

News Release

Newport News Police Department
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

CONTACT: Lou Thurston, Public Information Officer
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MAN ARRESTED FOR SERIAL ROBBERIES

Following a relentless investigation by The Newport News Police Department, the Hampton Police Division, the York County Sheriff's Office and the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, an arrest has been made in connection with numerous commercial robberies spanning three jurisdictions dating back to December of 2010.

Detectives believe that the same suspect has been responsible for numerous armed robberies in the three jurisdictions. In early 2011, detectives in Hampton and Newport News realized that a number of robberies in both cities appeared to be very similar and began working together in an effort to identify a suspect. In September and November 2012, York County also experienced robberies that seemed similar to those in Hampton and Newport News and joined the investigative efforts.

About 9:15 P.M. on Thursday, December 27, 2012, Newport News patrol officers from the South Precinct responded to a call of someone possibly stealing items from cars in the area of 16th Street and Garden Drive. Responding officers were given a description of the suspect and a short time later, after a short foot pursuit, took the suspect into custody.

During the investigation into the larcenies from cars officers and detectives became suspicious that the suspect may have been involved in other crimes and focused their attention on the robberies. As a result Ronald Wayne Carr, 38, of the 800 block of 24th Street in Newport News has been charged, in Newport News with fourteen counts of abduction, two counts of attempting to commit a felony, twelve counts of robbery and twenty-eight counts of use of a firearm in commission of a felony. He has also been charged by Hampton detectives with four counts of use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, two counts of burglary while armed, two counts of robbery. Carr is also charged in York County with five counts of abduction, one count of robbery, one count of attempt robbery, two counts of use of a firearm in the commission of a felony two counts of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and one count of grand larceny. Mr. Carr was placed in the custody of the Newport News City Jail.

The investigation into these and other robberies remains ongoing and additional charges may be forthcoming.

A booking photo of Mr. Carr accompanies this release.

A list of the stores Carr is charged with robbing is attached.

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