



NEWS RELEASE

RIVER FOREST POLICE DEPARTMENT

James O'Shea – Chief of Police

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Public Information Officer:

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-For Immediate Release-

River Forest Police Investigate an Attempt Robbery Event and Arrest Juvenile Offenders Responsible for Unrelated Theft and Robbery Incidents

RIVER FOREST, IL Officers responded to an Attempt Armed Robbery in the area of Chicago Ave. and Franklin at 9:10 pm Tuesday evening. The victim reported that an armed offender described as 40-50 years-old, 502-505 tall, medium build, brown eyes, wearing a light colored hoody and mask approached her and demanded a specific piece of jewelry. After the victim yelled at the offender and threw her purse down, the offender fled eastbound on Chicago Ave. No loss of property was sustained. Officers from several communities, including a K-9 from the North Riverside Police responded to the area and conducted yard to yard searches. It is believed the offender fled in an awaiting vehicle. Prior to the incident, the victim had been shopping in a nearby community. It is believed she may have been specifically targeted and possibly followed to her residence. The River Forest Police Department's Detective Unit is actively investigating the event.

In a separate set of incidents, two (2) juvenile offenders, ages 14 and 15, were arrested by River Forest officers after being involved with the Theft of a purse from Walgreens and a Robbery, which occurred in the area of Monroe and Oak, Tuesday evening. Both the purse and the proceeds from the Robbery were recovered by responding officers. Both juvenile offenders were petitioned to Juvenile Court and were transferred to the Juvenile Detention Center in Chicago. In these incidents, one victim was a senior citizen and the other victim was a juvenile. The juvenile offenders are believed to have been involved in several other crimes in area communities.

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"We commend the victims on how they handled themselves during these terrifying events, including calling 911. Please remember to always be aware of your surroundings, stay alert, and call 911 to report any crimes or suspicious activity." – Chief James O'Shea

The River Forest Police Department's next Crime Prevention Meeting is set for July 24, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the River Forest Library. Victim safety and other crime prevention strategies will be discussed.

RIVER FOREST POLICE CASE #19-01010, 01011, & 01012

The public is reminded that a signed complaint is not evidence of guilt, and that all defendants in a criminal case are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in a court of law.