National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week

Delaware– The Delaware State Police (DSP) is proud to recognize and honor its public safety communication personnel during National Public Safety Telecommunications Operators Week. The Delaware State Police Communications Section consists of three 911 Public Safety Answering Points (dispatch centers), which are located in each of the three Delaware counties and Headquarters Communications in Dover. Every year in April, since 1994, a week is set aside as National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week to recognize and honor the men and women working the many Communication Centers Nationwide.

The personnel assigned to the DSP Communication Section have dedicated their careers to providing superior services to those who are in need for law enforcement assistance. They are responsible for answering and responding to 911 calls, dispatching law enforcement officers, communicating with local, state, and federal agencies, collaborating with fire and EMS dispatchers, and operating in mobile command positions during critical incidents. They are the first public safety professionals to receive and respond to calls for help; and they are the first people responsible for ensuring that appropriate resources are dispatched and delivered to those in need. Oftentimes, they can make the difference between life and death situations.

In 2020, Delaware State Police Communication personnel received 348,147 calls for emergency service and an additional 308,160 non-emergency related administrative calls for service, for a total of 656,307 calls. Every day the residents and visitors to Delaware depend upon the skills, expertise, and commitment of these telecommunication professionals. This is especially evident during the current Covid-19 pandemic, during which these dedicated individuals remain in the centers

to ensure that every 911 call is answered and appropriate law enforcement services are rendered.

"The DSP proudly commends the public safety communication professionals in our agency, whose exemplary service and dedication provide for the safety of our Troopers and our citizens every day. With compassion and competence, they are a lifeline to our citizens during their greatest time of need as well as a steady source of information and support to first responders. We are grateful for the opportunity to work with this distinguished group of women and men." – Colonel Melissa A. Zebley, Superintendent Delaware State Police

Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Gary Fournier

Released: 041421 @ 1722

–End–

Delaware State Police Investigating Single Fatal Motor Vehicle Crash- Seaford

Seaford- Delaware State Police are conducting a single fatal motor vehicle collision that occurred Monday afternoon.

On April 12, 2021, at approximately 2:13 p.m., a 2005 Chevrolet Colorado pickup truck was traveling southbound on Lonesome Road, approaching the intersection of Woodland Road with a posted stop sign. For an unknown reason, the 49-year-old operator of Seaford failed to stop at the stop sign and crossed over Woodland Road and completely exited the south

edge of Woodland Road, where it struck a utility pole with its front end. The pickup continued in a southerly direction, where it then struck a tree with the front end and rebounded from the tree, and came to rest upright.

The operator was not wearing a seatbelt and was pronounced deceased at the scene. Identification is pending notification to next of kin.

Both roadways were closed for approximately 4 hours while the collision was investigated and the utility pole was repaired.

This crash is being investigated by the Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit. Anyone with information regarding this collision should contact Det. K. Argo with the Delaware State Police Troop 7 Collision Reconstruction Unit by calling 302-644-5020.

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1-800-842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal

Heather Pepper

Released: 041221 2202

-End-

Delaware State Police Warn Citizens About Identity Theft Cases Involving Fraudulent Unemployment Claims- Delaware

Delaware- Delaware State Police has seen an increase across the state in identity theft cases related to unemployment fraud claims and want to warn Delaware citizens about the new trend to avoid becoming a victim.

As a result of COVID-19, government-assisted programs and citizens in need of employment opportunities have increased. The number of unemployment claims and fraudulent unemployment claims has increased, leading to a strain on the unemployment claims system. In Delaware, the number of unemployment fraud cases are being completed online where an individual is establishing an account using the Victim's name to file an unemployment claim. If funds are paid out in rare cases, an attempt to divert the funds to a different location is conducted before disbursement, so the person completing the fraud claim receives the money. The Victim in these cases becomes aware of the attempted identity theft when they receive a letter in the mail from the Department of Labor indicating their unemployment claim was denied.

Delawareans should carefully review their United States Postal Service mail for items that may appear to be spam at first glance because Delawareans have received fraudulent unemployment paperwork from other states in addition to Delaware's Department of Labor.

Unfortunately, there are no additional steps to take to avoid becoming a victim of unemployment fraud identity theft. Individuals can use traditional identity theft protection measures to help protect themselves from becoming a victim of identity theft.

A reminder of general identity theft protection measures would include:

- If you are the Victim of unemployment benefits fraud, contact the Department of Labor to report the issue at uifraud@delaware.gov.
- If you are currently employed and received a notice in the mail regarding your application for unemployment, make your employer aware because they may also be victimized.
- Be aware of your digital footprint and take continual steps to secure your online presence. Remember to change passwords frequently and do not use your birthdate, 1234, etc., as a password; use secure internet connections; only enter your personal or credit card information into a secured site (the padlock will be located in the search bar).
- Be aware of fake websites, text messages, phone calls, and emails soliciting your personal information and do not respond to them.
- You may be at greater risk of Identity Theft if you are a known victim of a prior Data Breach. Take advantage of any offered credit monitoring from these exposures.
- Monitor your credit regularly. There are many additional applications for credit monitoring beyond regularly reviewing your bank and credit card statements, such as

Lifelock, MyIDCare, or PrivacyArmor, to name a few.

For additional information, the Federal Trade Commission offers a detailed interactive guide to Identity Theft recovery at https://www.identitytheft.gov/Steps

Additional useful identity theft scam websites and information can be located at the following:

https://www.irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/identity-theft-and-unemployment-benefits

https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/UIIDtheft

https://news.delaware.gov/2020/05/28/the-de-dept-of-labor-releases-fraud-prevention-guidelines/

The Delaware Department of Labor has provided the following information for reporting possible fraudulent activity or identity theft:

"We ask all Delawareans to be vigilant in reporting possible fraudulent activity or identity theft. Please send any relevant information to the Delaware Department of Labor by sending an email to ***uifraud@delaware.gov.*** *Please include any information that may support our investigation into the incident. Please report the incident to your local police department, and finally, file a complaint with Fraud and Consumer Protection Division at State Attorney General's Office. This division is designed to help victims of identity theft. To file a complaint, call (302) 577-8600 or visit* ***https://attorneygeneral.delaware.gov/fraud/cpu/complaint/,*** *where your complaint can be filed online.*

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll-free hotline 1800

VICTIM-1. (1-800-842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal Heather Pepper

Released: 041221 1150

-End-

Delaware State Police Investigating Attempted Bank Robbery- Hockessin

Hockessin- Delaware State Police are investigating an attempted bank robbery that occurred late Saturday morning.

On April 10, 2021, at approximately 10:20 a.m., Delaware State Police responded

to the M&T Bank located at 151 Lantana Drive, Hockessin, for a report of a robbery. The investigation determined a male suspect entered the bank and displayed a note to a bank employee demanding money. The employee did not cooperate with the suspects demands, and the suspect did not receive any money. The suspect retained the note and fled from the bank in an unknown light colored SUV.

The suspect was described as a black male, approximately 20-30 year-old, approximately 6′ tall, and wearing all dark-colored clothing. He was wearing a black face mask covering the lower portion of his face.

No one was injured during this incident and there are no surveillance photographs available.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation should contact Det. Dukes with Delaware State Police Troop 2 Criminal Investigative Unit by calling 302-365-8412. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com .

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1-800-842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 041121 1315

-End-

Troopers Investigating Shots Fired Incident- Newark

Newark- Delaware State Police are investigating a shots fired incident which took place early Sunday morning.

On April 11, 2021, at approximately 12:04 a.m., troopers responded to the ShopRite parking lot located at 19 Chestnut Hill Plaza, Newark, for a report of shots fired. The investigation determined two occupants, a 37-year-old female and a 15-year-old male were inside of their vehicle in the shopping center parking lot when a light-colored sedan drove towards the victim's vehicle and began shooting. No one was injured during the incident. The suspect's vehicle immediately fled eastbound on Chestnut Hill Road.

Troopers discovered one shell casing at the scene.

There is no suspect information at this time.

Anyone with information regarding this incident should contact Tpr. Mcllmail with Delaware State Police Troop 6 by calling 302-633-5000. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com .

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of

assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1-800-842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 041121 0915

-End-

Update- Victim Identified Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Pedestrian Collision-

Selbyville

Selbyville- Delaware State Police have identified the individual who died in the fatal motor vehicle collision on April 9, 2021, as 56-year-old **Laura Madara** of Selbyville, DE.

The Delaware State Police Collision Reconstruction Unit continue to investigate this incident. Anyone with information regarding this collision should contact Cpl/1 Ryan Albert with the Delaware State Police Troop 7 Collision Reconstruction Unit by calling 302-644-5020. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com.

Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Pedestrian Collision- Selbyville

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1-800-842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 041121 0817

-End-

Homeless Sex Offender Notification- Dover

Megan's Law Community Notice

THIS NOTICE IS PROVIDED FOR ADVISORY PURPOSES ONLY
THIS IS NOT A WANTED PERSON

BRUCE C CHERRY III



Risk Level:	Tier 3 (High Risk)
Verified On:	April 7, 2021
Registered Since:	September 11, 2020
In Prison:	No
Convicted Out of State:	No
Repeat Offender:	No

Police Agency:	DSP HEADQUARTERS
Phone:	(302) 659-2341
Address:	PO BOX 430 Dover, DE 19903

Date of Birth:	June 22, 1995 (age 25)	**Height:**	5' 7"
Gender:	Male	**Weight:**	270 LBS
Race:	Black/African American	**Hair Color:**	BLACK
Skin Tone:	MEDIUM BROWN	**Eye Color:**	Black

Aliases

(no aliases on file)

Scars, Marks, & Tattoos

(no scars, marks, or tattoos on file)

Addresses

Type	Address	County	Development/Employer
Home	400 S DUPONT HWY,RT9 COMM CTR, NEW CASTLE, DE 19720	NewCastle	Homeless
Work	(no address on file)	Other	Unemployed
School	(no address on file)	Other	Not Attending School

Vehicles

(no vehicles on file)

Convictions

Adjudication Date	State	Statute	Description	Victim Age
July 28, 2014	DE	DE-11-0771-0a2a-F-B	Rape Third Degree Sexual Penetration Caused Injury	12-15yr
July 28, 2014	DE	DE-11-0769-00a3-F-D	USC with person who is < 13 YOA or USC w/ person or 3rd person	12-15yr
July 28, 2014	DE	DE-11-0783-0004-F-C	KIDNAPPING SECOND DEGREE- INFLICT INJURY OR VIOLATE ABUSE SEXUALLY- VOL RELEAS	Society

Megan's Law Community Notice

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THIS IS NOT A WANTED PERSON

CHRISTOPHER W SPENCE



Risk Level:	Tier 3 (High Risk)
Verified On:	April 7, 2021
Registered Since:	July 31, 2008
In Prison:	No
Convicted Out of State:	No
Repeat Offender:	No

Police Agency:	DSP HEADQUARTERS
Phone:	(302) 659-2341
Address:	PO BOX 430 Dover, DE 19903

Date of Birth:	September 06, 1976 (age 44)	**Height:**	6' 0"
Gender:	Male	**Weight:**	200 LBS
Race:	WHITE	**Hair Color:**	BROWN
Skin Tone:	FAIR	**Eye Color:**	Brown

Aliases

(no aliases on file)

Scars, Marks, & Tattoos

TAT L HND	Tattoo Hand, Left
SC BACK	Scar Back
SC HAND	Scar Hand Nonspecific
SC L SHLD	Scar Shoulder, Left
TAT CHEST	Tattoo Chest Nonspecific

Addresses

Type	Address	County	Development/Employer
Home	1424 N DUPONT, POPLAR ST,MANOR NEW CASTLE, DE 19720	NewCastle	Homeless
Work	(no address on file)	Other	Unemployed
School	(no address on file)	Other	Not Attending School

Vehicles

(no vehicles on file)

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THIS IS NOT A WANTED PERSON

JEFFERY S SMITH



Risk Level:	Tier 3 (High Risk)
Verified On:	April 7, 2021
Registered Since:	October 27, 2005
In Prison:	Yes
Convicted Out of State:	Yes
Repeat Offender:	Yes

Police Agency:	DSP HEADQUARTERS
Phone:	(302) 659-2341
Address:	PO BOX 430 Dover, DE 19903

Date of Birth:	January 06, 1969 (age 52)	**Height:**	5' 5"
Gender:	Male	**Weight:**	180 LBS
Race:	WHITE	**Hair Color:**	Bald
Skin Tone:	FAIR	**Eye Color:**	Hazel

Aliases

JEFFREY S SCOTT
JEFFREY SMITH
JEFFREY S SCOTT SR
JEFFREY S SMITH
JEFFERY SMITH
JEFF SMITH
JEFFREY S SMITH SR
JEFFREY S SCOTT SR
JEFFREY SCOTT

Scars, Marks, & Tattoos

TAT HEAD

Addresses

Type	Address	County	Development/Employer
Home	WOODS BEHIND WALMART, REHOBOTH GEORGETOWN, DE 19947	Sussex	Homeless
Work	(no address on file)	Other	Unemployed
School	(no address on file)	Other	Not Attending School

Vehicles

(no vehicles on file)

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KEENAN WRIGHT



Risk Level:	Tier 2 (Moderate Risk)
Verified On:	April 7, 2021
Registered Since:	August 17, 2000
In Prison:	No
Convicted Out of State:	No
Repeat Offender:	No

Police Agency:	DSP HEADQUARTERS
Phone:	(302) 659-2341
Address:	PO BOX 430 Dover, DE 19903

Date of Birth:	September 09, 1987 (age 33)	**Height:**	5' 4"
Gender:	Male	**Weight:**	190 LBS
Race:	Black/African American	**Hair Color:**	BROWN
Skin Tone:	DARK	**Eye Color:**	Brown

Aliases

KEENAN M WRIGHT
WRIGHT KEENAN

Scars, Marks, & Tattoos

(no scars, marks, or tattoos on file)

Addresses

Type	Address	County	Development/Employer
Home	805 N MONROE,W 8TH ST WILMINGTON, DE 19805	NewCastle	Homeless
Work	(no address on file)	Other	Unemployed
School	(no address on file)	Other	Not Attending School

Vehicles

(no vehicles on file)

Convictions

Adjudication Date	State	Statute	Description	Victim Age
May 18, 2000	DE	DE-11-0768-0000-F-G	UNLAWFUL SEXUAL CONTACT SECOND DEGREE HAVE SEXUAL CONTACT	12-15yr

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THIS IS NOT A WANTED PERSON

GENE DUKES



Risk Level:	Tier 3 (High Risk)
Verified On:	April 1, 2021
Registered Since:	March 22, 2001
In Prison:	No
Convicted Out of State:	No
Repeat Offender:	No

Police Agency:	DSP HEADQUARTERS
Phone:	(302) 659-2341
Address:	PO BOX 430 Dover, DE 19903

Date of Birth:	February 27, 1985 (age 38)	**Height:**	6' 3"
Gender:	Male	**Weight:**	280 LBS
Race:	WHITE	**Hair Color:**	BROWN
Skin Tone:	MEDIUM	**Eye Color:**	Blue

Aliases

GENE W DUKES

Scars, Marks, & Tattoos

(no scars, marks, or tattoos on file)

Addresses

Type	Address	County	Development/Employer
Home	ACE CTR, ROYAL FARMS, WALMART, GEORGETOWN, DE 19947	Sussex	Homeless
Work	(no address on file)	Other	Unemployed
School	(no address on file)	Other	Not Attending School

Vehicles

(no vehicles on file)

Convictions

Adjudication Date	State	Statute	Description	Victim Age
November 15, 2000	DE	DE-11-0773-00a1-F-A	RAPE FIRST DEGREE CAUSED INJURY	12-15yr

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THIS IS NOT A WANTED PERSON

DAVID R DISTEFANO



Risk Level:	Tier 3 (High Risk)
Verified On:	April 6, 2021
Registered Since:	November 26, 2007
In Prison:	No
Convicted Out of State:	Yes
Repeat Offender:	Yes

Police Agency:	DSP HEADQUARTERS
Phone:	(302) 659-2341
Address:	PO BOX 430 Dover, DE 19903

Date of Birth:	April 08, 1960 (age 61)	**Height:**	6' 0"
Gender:	Male	**Weight:**	190 LBS
Race:	WHITE	**Hair Color:**	BROWN
Skin Tone:	MEDIUM	**Eye Color:**	Brown

Aliases

(no aliases on file)

Scars, Marks, & Tattoos

DISC FHD	
PRCD L EAR	
TAT UL ARM	YOSEMITE SAM
TAT UR ARM	YOSEMITE SAM
TAT L ARM	Tattoo Arm, Left
TAT R ARM	Tattoo Arm, Right

Addresses

Type	Address	County	Development/Employer
Home	WAWA/BUS DEPOT/WOODS DOVER, DE 19901	Kent	Homeless
Work	(no address on file)	Other	Unemployed
School	(no address on file)	Other	Not Attending School

Vehicles

(no vehicles on file)

Dover– The following subjects are not wanted. This is a Homeless Sex Offender Public Notification. If you have information that the listed subjects are occupying a residence, please call 302-672-5306. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333, via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com.ttp://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 041021 0950

-End-

Troopers Attempting to Locate Suspect Wanted for Assault and Criminal Charges-Wilmington

Wilmington- Delaware State Police are seeking the public's assistance in attempting to locate 31-year-old **Dereck Wells** who is wanted for felony assault and related charges.

The incident occurred on April 9, 2021, at approximately 4:24 p.m., when troopers responded to Major Motors located at 2205 Mitch Road, Wilmington, for an assault. Investigation determined Wells and an acquaintance who had just purchased a vehicle from the business, returned after a check engine light came on. A 33-year-old male employee was diagnosing the problem when Wells became aggravated and began to strike the victim in the head several times with a handgun. Wells fled the business in the vehicle and has not been located since.

The victim who sustained lacerations to the head was transported to an area hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

Troopers have been unable to locate Wells who currently has an active warrant out of Troop 6 for the following:

- Assault 2nd Degree (Felony)
- Possession of a Deadly Weapon During the Commission of a Felony (Felony)
- Possession of a Firearm by Person Prohibited (Felony)
- Aggravated Menacing (Felony)
- Carrying a Concealed Deadly Weapon (Felony)
- Theft Under $1,500

Anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of Dereck Wells is asked to contact Troop 6, at 302-633-5000 or by calling 911. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware crime stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 041021 0810

-End-

Delaware State Police Investigating Fatal Pedestrian Collision-Selbyville

Selbyville- Delaware State Police are investigating a fatal pedestrian collision that occurred yesterday afternoon.

On April 9, 2021, at approximately 12:59 p.m., a yellow 2006 Ford F-250 Selbyville Fire Police truck, was stationary facing north on Polly Branch Road in the southbound lane just north of Lighthouse Road, with its emergency equipment activated. The vehicle was being utilized to assist with traffic control while on scene for a separate motor vehicle crash.

As the scene cleared, the Ford F-250 operated by a 79-year-old male of Selbyville began to reverse in a southerly direction towards Lighthouse Road. At this time, the pedestrian was standing behind the Ford and was subsequently struck.

The pedestrian, a 56-year-old female of Selbyville, was transported to Peninsula Regional Medical Center where she was pronounced deceased. Her identification is pending notification to next of kin.

Polly Branch Road was closed for approximately 2 hours while the investigation was completed, and the roadway was cleared.

The crash remains under investigation by the Delaware State Police Troop 7 Collision Reconstruction Unit. Anyone with

information regarding the collision should contact Cpl/1 Ryan Albert by calling 302-644-5020. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware Crime Stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com .

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1-800-842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 041021 0715

-End-

Delaware State Police Attempt to Identify Robbery Suspects-Wilmington

Wilmington– The Delaware State Police are attempting to identify four suspects involved in a shoplifting turned robbery, which occurred at the Dollar Tree located at 3602 Miller Road, Wilmington.

On April 5th, 2021, at approximately 1:25 p.m., the above four depicted suspects entered the Dollar Tree located at 3602 Miller Rd. Wilmington, DE 19802, and proceeded to shoplift multiple items. While fleeing, S1 punched a store employee in the left eye, causing a laceration, and breaking his prescription glasses. Upon exiting, all four suspects ran behind the Dollar Tree towards PS DuPont Middle School.

The suspects are described as four juveniles approximately 15-20-years-old.

Anyone with information regarding this incident or suspects should contact Detective Kirchenbauer with the Delaware State Police Troop 2 Criminal Investigative Unit by calling 302-365-8428. Information may also be provided by calling Delaware crime stoppers at 1-800-TIP-3333 or via the internet at http://www.delaware.crimestoppersweb.com

If you or someone you know is a victim or witness of crime or have lost a loved one to a sudden death and are in need of assistance, the Delaware State Police Victim Services Unit/Delaware Victim Center is available to offer you support and resources 24 hours a day through a toll free hotline 1800 VICTIM-1. (1800 842-8461). You may also email the unit Director at debra.reed@state.de.us.

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Presented by Public Information Officer, Corporal/1 Jason Hatchell

Released: 040921 1709