



NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police



PRESS RELEASE

August 17th, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Man Arrested for Attempted Robbery with BB Gun

The Newark Police Department has arrested a 21 year old Newark man for an attempted robbery which occurred today at approximately 12:15pm in the alley adjacent to 54 East Main Street. Just prior to the attempted robbery Newark Police received a 911 call by a passerby who reported a man, later identified as defendant Michael Berwick, was possibly armed with a handgun. It was determined that while this passerby was reporting this incident, Berwick committed a robbery.

The robbery victim, who is an acquaintance of Berwick reported that Berwick approached him on East Main Street and told him that he wanted to show him something and asked him to come into an alley. The victim, a 21 year old Newark man, followed and once in the alley, Berwick displayed what appeared to be a handgun, and then demanded that the victim hand over his wallet, hat and sunglasses. A scuffle ensued and the defendant then fled eastbound on East Main Street, unsuccessful in his robbery attempt.

A responding officer, who was unaware that Berwick had just committed an attempted robbery, observed Berwick who matched the initial callers description, fleeing eastbound on East Main Street. The officer ordered Berwick to stop, however, he ignored the officer's commands and continued to flee. A second responding officer then observed Berwick throw, what was later determined to be a BB handgun into a garbage can. Berwick then stopped running and was taken into custody without incident.

After Berwick was detained by officers they were then approached by the victim who reported the robbery.

Berwick was arrested on the below charges and committed to Howard Young Correctional in lieu of \$26,500 secured bail.

The victim was uninjured during the incident.

(Continued)



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Victim: 21 year old Male
Newark, DE

Defendant: Michael S. Berwick DOB 5/16/90
125 Aspen Drive
Newark, DE 19702

Charges: Attempted Robbery 1st Degree
Possession of a Deadly Weapon During Commission of a Felony
Carrying a Concealed Deadly Weapon
Resisting Arrest
Aggravated Menacing

Anyone with additional information about this incident should contact Detective Greg D'Elia at 302-366-7110 ext. 132 or greg.delia@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 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: Lt. Mark A. Farrall, Public Information Officer, 302-366-7110 ext 125 or mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us.

