



CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

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**TRIO RESPONSIBLE
FOR MULTIPLE
RESIDENTIAL BURGLARIES**

The Fort Lauderdale Police Department's Property Crimes Unit is investigating multiple residential burglaries that detectives believe have been occurring over the course of approximately nine months. At this time, it appears as though this trio began victimizing residents of the City of Fort Lauderdale in December of 2013 up until their arrest in August of 2014.

These brazen burglars chose residences located in Harbor Isles, Rio Vista, Las Olas Isles, Victoria Park, and Coral Ridge neighborhoods, all located in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Detectives worked countless hours to locate and identify the suspects, and to track down the stolen property from over twenty (20) victims. Many of these victims are over the age of sixty-five years old.

This lengthy investigation led detectives to the following suspects;

- Paul Lambert, W/M, 2/1/56, unknown place of residence
- Janay DiVonche Martin, B/F, 5/3/90, a City of Fort Lauderdale resident
- Demetrius Elliot, B/M, 11/20/74, a City of Fort Lauderdale resident

On August 10th, Lambert, Martin and Elliot were all arrested and charged with one count of burglary of an unoccupied dwelling (unarmed). Additionally, Lambert was charged with one count of possession of burglary tools for his involvement in a residential burglary in the Victoria Park neighborhood. That victim, whose identification is protected and will not be released, resided in the 400 block of North Victoria Park Road in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Through the course of this investigation, detectives learned that Elliot was also responsible for an armed home invasion robbery that was committed in the Rio Vista neighborhood. This incident occurred on July 19, 2014 at approximately 4:47 P.M. in the 600 block of North Rio Vista Boulevard in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Elliot approached the victim, pointed a firearm at his head and while falsely identifying himself as a Deputy with the Broward County Sheriff's Office, advised the

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14-040558, 14-077232

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victim that he was “under arrest” and handcuffed him. The victim was then ordered into his residence where Elliot repeatedly struck the victim while demanding his valuables.

Elliot and his unknown accomplice stole numerous pieces of jewelry, credit cards and US Currency before fleeing from the residence, leaving the victim handcuffed in the living room.

On August 18th, Elliot was charged with the following;

- (1) Count of Home Invasion Robbery (with a firearm)
- (1) Count of Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon
- (1) Count of Kidnapping

Although this investigation remains active and ongoing, detectives have charged Lambert and Elliott with an additional (20) twenty counts of burglary of an unoccupied dwelling (unarmed).

The above suspects are subject to further charges pending the outcome of this investigation.

Detectives are actively pursuing all leads to identify additional suspects involved in these burglaries.

Anyone with further information regarding these burglaries should contact Detective Leann Swisher at 954-828-4007 or the Broward County Crime Stoppers at 954-493-8477(TIPS).

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