police say they've captured a man wanted in the fatal shooting of a security guard at a Canadian National Railway facility in suburban Chicago.

Harvey police said during a news conference that 24-year-old Rashad Williams of East Hazel Crest, Illinois, was spotted in Chicago Heights and arrested Sunday night.

Harvey deputy police chief Gregory Thomas credited the public with Williams' arrest, saying tips provided a general location. He says Chicago Heights police helped with surveillance footage.

Undercover officers grabbed Williams Sunday, while he was coming out of a grocery store. Police say Williams was armed and told officers "I am prepared for a shootout!" and "No jail cell is going to keep me down."

Police say on November 26th, Williams went on a crime spree that began when he stole a woman's car from a Harvey gas station then crashing the car in a viaduct.

He took off running and encountered 38-year-old Tyrone Hardin of Merrillville, Indiana, a contracted security guard for the Canadian National Railway. Williams allegedly killed Hardin, a father of six, then took his security vehicle.

Surveillance video captured most of Williams crime spree and a first-degree murder warrant was issued.

On Saturday, the Harvey Police Department offered a reward for information leading to an arrest. They say the tips came flooding in. It was one of those tips that led police to Williams Sunday night.

Tyrone Hardin's family says they are relieved a suspect is in custody. Hardin's family plans to have his funeral Saturday, December 10th.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/daily-southtown/news/ct-sta-harvey-funeral-st-1210-20161210-story.html>

## **Community remembers slain security guard as joyful, humble family man**

December 10, 2016

A community and a family said goodbye this weekend to a Canadian National Railroad security guard who was slain on the job last month during an exchange of gunfire.

Tyrone Hardin was buried Saturday at Homewood Memorial Gardens following a tearful and emotional funeral in Harvey.

Hardin, of Merrillville, Ind., was shot to death while working as a contracted security guard on Canadian National property in the 15800 block of West Avenue in Harvey.

The 38-year-old father's funeral at Harvey Church of Christ was attended by friends, family, city of Harvey officials, and members of several law enforcement agencies, including from Harvey, Canadian National, Chicago and the Cook County sheriff's office.

Hardin was remembered as a joyful and humble man who worked two jobs as a security guard to support the family he loved.

"He took me in. He was there for every birthday. He taught me how to read, write, everything," said Joseph Hardin, one of Tyrone Hardin's five stepsons.

Earlier this week, a Cook County judge denied bail for 24-year-old Rashad Williams, who is charged with first-degree murder in Hardin's slaying on Nov. 26 and with attempted murder involving a second railroad employee.

Harvey officers were pursuing Williams for allegedly driving a stolen car when he entered the railroad property and encountered Tyrone, prosecutors said.



Gwin Hardin, wife of slain security guard Tyrone Hardin, receives a donated Christmas tree before her husband's funeral. (Nick Swedberg / Daily Southtown)

Cook County deputies dragged Williams out of court as he shouted about being innocent during the Dec. 7 bond court appearance.

Williams also faces a charge of possession of a firearm as a felon in connection with shooting incidents, prosecutors said. In addition, he is charged with one count of aggravated vehicle hijacking from an incident two weeks earlier.

Prosecutors said Williams, who has addresses in East Hazel Crest and Park Forest, has prior convictions for gun crimes and was on parole for a 2014 conviction when he shot Hardin.

Williams was arrested Dec. 3 in Chicago Heights, police said. Officers recovered a loaded 9mm gun on him allegedly connected to Hardin's shooting, prosecutors said.

"He should not have even been out on the streets," said Debra Hardin, one of Tyrone Hardin's sisters.

Debra Hardin blamed the government for the death of her brother and said politicians need to be held accountable for the continuing violence.

A GoFundMe page has been established to help the family, city of Harvey spokesman Sean Howard said during the service. Gideon's 300 Security Services, the Hazel Crest-based company

that employed Tyrone Hardin as a contractor, also is donating money to the family to cover funeral and burial costs.



[Slain railway guard remembered as 'true professional'; suspect still at large](#)

"I don't want this family to walk out of here with a debt, because he not only gave his life for the security service, but he also gave his life for the general public," Howard said.

Howard said Hardin's biological son, Tyrone Hardin Jr., who wants to be a police officer when he grows up, was named an honorary member of the Harvey Police Department.

Before the services, Early Walker from W&W Towing donated a Christmas tree and decorations to the Hardin family.

"We were talking about getting a real tree and decorating it, and that's what he (Tyrone) wanted to do for the kids," said Tyrone Hardin's wife, Gwin Hardin. "Words can't express."

*Nick Swedberg is a freelance reporter for the Daily Southtown.*

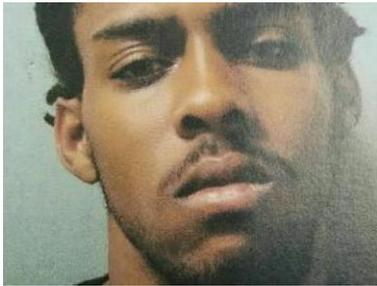
Copyright © 2017, [Daily Southtown](#)

<http://patch.com/illinois/homewood-flossmoor/suspect-arrested-fatal-shooting-railroad-security-guard>

## Harvey Murder Suspect was 'Ready for a Shootout' with Police

Rashad Williams, 24, has been apprehended after dodging authorities for a week.

By [Lauren Traut \(Patch Staff\)](#) - December 5, 2016 2:48 pm ET



HARVEY, IL — Police have arrested a suspect in the fatal shooting of a Canadian National railroad security guard last week. Rashad Williams, 24, of East Hazel Crest, was [arrested late Sunday](#), ABC7 reports. Williams is suspected of shooting Tyrone Hardin, 38, the night of Nov. 26.

Williams was arrested in Chicago Heights, where police had received a tip of someone resembling the suspect's description. Officers surveilled the area and spotted Williams carrying grocery bags near 114th Street and East End Avenue.

Williams allegedly told police that he was armed "prepared for a shootout with them," but [he was not able to pull a gun before his arrest](#), Chicago Tribune reports.

Hardin was on the job as security guard for Canadian National railway when he encountered Williams fleeing from police. Williams had reportedly stolen a car, later crashing it while being pursued by authorities. He then fled on to Canadian Railroad property, tripping an alarm. Hardin—a contracted security guard with Gideon 300 Security Services—was shot in the abdomen as he responded to the alarm. He died later that night.

Hardin, who was married to 40-year-old Gwinette Oliver, had been working as a security guard as a second job, to earn extra money for buying his children Christmas presents. Hardin was father to one 5-year-old son with Oliver, and [stepfather to her four other children](#), ABC7 reports. He also had a son from a previous marriage.

Williams stole Hardin's car, fled police, and eluded authorities for days.

*Photo: Rashad Williams, 24*

<http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2016/12/28/slain-security-guards-5-year-old-son-sworn-in-as-honorary-harvey-cop/>

## **Slain Security Guard's 5-Year-Old Son Sworn In As Honorary Harvey Cop**

*December 28, 2016 1:00 PM*

**CHICAGO (CBS)** — A month after his father was shot and killed while working as a security guard at a south suburban railyard, 5-year-old Tyrone Hardin Jr. joined Harvey police as an honorary officer.

Tyrone was sworn in as an honorary officer at the Harvey police station on Wednesday.

“Officer Hardin will be placed in the patrol division, and go on active duty,” Harvey Police Chief Denard Eaves said.

Tyrone was a little at a loss for words when they pulled a chair up to the podium so he could see over it, but his mother, Gwinette, said that wasn't the case Tuesday night after finding out he was being made an officer.

“He's been telling his siblings that if they do anything to him, he will lock them up,” she said.

Gwinette said Tyrone was so excited he couldn't sleep Tuesday night.

“He's already expressed that he can't be put on punishment when he's on duty,” she said.

Eaves said police planned to have Tyrone help them with a traffic stop while on patrol.

“There's one area in particular where, hopefully, we can get somebody speeding,” he said.

Tyrone's father, a security guard who worked at the Canadian National Railroad yard in Harvey, was shot and killed last month while on the job.

“We are missing a vital person, but everybody kind of helped ease it a little bit,” Gwinette said.

Tyrone Hardin Sr., 38, was working security at the railyard on Nov. 26, when a man who had allegedly stolen a woman's car crashed near 159th and Park in Harvey and ran into the railyard to get away. The suspect allegedly shot Hardin in the abdomen before stealing Hardin's truck.

The suspect, 24-year-old Rashad Williams, was arrested on Dec. 4, three days after a warrant was issued for his arrest. Williams is being held without bail at Cook County Jail, charged with first-degree murder, attempted murder, and vehicular hijacking.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/suburbs/daily-southtown/news/ct-railroad-guard-slaying-court-hearing-20161207-story.html>

## **Man held in Harvey killing drops to knees in court and shouts, 'I'm an innocent man'**

By Nick SwedbergDaily Southtown

December 7, 2016

A Cook County judge Wednesday denied bail to a felon accused of fatally shooting a Canadian National railroad security guard last month in Harvey.

Rashad Williams, 24, was dragged from Markham bond court after dropping to his knees and shouting, "I'm an innocent man."

Williams is charged with first-degree murder in the death of 38-year-old Tyrone Hardin on Nov. 26. Williams and Hardin "exchanged gunfire" on railroad property in an incident caught on surveillance video, prosecutors said.

Williams also is charged with the attempted murder of another railroad employee and possession of a firearm as a felon in connection with the Nov. 26 incident, prosecutors said.

In addition, Williams faces one count of aggravated vehicle hijacking from an incident two weeks earlier.

Cook County Judge Darron Bowden denied bail in the murder case and set bail at \$250,000 in the earlier carjacking case.

Members of Hardin's family, who were present in court Wednesday, declined to comment after the hearing.

Prosecutors said Williams has three prior convictions for gun crimes, including a 2014 conviction for which he received three years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. He was on parole for the 2014 conviction when the carjacking and shooting happened.



[Man wanted in security guard's killing in Harvey nabbed in Chicago Heights](#)

Williams has addresses in East Hazel Crest and Park Forest, police said.

According to his public defender, Williams has an 8th-grade education. He was employed at a fast-food restaurant prior to his arrest, the defender said.

Police said Williams was arrested Sunday in Chicago Heights as he was carrying bags of groceries outside of a store. A warrant had been issued for his arrest.

Chicago Heights police had stopped a member of Williams' family earlier on Sunday and determined Williams was hiding out in that city, officials said.

Police recovered a loaded 9mm handgun that is allegedly connected to Hardin's shooting, prosecutors said.

Hardin, of Merrillville, Ind., was working as a contracted security guard on Canadian National property in the 15800 block of West Avenue, authorities said. He was killed as Williams tried to avoid Harvey police, who were pursuing him for allegedly driving a stolen car, authorities said.

Prosecutors said Hardin on Nov. 9 stole a 1978 Chevy Malibu that was parked at a gas station near 159th and Halsted streets in Harvey while the driver was filling one of the tires with air.



[Slain railway guard remembered as 'true professional'; suspect still at large](#)

The car owner spotted Williams in the vehicle on Nov. 26, near 147th and Halsted, prosecutors said.

"That victim followed the defendant while contacting the Harvey police," said Assistant State's Attorney Patrick Driscoll.

Harvey police were pursuing that stolen vehicle when it crashed into a viaduct near 159th Street and Park Avenue, prosecutors said. The driver got out and ran onto the nearby Canadian National railroad property.

Williams exchanged gunfire with Hardin, hitting him several times, prosecutors said. Williams then got into Hardin's security truck and drove further into the rail yard.

Prosecutors said Williams came in contact and fired several shots at a second Canadian National employee, striking that employee's vehicle several times, before abandoning the security truck. That employee was not harmed.

Physical evidence left at the scene tied Williams to the incident, prosecutors said.

After shooting Hardin, Williams jump on a southbound railroad car, police said. Near 171st Street, he jumped from the car and ran away from authorities.

Williams is scheduled to return to court Dec. 28.

*Nick Swedberg is a freelance reporter.*