



City of Arts & Innovation

PRESS RELEASE

Police Department
SERGIO G. DIAZ
Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 1, 2018

CONTACT:

Officer Ryan J. Railsback
Public Information Officer
Community Services Bureau
railsback@riversideca.gov
(951) 373-6032 (Media Contact)

ATTEMPTED CARJACKING AND ROBBERY INVESTIGATION LEADS TO ARRESTS

RIVERSIDE, CA – On Sunday, March 25, 2018, Riverside Police Officers responded to a call of a robbery in the area of Palm Avenue and Sierra Street, located in the Magnolia Center neighborhood of Riverside. The adult victims reported they were confronted by a group of males asking for money. One victim fled and escaped after a suspect reached for the victim's pocket. The second victim was physically attacked and struck with a metal pipe before his property was forcibly taken from him. The suspects fled prior to the officers arriving.

The Riverside Police Department's Robbery – Homicide Unit was assigned the case for follow-up investigation. With the help from a RPD School Resource Officer, Detectives were able to identify these suspects.

During the investigation, it was learned one of the adult suspects had committed a separate attempted carjacking and robbery where a gun was alleged to have been used. Detectives also discovered a third battery and theft investigation with a juvenile victim was linked to this same group of suspects.

Last week on Monday, April 23, 2018, and with the assistance from the METRO Team (SWAT), School Resource Officers, and Gang Intelligence Unit, Detectives served search warrants at two locations, along with a probation search at a third one related to this

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investigation. Two juvenile and two adult suspects were located and detained. Homemade weapons described by the victims were located during the searches. These weapons were metal pipes wrapped with tape. The vehicle used in these crimes was also located and seized as evidence.

Gregory Michael Lee, 20-years-old of San Bernardino, and Nile Blackston-Jefferson, 20-years-old of Riverside, were arrested for attempted carjacking, attempted robbery, and conspiracy to commit a crime. They were booked into the Robert Presley Detention Center. The two juveniles, ages 15 and 17, were arrested for robbery and attempted robbery, and later booked into the Riverside County Juvenile Hall. A fifth suspect was arrested and charged with illegal possession of ammunition, not related to the robbery investigation.

Detectives are still looking for an additional suspect involved in this investigation, depicted in the attached photo. If anyone has information regarding this investigation, please DIRECTLY contact Detective Brett Stennett at (951) 353-7213 or bstennett@riversideca.gov. Those wishing to remain anonymous can email rpdtips@riversideca.gov or utilize the Riverside Police Department's mobile app "Submit at Tip" feature while referencing incident number P180074324.



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