



CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

Detective Travis Mandell
Public Information Office
(954) 828-5464
TMandell@fortlauderdale.gov

March 2nd, 2011

WACHOVIA BANK
BURGLARY

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department is investigating a burglary that occurred in the early morning hours of March 2nd, 2011, at a Wachovia Bank ATM Drive-through Office in the City of Fort Lauderdale. The Wachovia Bank is located at 4875 North Federal Highway in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

At approximately 5:30 A.M., an off-duty detail officer at Holy Cross Hospital was notified by hospital security that a suspicious black male was observed walking through parking lots with torches and cutting equipment. When the officer attempted to make contact with the black male, in the 4800 block of North Federal Highway, the suspect fled the scene and the officer gave chase. The suspect was able to flee the scene without apprehension, but left behind a torch and other equipment.

At approximately 7:00 A.M., the Fort Lauderdale Fire Department received a call regarding a fire at the Wachovia Bank ATM Drive-through Office, located at 4875 North Federal Highway. The Fort Lauderdale Fire Department was able to extinguish the fire, with minimal damage sustained to the office infrastructure. Inside the office, torches and other welding equipment were located.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that the suspect was able to gain entry into the ATM Office and then attempted to open the money safe by means of a torch. It is unknown at this time if the suspect was able to take any money from the safe.

Investigators are urging anyone with information about the identity of the suspect to contact the Fort Lauderdale Police Department or Detective Hannold at 954-828-5459.

###