

ARMED ROBBERY ARRESTS

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Sheriff Newell Normand announces the arrest of three individuals in connection with several robberies related to Boomtown Casino on Peters Road in Harvey.

(First Incident) On February 26, 2008 around 3:30 PM, an 81 year old Harvey male was leaving Boomtown Casino when he was approached by a B/M armed with a dark colored handgun in the parking lot. The suspect ordered the victim to surrender his wallet containing his credit cards and money. The victim complied and the suspect fled.

(Second Incident) On February 29, 2008 around 12:30 AM, a 54 year old Gretna male left the parking lot of Boomtown Casino and proceeded to his residence. The victim reported he believed he was being followed by a dark colored vehicle. As he neared his residence he noticed the vehicle drive past him. As he exited his vehicle in the driveway of his home, the victim reported a B/M approached him armed with a dark colored handgun and demanded his money. The victim complied and the suspect fled.

(Third Incident) On February, 29, 2008 around 10:00 AM, a 72 year old Harvey man arrived at his home after leaving Boomtown Casino. As he exited his vehicle he was approached by a B/M armed with a dark colored handgun. The suspect demanded the victim's money, however, he refused. After a brief struggle, the suspect fled. He was not injured.

Shortly after the third incident, Robbery Detective Sergeant John Carroll received word of credit card activity on the victim from the first incident. Information was that the card was used for purchases at a shoe store in New Orleans.

Sergeant Carroll reviewed the video surveillance from the store and recognized one of the suspects as Michael Jacobs, B/M, 26, of 1824 Constantinople Street in New Orleans. On Friday, March 7, 2008 Sergeant Carroll along with Detective Brett Beavers located Michael Jacobs at his residence in New Orleans. A second person was with Jacobs at his home. He is identified as Joshua Thomas, B/M, 22, of 809 Milan Street in New Orleans. Jacobs confessed to being involved in all three of the aforementioned incidents. Jacobs told Sergeant Carroll he watched all three victims inside of Boomtown Casino cashing in jackpots. Jacobs would contact his accomplices via telephone who were waiting in the parking lot. Jacobs identified the third suspect as, Shawn Martin, B/M, 22, of 1935 Seventh Street in New Orleans.

On March 7, 2008, Robbery Detectives booked both Jacobs and Thomas with 2 counts each of Armed Robbery and one count of Attempted Armed Robbery. An initial effort was made to locate Martin at his home but was unsuccessful. Later in the evening of March 7, 2008, NOPD alerted Sergeant Carroll of Shawn Martin's whereabouts. Martin was subsequently arrested and booked with two counts of Armed Robbery along with one count of Attempted Armed Robbery.

Michael Jacobs has prior arrests for Armed Robbery, Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, Burglary, Resisting Arrest, Domestic Violence, along with other misdemeanor and traffic arrests.

Joshua Thomas has prior arrests for Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Illegal Carrying of a Weapon, Distribution of Crack Cocaine, Resisting Arrest, Injuring a Police Dog, Battery on a Police Officer, Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, Possession of Marijuana along with other misdemeanor and traffic arrests.

Shawn Martin has prior arrests for numerous counts of Possession of Marijuana, Resisting Arrest, Possession of Narcotics, Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, Battery on a Police Office, Contributing to the Delinquency of a Juvenile, Possession of a concealed weapon along with other misdemeanor and traffic arrests.

All three arrestees in these robberies remain in the Jefferson Parish Correction Facility.

Colonel John Fortunato
Public Information Office