



HAWTHORNE POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

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HPD DR #10-11797

Suitable For Public Dissemination

Attempted Armed Robbery - Arrest

On Wednesday, July 28, 2010, at about 5:20 PM, Hawthorne police officers responded on a report of an attempted armed robbery of a corn vendor in the 3200 block of 139th Street. The victim informed officers that three men in a white Chevy minivan had tried to rob him. The victim also related that one of the men was armed with a semi-automatic handgun. A witness standing nearby when the incident occurred was able to confirm that one of the suspects was armed with a handgun. A partial license plate on the minivan was provided to police.

At about 6:00 PM, a Hawthorne officer saw a minivan matching the description of the one used in the attempted robbery at Rosecrans and Washington. The partial license plate provided prior matched, so the officer pulled the van over. Four occupants in the van were detained without incident.

The victim of the robbery was located, and transported to the scene where the four subjects were being detained. The victim was able to positively identify the three involved in the robbery attempt. The victim was emphatic that the fourth subject detained, was not present in the van at the time of the robbery attempt, so he was released at the scene. No handgun was located in the van.

In custody on suspicion of attempted robbery:

Johnny Elias, a 22 year old resident of Hawthorne
Travonne Sykes, a 21 year old resident of Hawthorne
A 16 year old male resident of Gardena

The 16 year old suspect was subsequently transported to Eastlake Juvenile Hall.