



# NEWS RELEASE

*Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police*

**February 28, 2011**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SUBJECT: Arrest Made in Blockbuster Video Robbery**

On February 28, 2011, John W. Austin Sr., a 59 year old male, was arrested for the February 15, 2011 Robbery of the Blockbuster Video store located at 260 College Square Shopping Center. (Please see original press release attached below).

As the investigation began, it was discovered that one day after the robbery a vehicle was reported stolen from the parking lot of 330 East Main Street. This vehicle matched the description of the getaway car in this robbery. From video obtained in the shopping center, a relative of the vehicle theft victim, (John Austin), became a suspect. Witnesses to the robbery then identified Austin.

Austin was arraigned through Justice of the Peace Court #2 and given \$67,000 cash only bail on the Newark robbery charges listed below. Austin was also wanted on several court capiases and received a total of \$117,000 cash only and \$5000 secured bond on all matters. Austin was committed to the Howard Young Correctional Facility in lieu of bail.

**Defendant:** John W. Austin Sr., (DOB 12-29-51)  
330 East Main Street Apt. 423  
Newark, DE 19711

**Charges:** Robbery 1<sup>st</sup> Degree  
Possession of a Deadly Weapon During the Commission of a Felony  
Wearing a Disguise During the Commission of a Felony  
Theft of a Motor Vehicle

Photograph of defendant attached to email.

**\*Original Press Release Below\***

*The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.*

**Media Contact: M/Cpl. Gerald J. Bryda, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 129  
or [gerald.bryda @cj.state.de.us](mailto:gerald.bryda@cj.state.de.us)**



# PRESS RELEASE, Continued

**\*ORIGINAL PRESS RELEASE\***

*February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUBJECT: Robbery of Blockbuster Video**

The Newark Police Department is investigating a robbery that occurred on 2/15/11 at 9:25pm at the Blockbuster Video located at 260 College Square, College Square Shopping Center. In this incident, the suspect entered the store and displayed a small silver metal rod in a threatening manner. He then demanded cash from a store employee. After receiving an undisclosed amount of cash the suspect then fled the store, entered a vehicle (described below) and was last seen fleeing the shopping center towards Marrows Road.

The suspect is described as a 50-60 year old white male 5'4" to 5'6" with a medium build, green eyes and a goatee. He was described as wearing a black winter hat, green jacket, blue jeans and black gloves.

The vehicle is described as an older model dark grey 4 door vehicle.

Photographs of the suspect are attached.

Anyone with additional information about this incident should contact Cpl. Dan Marsilii at 302-366-7110 ext. 454 or [daniel.marsilii@cj.state.de.us](mailto:daniel.marsilii@cj.state.de.us). You can send an anonymous text message tip by texting 302NPD and your message to TIP411. Information can also be provided anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at [www.tipsubmit.com](http://www.tipsubmit.com) where a reward may be available.

*The Newark Police Department affirms that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.*

Media Contact: M/Cpl. Gerald J. Bryda, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 129 or [gerald.bryda@cj.state.de.us](mailto:gerald.bryda@cj.state.de.us)

