

EYES and EARS NOTIFICATION - RELEASE

MAYOR

KWAME M. KILPATRICK

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION2ND DEPUTY CHIEF JAMES TATE**CHIEF OF POLICE**

ELLA M. BULLY-CUMMINGS

JUNE 6, 2008

FAKE COPS PULL OVER MOTORISTS VEHICLES AND VALUABLES TAKEN

DETROIT –Detroit Police is seeking the public's assistance in identifying a group of individuals responsible for at least three carjackings and one armed robbery, all within Eastern District. The first incident occurred on May 22, 2008 at 2:05 a.m. near the intersection of Lakeview and E. Forrest. Four black males in a 1990's black (dull in color) Ford Crown Victoria flashed a white spot light into the vehicle of an unsuspecting driver. The 20-year-old male victim pulled his vehicle over believing this to be a traffic stop. The armed suspects then approached the victim's vehicle, identifying themselves as Detroit Police Officers, and ordered the occupants to exit the vehicle. The victims were searched and personal items were taken, including the vehicle they were riding in. Each of the subsequent robberies was similar in nature with the latest incident occurring on June 1, 2008 in the area of Avondale and Barrington. One of the group's victims was on foot when he was robbed.

The thieves are all described as black males in their early 20's, between 5'8" – 5'10" and were wearing colored sweatshirts, blue jeans, and gold badges on a chain around their necks at the time of the crimes. Additional information on the suspect's vehicle indicates that the break pads may be worn due to the loud noise coming from the wheel area. There is also vehicular damage to its side doors.

The following vehicles were taken during the crime spree and have not been recovered:

1. 2004 Chevy Impala, White, 4 door, partial Michigan Plate #BNL 4
2. 2006 Dodge Stratus, White, 4 door, Michigan Plate #BLP1292
3. 1998Olds Delta 88, Blue, 4 door, Michigan Plate #4HUP11

((more))



If a driver is being directed to pull over by an unmarked vehicle, they should see **red and blue flashing lights**. If he/she is unsure that the vehicle attempting their traffic stop is legitimate, the driver should:

1. Activate their hazard lights.
2. Drive the speed limit or less.
3. Dial 9-1-1 and advise the operator about the possibility of fake officers attempting to pull over their vehicle. Make sure that a location is given.
4. Drive to a well lighted area or a police district.

Anyone with information is being asked to contact Detroit Police Armed Robbery Task Force at 596-1951 or Crime Stoppers (anonymously) at 1-800-SPEAK-UP.

For additional information, please contact the Office of Public Information at 313-596-2200.

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