



FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS RELEASE

Detective Ali Adamson | Office of the Chief | 954-828-6433 | aadamson@flpd.gov

September 4, 2024

FLPD INVESTIGATING ATTEMPTED ARMED KIDNAPPING

UPDATE 9.4.24: Through extensive investigative means, the Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) and the Broward Sheriff's Office have jointly identified the suspect involved in the attempted armed kidnapping that occurred on Thursday, August 29th. He is identified as Rondel Joseph McDonald, B/M, DOB 10/20/1997.

McDonald was located and arrested jointly by our Rapid Offender Control Unit, our Fugitive Unit, and the Broward Sheriff's Office's (BSO) VIPER unit on September 3rd. McDonald was charged with one count of attempted armed kidnapping.

McDonald was additionally charged for the attempted armed kidnapping that occurred in BSO's jurisdiction on August 29th as well as for an armed kidnapping and sexual battery that occurred in FLPD's jurisdiction on September 3rd. Please see the associated news releases for further information and details on those incidents.



(photo of Rondel McDonald)

ORIGINAL 8.31.24: The Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) is investigating an attempted armed kidnapping that occurred on Thursday, August 29th, at approximately 8:22 a.m. This incident occurred in the 1600 block of SW 5th Place, in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Preliminary investigation into this incident revealed the victim, a 17-year-old female, was walking to school in the 1600 block of SW 5th Place when an unknown male suspect drove up to her. The male then called out to her to get her attention and attempted to lure her into his vehicle at gunpoint. The victim repeatedly told the suspect that she had to go to school before the suspect fled northbound on Riverside Drive.

The suspect is described as a light skinned, Black or Hispanic, male between the ages of 20 to 25, with short curly hair. The suspect was driving a gray four door sedan, possibly a Nissan, with dark

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missing front passenger side hub cap. A still image of the involved vehicle is included below as well as the composite sketch of the suspect.

FLPD is aware that the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) is investigating a similar incident that occurred on the same day as our incident. Detectives from both agencies have been in communication and, at this time, believe the two incidents may be related. Both agencies continue to investigate all leads and possibilities while they work to determine if there is a connection between the two incidents and if the suspect is the same.

Detectives are asking for anyone with information about this incident or who may recognize the suspect in the sketch to contact Detective Erica Payne at 954-828-6487. Information can additionally be provided anonymously by contacting Broward County Crime Stoppers at 954-493-TIPS (8477).



(photo of suspect vehicle)



(photo of suspect vehicle)



(composite sketch of suspect)

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