



NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

August 30th, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Joint Investigation Leads to Apprehension of Commercial Burglar

Through a joint investigation involving multiple police agencies, Norman E. Barnes of Elkton, Maryland was taken into custody early this morning at a motel in Elkton, Maryland.

Newark PD investigated a string of commercial burglaries in the Suburban Plaza Shopping Center on August 23rd involving the burglary of six businesses and the attempted burglary of three additional locations. Two nights later, Newark PD investigated an additional burglary of a jewelry store, also in Suburban Plaza. Through surveillance video from the August 23rd burglaries, NPD Detectives determined that the suspect was same individual involved in a May 20th burglary of the Applebee's restaurant, also in Suburban Plaza. NPD Detectives suspected that the individual was probably responsible for additional burglaries in other jurisdictions and released still images and surveillance video of the suspect to surrounding police agencies. Following the release of this information NPD was contacted by multiple police agencies who believed the suspect may be responsible for burglaries in their jurisdictions. Upon receiving the disseminated information, a detective from the Elkton Police Department identified Norman E. Barnes as a possible suspect based on his physical description.

NPD detectives positively identified Barnes as the suspect captured in surveillance video and obtained warrants for his arrest. NPD detectives began searching for Barnes and learned that he was currently homeless but was believed to still be in the area. As Barnes was known to be homeless, officers from the NPD Street Crimes Unit began checking area motels for Barnes and located his vehicle shortly after midnight on August 30th in the parking lot of a motel located on Elkton Road in Maryland. NPD contacted Elkton PD for assistance and together they took Barnes into custody without incident. Barnes was found in possession of items linking him to the burglaries including burglary tools.

Barnes was turned over to the Cecil County Sheriff's Office who have charged him with two burglaries in their jurisdiction. He is currently in custody at the Cecil County Detention in lieu of \$50,000 bond.

(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.



PRESS RELEASE, Continued

Upon his release from Cecil County, Barnes will be charged by Newark Police Department with 28 criminal charges involving the burglaries of eight commercial businesses and the attempted burglaries of three additional businesses.

A copy of surveillance video from the August 23rd burglary and the Applebee's burglary on May 20th, can be retrieved using the City of Newark Video Drop Box by visiting the following website: <http://newark.de.us/VideoBox/>

Suspect: Norman E. Barnes DOB (08/24/63)
Homeless / Previously of Elkton Maryland

Pending Newark PD Charges:
8cts Burglary 3rd
3cts Attempted Burglary 3rd
2cts Theft over \$1500
4cts Theft under \$1500
11cts Criminal Mischief Under \$1000

Additional police agencies including the Delaware State Police, New Castle City Police, Perryville MD Police, and the Bethel Township (Delaware County PA) Police are investigating similar burglaries to those involving Barnes in Suburban Plaza. Questions regarding burglaries in these jurisdictions should be referred to the following PIO's:

Delaware State Police: Sgt. Paul Shavack (302) 659-2349 or (302) 841-2553
New Castle City PD: Lt. Adam Brams (302) 322-9800
Perryville, MD PD: Detective Robert Nitz (410) 642-3725
Bethel, PA PD: Chief John Slowik (610) 558-0929
Cecil County Sheriff's: Lt. Michael Holmes (410) 392-2109
Elkton MD PD: Captain Matt Donnelly (410) 398-4200 x 15

Anyone with additional information regarding these burglaries is asked to contact Det. 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.

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