



CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

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April 8, 2011

ARMED ROBBERY
SUSPECTS APPREHENDED

*****Walgreen's Surveillance Footage Available for Pick-Up***
Photos of Suspects on Page 2**

On April 7, 2011, the Fort Lauderdale Police Department apprehended two suspects wanted in connection to two armed robberies in the City of Fort Lauderdale. The armed robberies took place at a McDonald's located at 2700 North Federal Highway as well as a Walgreen's at 2355 Northeast 26th Street.

Investigators have identified the suspects as Melissa Ulen, W/F, 2/5/71, and Jason Sheppard, W/M, 2/19/76. Ulen and Sheppard are siblings and have been known to reside in various hotels in the Fort Lauderdale area.

Investigators learned that on April 6, 2011, at approximately 9:30 P.M., Sheppard entered into the Walgreen's located at 2355 Northeast 26th Street and browsed through the store for approximately 30 minutes. Sheppard then approached the front cashier with a basket of items and asked the cashier for a pack of cigarettes. Once the cashier turned around, Sheppard implied he had a gun inside his sweater pocket and demanded cash out of the register. Out of fear for his life, the cashier gave Sheppard an undisclosed amount of cash from the register. Sheppard then fled the scene and eluded initial capture.

The following day, on April 7, 2011, Sheppard and Ulen both entered into the McDonald's at 2700 North Federal Highway at approximately 5:40 A.M. Once inside, Ulen ordered food and then went into the bathroom, while Sheppard approached a McDonald's employee and showed an object believed to be a firearm. Fearing for her life, the employee gave Sheppard the money from the register. Ulen and Sheppard then fled the store together on foot. Both Ulen and Sheppard were located a short time later by patrol units responding to the area and were placed under arrest.

Sheppard has been charged with the following:

- 2 Counts of Robbery with a Firearm
- 1 Count of Possession of Cocaine
- 1 Count of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
- 1 Count of Possession of a Controlled Substance
- 1 Count of Resisting Arrest Without Violence

Ulen has been charged with one count of Robbery with a Firearm.

Anyone with further information about Ulen or Sheppard is encouraged to contact Detective Wood at 954-828-5344, Detective Rivera at 954-828-6355 or Broward County Crime Stoppers at 954-493-TIPS.



Sheppard, Jason
2/19/76

Ulen, Melissa
2/5/71

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