



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Incident Location: 1900 Block-Autumn Ridge Dr., Urbana, IL.

Date/Time of Release: 12/17/2023 at 4:05 PM

Date/Time of Incident: 12/17/2023 12:32 PM



ATTEMPTED ROBBERY ARREST – URBANA

Urbana, IL - On Sunday, December 17, 2023, at approximately 12:32 p.m., Urbana law enforcement responded promptly to a reported robbery in the 1900 block of Autumn Ridge Dr. The incident involved a 62-year-old female resident who, upon returning home from two Urbana churches, discovered an intruder hiding in the back of her vehicle.

The victim was physically battered by the offender who demanded money, grabbed her by the arms, throat and tried to cover her mouth as she screamed for help. Despite the distressing situation, the victim's barking dogs acted as a deterrent, prompting the assailant to flee on foot. Responding officers from both the Urbana Police Department and the University of Illinois Police apprehended the offender in a nearby field shortly thereafter. The 15-year-old male suspect was taken into custody and subsequently transported to the Champaign County Juvenile Detention Center.

The same juvenile was arrested by Urbana Police on December 12, 2023, for a separate robbery but was released from the Juvenile Detention Center a few days later without charges. At the time of his arrest, the offender was on parole for a previous robbery. On December 12th, Urbana and U of I police arrested him in connection with a series of three robberies occurring in the Campustown area over a three-day span. The victims in those cases were females walking alone, who were targeted by an assailant(s) who demanded money while grabbing them around the neck.

Urbana Police express gratitude to the University of Illinois Police Department for their collaborative efforts in this case. Additionally, authorities remind citizens to remain vigilant and cautious in order to deter potential criminal activity.

Individuals possessing information or video footage related to the incident are urged to contact Urbana Police at 217-384-2320. Confidential sharing options are available, and anonymous tips can be submitted to Crime Stoppers via phone at 217-373-8477 (TIPS), online at 373tips.com, or through the "P3 Tips" mobile app.

Citizens are reminded that information provided to Crime Stoppers is entirely anonymous, with no caller ID tracking or recorded conversations. Crime Stoppers offers cash rewards of \$5,000 for tips leading to an arrest in any homicide case, \$2,500 for tips resulting in the arrest of a suspect in a firearm-related felony, and up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest of individuals responsible for other crimes.

***ALL SUSPECTS MENTIONED OR IMPLIED ABOVE ARE CONSIDERED INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT OF LAW.**

Contact: Lt. Mike Cervantes, Urbana Police Department, Criminal Investigations Division
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