



PRESS RELEASE

Date: January 5, 2010

Arrest of Suspect in Gay Internet Website-based Robbery leads to Search for Additional Victims

On December 3, 2009, Davis Police responded to the report of a strong arm robbery in which a Davis resident was robbed by a suspect who was invited to his apartment after the two met via a dating website for gay men. After being received into the victim's apartment, the suspect stole the victim's cellular phone, and assaulted him with pepper spray when the victim confronted him. Despite being sprayed in the face by the suspect, the victim gave chase and managed to restrain the suspect in a nearby parking lot, where he again was sprayed in the eyes with pepper spray. The suspect was eventually able to escape into a waiting vehicle and fled the scene.

On December 10, 2009 Davis Police Detectives arrested the suspect, who was identified as Decarlos Joslyn Muhammed, 22 years old from Sacramento.

Detectives assigned to the case believe that Muhammed targeted the victim for robbery because he believed the victim would not report the crime due to the facts surrounding their meeting on a gay-oriented website. It is believed Muhammed actively surfed websites catering to gay men, going so far as to post graphic, sexually explicit ads and claiming to be a massage therapist. Detectives also believe Muhammad would arrange meetings with men he met thru the sites as a ruse to enter their house and steal personal property.

Information gathered during the investigation revealed the Muhammed is suspected in a similar theft from a second victim using an almost identical scam in San Francisco. Detectives suspect there may be additional victims who've been assaulted and/or robbed by Muhammed, that may be hesitant to report the incidents.

The Davis Police Department is actively seeking to meet with anyone who may have had contact with DeCarlos Muhammed via an internet-based social networking site, or has been the victim of a theft or robbery using this scam.

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