

CRIME ALERT

Robberies near E. Lake Street in Longfellow

July 17, 2009

Facts:

From July 12 through 13, there were four robberies in Sector 4 of the 3rd Precinct. Two involved carjackings. These are the incidents:

- About 2:30 a.m. on July 12, a Hispanic man was carjacked while sitting in his vehicle on the west side of 27th Ave., just south of E. Lake St. He said two Hispanic males jumped into his vehicle. One pulled a knife and told him to drive toward a nearby parking lot. The other man had a handgun. The suspects took his wallet and cell phones, and forced him out of the car. The victim described them as 24-25 years old, and 5'6"-5'8" tall. One wore dark pants and shirt and a BB cap.
- Shortly before 1 a.m. on July 13, a man and woman were standing in a parking lot behind a building on the 3000 block of E. Lake St. Three males walked towards them. One suspect grabbed the woman's purse; another knocked her companion to the ground and took his wallet. The suspects went south in the alley between 30th and 31st Aves. One suspect was described as a black male, 15-17 years old, about 5' 8", and of medium build and dark complexion, with a goatee. He wore black running pants with white stripes. The second was a black male of dark complexion, 20-25 years of age, 6' 2" - 6' 3", shaved hairstyle, wearing dark clothes. The third was a stocky black male, 20-25 years old, 6' 2", with dark complexion and dreadlocks. He wore a white t-shirt and dark blue jeans, and possibly held a black gun.
- At 1:30 a.m. on July 13, a Hispanic woman and two Hispanic male friends were carjacked near 29th St. and 28th Ave. S. They had just gotten into the woman's SUV when two males approached them. The suspects pulled guns, told them not to make any noise, and to get out of the vehicle. The men jumped in and were last seen driving east on 29th St. and then northbound. Both suspects were 5' 2" - 5' 5", of light build and complexion, and 23-25 years of age. They wore dark hooded sweatshirts and dark pants, and spoke fluent Spanish.
- About 10 p.m. July 13, a man was robbed on E. Lake St. near 31st Ave. S. by two unknown Hispanic men in their mid-20s. One asked the victim for a cigarette and punched him in his side. The other held an unknown object to the back of the victim's head and took his money. One suspect was approximately 5' 9", medium build, with short black hair and a tear-drop tattoo on his face. He wore a long white t-shirt and baggy blue jeans. The other suspect was 5' 11", stocky, with black medium-length straight hair and a goatee. He wore a blue shirt with a spray-paint design and black baggy jeans.

Third Precinct officers are continuing their investigations and have developed some very good leads on suspects. Patrol officers are on the alert in the area.

What you can do:

Increase your use of good crime prevention techniques: awareness, alertness and avoidance. When walking:

- *Be aware of your surroundings.*
- Be especially alert to any activity near you.
- Be alert to people loitering near your parking area.
- Avoid secluded, poorly-lit areas at night.
- Plan and use the safest and most direct routes. Look confident and purposeful.
- Carry your keys and money in a pocket, not in a purse or wallet.
- Walk with a friend if possible, particularly at night.
- You do not have to respond when someone asks you for directions, the time, money, a cigarette, etc.

If you have any questions, please contact Lt. Arthur Knight, 612-673-5788.

If you need this material in an alternative format, please contact the Minneapolis Police Department at 612-673-2912.

