

## 4-year-old Marion boy critically wounded in drive-by shooting

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Special to the News Journal

MARION — Authorities say tips from the public have given them some definite leads in the case of a drive-by shooting Thursday morning that left a 4-year-old boy in critical condition.

"We've gotten several tips from the community today," said Maj. Bill Collins with the Marion Police Department. "We've definitely been able to narrow the suspect pool down to a few rather than over 20."

Collins was reluctant, however, to release details of a meeting held Thursday afternoon between officials from the police department, the Marion County Sheriff's Office and the MARMET/METRICH Drug Task Force.

The meeting was scheduled in order to form a cooperative agreement to determine the parties responsible for four recent shooting incidents in Marion County, which police have said are connected and drug-related.

The shooting, the most recent in a string of four drive-by incidents in this area, took place on the city's northeast side early Thursday morning. At 12:51 a.m. Thursday, police responded to a 9-1-1 call from 364 Patten St. for the report of a boy who had been shot in the head.

Police say 4-year-old Ricardo Glover Jr. was watching television with relatives in the living room when a bullet traveled through the walls of the home and struck the boy in the back of the head. Glover was transported to Marion General Hospital and flown by medical helicopter to Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus.

Glover was listed in critical condition as of 5 p.m. Thursday, a hospital spokeswoman said. Police reported later Thursday night that his condition remained the same, but no updates were available from the hospital.

Police believe Thursday's shooting is connected with a shooting on North Main Street Dec. 30 and shootings on West Center Street and Oak Street early Sunday morning. One person, identified as Samuel Glover, was wounded in the arm during one of the Sunday morning incidents.

No arrests have been made in any of the incidents and authorities are asking members of the community to come forward with any information that could help their investigation by calling 740-387-2525. Callers may remain anonymous.

**Article published in the News Journal on Jan 11, 2008**