



# NEWS RELEASE

*Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police*

July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUBJECT: Crime Stoppers Tip Leads to Robbery Arrests**

Following a tip from Delaware Crime Stoppers, 40 year old Christopher M. Schmidt of Wilmington and 24 year old Tavius A. Alexander of Bear have been arrested by the Newark Police for the July 10<sup>th</sup> Robbery of the Cigarette City located in College Square Shopping Center.

As a result of the Crime Stoppers tip, Newark Police officers located and arrested Alexander on July 12<sup>th</sup> at approximately 5:00pm as he exited the Christina Mall. A subsequent joint investigation by the Newark Police and Delaware State Police have also linked Schmidt and Alexander to the July 9<sup>th</sup> Attempted Robbery of the Super Dry Cleaners on Pulaski Highway and the July 9<sup>th</sup> Robbery of the Holiday Hair Salon in Eden Square Shopping Center.

Following the July 12<sup>th</sup> arrest of Alexander, investigators were able to determine the whereabouts of Schmidt, and on July 13<sup>th</sup> officers from Newark PD and the Delaware State Police, with assistance from UDPD and Newport PD, executed a search warrant at a home in the 200 block of North Augustine Street in Newport, locating Schmidt inside that residence.

(Continued)

*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](mailto:mark.farrall@cj.state.de.us).



# PRESS RELEASE, Continued

Charges and Defendant information are as follows:

**Defendant 1: Tavius A. Alexander DOB: 03/10/1988**  
408 Christina Meadows  
Bear, DE

**Charges:** Robbery 1<sup>st</sup> (Cigarette City) (NPD)  
Conspiracy 2<sup>nd</sup> (Cigarette City) (NPD)  
Attempted Robbery 1<sup>st</sup> (Super Dry Cleaners) (DSP)  
Wearing Disguise During Commission of a Felony (Super Dry Cleaners) (DSP)  
Robbery 1<sup>st</sup> (2 Counts – Holiday Hair) (DSP)  
Wearing Disguise During Commission of a Felony (Holiday Hair) (DSP)

**Committed to Howard R. Young Correctional in Lieu of \$115,000 secured bail.**

**Defendant 2: Christopher M. Schmidt DOB: 08/27/1971**  
201 North Augustine Street  
Wilmington, DE

**Charges:** Robbery 1<sup>st</sup> (Cigarette City) (NPD)  
Wearing Disguise During Commission of a Felony (Cigarette City) (NPD)  
Conspiracy 2<sup>nd</sup> (Cigarette City) (NPD)  
Attempted Robbery 1<sup>st</sup> (Super Dry Cleaners) (DSP)  
Conspiracy 2<sup>nd</sup> (Super Dry Cleaners) (DSP)  
Robbery 1<sup>st</sup> (2cts - Holiday Hair) (DSP)  
Conspiracy 2<sup>nd</sup> (Holiday Hair) (DSP)

**Committed to Howard R. Young Correctional in Lieu \$106,400 secured bail.**

Anyone with additional information on this incident should contact Detective Greg D'Elia at (302) 366-7110 x 132 or [greg.delia@cj.state.de.us](mailto: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](http://www.tipsubmit.com) where a reward may be available.

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# NEWS RELEASE

*Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police*

July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUBJECT: Cigarette City Robbed - Police Seek Public's Help Identifying Suspect**

The Newark Police Department is investigating an armed robbery which occurred on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at approximately 5:30pm at the Cigarette City located in College Square Shopping Center. During this incident a white male suspect entered the store, displayed a black handgun and demanded cash from the 20 year old female store clerk. After receiving an undisclosed amount of currency the suspect fled the store in an unknown direction. The clerk was not injured.

The suspect is described as a white male approximately 5'8"-5'10" tall with a medium build and dirty blond or brown hair. The suspect was wearing a white short sleeved t-shirt with the word "tapout" on the front, dark colored shorts, a brown baseball hat, sunglasses, white ankle length socks and dark colored sneakers.

Investigators believe that prior to the robbery, the above described suspect had contact with an unknown white male who had been in the store prior to the robbery. This subject is described as a white male with a "chin strap" beard wearing a black baseball hat and dark colored short sleeve shirt.

Still photos of the suspect and the unknown white male are attached with this press release. Investigators are seeking the public's help to identify both the suspect who committed the robbery and the unknown male in the store prior to the robbery.

Surveillance video is not available at this time.

Anyone with additional information on this incident should contact Detective Greg D'Elia at (302) 366-7110 x 132 or [greg.delia@cj.state.de.us](mailto: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](http://www.tipsubmit.com) where a reward may be available.

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