



NEWS RELEASE

Paul M. Tiernan, Chief of Police

October 22nd, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Two Edgewood Maryland Men Arrested for Unlawful Sexual Contact

Newark Police have arrested 19 year old Anthony Battle and Desmond C. Romeo, both of Edgewood, Maryland, for multiple offenses following an incident on October 21st, 2012 at approximately 1:00am on East Cleveland Avenue.

This incident began as two 21 year old females, who were walking on the sidewalk on East Cleveland Avenue, attempted to pass through a group of males standing on either side of the sidewalk. As they passed through the group, both were slapped on the buttocks by males in the group. Five additional females, ages 18 to 20 years old, then passed through and were also slapped on the buttocks by the males. One of the females, a 20 year old, from Clayton, DE confronted the males and upon doing so, was pushed to the street by Romeo. When this female attempted to call 911, a subject later identified as Battle took her cell phone and threw it, preventing her from completing the call. When the 20 year old female was pushed to the ground, her 18 year old female also confronted the group. She was then grabbed around the neck by a subject later identified as Romeo, who lifted her off of the ground before throwing her into nearby bushes. A 19 year old male attempted to intervene and was knocked to the ground by an unknown person in the group.

During this altercation, several calls were placed to NPD and responding officers detained six males who were attempting to leave the scene in different directions. Witnesses on scene were able to positively identify Battle and Romeo who were charged with multiple counts as listed below.

The 20 year old female thrown to the street sustained minor abrasions to her back. The 18 year old female lifted up by her neck and thrown into the bushes sustained neck and back pain. The 19 year old male who was thrown to the ground sustained abrasions to his arm. All three declined medical treatment. Five of the eight victims are current UD students. One is a former UD student and two are not students. Neither Battle, Romeo, nor the other four males detained were UD students.

Battle and Romeo were both committed to Howard R. Young Correctional in Lieu of Bail.

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

Defendant 1: Anthony J. Battle (DOB 7/5/1993)
505 Molly Court
Edgewood, MD 21040

Charges: 1ct Robbery 2nd
3cts Unlawful Sexual Contact 3rd
1ct Malicious Interference with Emergency Communications

Battle was committed to Howard R. Young Correctional in lieu of \$9,200 bail.

Defendant 2: Desmond C. Romeo (DOB 5/22/1991)
515 Silverside Road
Edgewood, MD 21040

Charges: 1ct Strangulation
2cts Unlawful Sexual Contact 3rd
2cts Offensive Touching

Romeo was committed to Howard R. Young Correctional in lieu of \$8,200 bail.

Anyone with additional information about this incident should contact Det. James Skinner at 302-366-7110 ext. 135 or james.skinner@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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