



PRESS RELEASE

From the office of:
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Columbia Heights Robbery and Vehicle Theft

On June 28, 2020, at 3:31 p.m., Anoka County Central Communications received a 911 call of a robbery that had occurred in the 3900 block of University Ave. NE in the City of Columbia Heights. While walking through a parking lot, an adult female and juvenile male were approached by a male who stole the adult female's purse. The suspect then got into a vehicle, which began to leave the area.

The victim and the juvenile male then saw the suspect vehicle come back in the area and they began to try to follow the suspect vehicle, which then stopped. A firearm was displayed by one of the occupants of that suspect vehicle. Two other suspects got out of that vehicle and entered and stole the victim's vehicle, a black KIA Sportage. Both vehicles then fled the area.

A short time later, Fridley Police observed both vehicles traveling at a high rate of speed near University Ave. and 81 Ave. NE. The vehicles went westbound on 81 Ave. NE and were followed by Fridley Police. The vehicles stopped in the 8200 block of Hickory St. NE and multiple suspects fled from both vehicles. Members of the Columbia Heights Police Department, Fridley Police Department, Spring Lake Park Police Department, Coon Rapids Police Department, Blaine Police Department, the Minnesota State Patrol, and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office searched the area and multiple suspects have been detained.

Early indications show that the original vehicle used to transport the male suspect to the location where he robbed the victim of her purse was also stolen. Further information will be released when formal charging decisions have been made. This case remains under investigation by the Columbia Heights Police Department and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office.

Commander Wayne Heath
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