



NEWS RELEASE



ALACHUA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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For Immediate Release:

Today's Date: September 29, 2008
Prepared By: Public Information Officer Art Forgey
Release #: 08-158
Report # : 08-10933
Incident Date: September 26, 2008
Incident Time: 10:00 P.M.
Incident Location: Kangaroo Express, 4103 SW 43rd Street, Gainesville, Florida

Grand Theft and Knowingly Making a False Report:

Deputies responded to a 911 call from the clerk at the location reporting that a robbery had just taken place. The clerk stated that a lone black male brandishing a silver-colored handgun came into the location and demanded \$2000 in money orders. The clerk complied with the request, printed the money orders and gave them to the suspect. The clerk was not able to provide a better description, telling responding deputies he had "concentrated on the gun." No one was injured during this event.

An observant 11 year-old witness that was just entering the store with his father was able to provide a description. He was able to provide deputies with the description of not one, but detailed descriptions of three potential suspects leaving the store together.

A former manager of the store recognized the descriptions as possibly an employee that was terminated in July. Deputies responded to 4400 SW Archer Road and located three individuals matching the description provided by the 11 year-old witness. Upon further investigation, deputies learned the clerk had conspired to steal the money orders and no weapon had ever been used. The money orders were recovered in an air conditioning vent at the location.

Arrested and charged with Knowingly Making a False Report and Grand Theft was the store clerk, Christopher T. Cobb, B/M, DOB 10/05/85, of Gainesville.

Also arrested and charged with Grand Theft was Tyrek J. Sims, B/M, DOB 12/22/88, of Gainesville.

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