For Immediate Release
Mar 18, 2013

Update re. Carjacking and Wells Fargo Bank Robbery

Detectives have released the video from robbery of the Wells Fargo Bank last Friday. The video may be viewed at the St. Petersburg Police Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Petersburg-Police-Department/295810422769

Detectives believe that this is the second bank robbery this suspect has committed.

On January 26th, 2013 the same suspect robbed that same Wells Fargo branch at about 1:55 in the afternoon. In that incident the suspect was dressed in a light blue hooded sweatshirt and had his face covered.

There are indications that robbery was preceded by a carjacking as in this most recent incident, but no vehicle was ever seen in that case.

Detectives are asking anyone with information about the robberies or the carjacking to call Detective Reginald Mitchell at 727-893-4204, the police non-emergency line at 727-893-7780 or leave a confidential tip at 727-892-5000.

Previous Release of Fri, Mar 15, 2013 15:50 pm

We are currently investigation a carjacking in which it appears the same suspect used the victim’s vehicle to commit a bank robbery nearby.

At about 1:45 p.m. this afternoon we responded to Jo Ann's Fabrics at 2500 66 Street North regarding a reported carjacking.

The female victim reported that she was confronted in the parking lot by a lone male suspect who produced a handgun and demanded her car.

The suspect took the victim’s car, a 2010 dark gray Toyota Camry 4 door, and drove out of the parking lot and was last seen heading south bound on 66th Street.

The victim was uninjured.

Approximately 10 minutes later, we received a bank robbery alarm at the Wells Fargo Bank located 3131 66th Street North.

It was confirmed that a lone masked male suspect had entered the bank, armed with a handgun, and demanded money
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from the tellers.

Again, no one was injured, but the suspect apparently left in the scene in same vehicle taken from the victim in the carjacking at Jo Ann’s Fabrics 10 minutes earlier.

The carjacking victim’s car was recovered a few blocks from the bank and it appears the suspect abandon it and was either picked up or had another vehicle waiting for him.

The suspect is described as a black male, late teens to early twenties, 6'0” to 6'3”, 220 lbs, wearing a blue hooded sweatshirt, blue jeans and carrying a backpack.

We are working on obtaining video from the bank which we will release when available.

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

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