



NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

November 14th, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject: Newark Police Investigate Attempted Sexual Assault

The Newark Police Department is currently investigating an attempted sexual assault which occurred on November 13th at approximately 9pm in a field adjacent to the James F. Hall Trail in Phillips Park. At that time officers were dispatched to an address on Apple Road where they met with a 30 year old female victim.

The victim, who is new to the area, reported that she walked from her residence to the 7-11 on Elkton Road. After exiting the store she was confused on how to get back to her residence and while standing in front of the store was approached by the suspect who initiated conversation with her. The suspect then offered to show her the way back to her residence. The victim then walked with the suspect until the two ended up on the James F. Hall Trail adjacent to Phillips Park.

The victim became suspicious of the male at this time and turned around to leave. When she turned to leave the male grabbed her and knocked her to the ground where he proceeded to attempt to remove her clothing. The victim was able to fight off the male suspect and fled on foot to a residence on Apple Road where she reported the incident to the homeowner. The victim sustained minor neck and back pain but refused medical treatment. Newark Police and a K-9 team from UDPD checked the area for the suspect, however, he was not located.

The suspect is described as a black male in his early 30's with a medium complexion and pudgy round face. He is approximately 6' tall, 250lbs, with short spiky dread locks or braids described as 3" in length. He is further described as having a bumpy complexion on his face and reported his name as "Nicco" or "Rick." The suspect was wearing a black fleece coat, black pants and black shoes. No further information is available at this time.

Anyone with additional information about this investigation should contact Det. Gregory Delia 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.