Convenience Store Robbery Pattern

On February 7th, 2013 we release a video of an armed robbery to the Kenwood Citgo Gas Station located at 900 34th Street North. Since that time two other convenience store robberies have taken place which detectives believe are the work of the same two suspects.

These last robberies took place on February 11th with the first taking place at the Chevron Station located at 5405 Dr. ML King St North at about 9:50 p.m.

In that case the two suspects entered the store with their faces covered and confronted the cashier. One of the suspects was armed with a handgun and pointed it at the victim. Both suspects then went behind the counter and opened the two cash register drawers. When leaving, the armed suspect also took the cashier’s cell phone.

About 15 minutes later the same two suspects committed a robbery to the KR Food Store at 2835 16 Street North.

In that case the first suspect entered the store alone. When the second suspect entered the store, he pointed a gun at the cashier while a customer was still standing at the counter and demanded money from the register. The first suspect then came up from behind the customer, reached over the counter and retrieved the money from the register after which both suspects fled from the store.

Since there is no usable video footage from the last two robberies, detectives are asking the media to re-release the video of the Kenwood Citgo Station robbery in the hopes that it will generate tips as to the suspects’ identities. That video has a particularly good image of one of the suspects unmasked and easily identifiable.

Anyone who might recognize these two suspects or have information concerning the robberies is asked to call Detective Wallace Pavelski at 727-893-4823. Callers may also utilize 727-893-7780 or the TIP line at 727-892-5000.

Information released by Mike Puetz, 727-893-7550, michael.puetz@stpete.org

Media release of Thu Feb 07, 2013********************

Detectives Release Video in Robbery Investigation

On Tuesday, February 5th 2013 at approximately 10:00 p.m., an armed robbery occurred at the Kenwood Citgo Gas Station located at 900 34th Street North.
During that time two suspects, both black males in their late teens to early twenties, entered the store trying to conceal their identities.

One suspect armed with a semi-automatic handgun reached over the counter and threatened the clerk while the second suspect moved around the counter and took cash, loose change and lottery tickets.

Both suspects then fled the store and no getaway vehicle was seen.

A particularly good likeness of the second unarmed suspect was obtained from the store surveillance camera. He is wearing a dark blue hooded sweatshirt with what appears to be the words “Pinellas Park” appearing in white lettering on the front.

Anyone who might recognize these two subjects or have information concerning the robbery is asked to call Detective Reginald Mitchell at 727-893-4204. Callers may also utilize 727-893-7780 or the TIP line at 727-892-5000.

Information released by Mike Puetz, 727-893-7550, michael.puetz@stpete.org

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