

NEWS RELEASE



POLICE DEPARTMENT, COUNTY of NASSAU

Public Information Office

1490 Franklin Avenue, Mineola, New York 11501

(516) 573-7138 FAX (516) 573-7118

INCIDENT: Arrests/Robbery

DATE/TIME: June 20, 2008, 0900

LOCATION: Bellmore

ITEM: 03

Robbery Squad detectives report two arrests for a robbery that occurred in Bellmore on Friday, 6/20/2008 at 9:00 a.m.

Detectives report that a male subject, later identified as Earl Hercules Knowles, 39, of 20 Jamaica Avenue, Wyandanch, entered the Bank of America, 2464 Merrick Road, and pointed a Hi Point automatic handgun at four (4) bank employees and verbally demanded money. The employees complied and handed Knowles an undisclosed amount of U.S. Currency. Knowles fled the scene and was observed entering the passenger side of a maroon four-door Nissan Altima. The Nissan was operated by another male subject, later identified as Antonio Earl Gibson, 29, of 59 Millay Lane, Bay Shore. The Nissan fled northbound on Newbridge Road and onto eastbound Sunrise Highway while being followed by a civilian witness.

The Nissan then proceeded northbound on the Wantagh State Parkway and then westbound on the Southern State Parkway with several Radio Motor Patrol units from several Precincts following. The Nissan exited the Southern State Parkway where one of the subjects threw the handgun onto the exit ramp to northbound on Merrick Avenue (K-9 Sgt. Hill and dog Chuck located and recovered the handgun). The Nissan then proceeded to eastbound on Front Street then eastbound on Hempstead Turnpike. The Nissan then entered into a parking garage located on the grounds of the Nassau University Medical Center. During the latter part of this chase the two subjects began to throw money stolen during the course of the robbery out of the Nissan onto the roadway. The subjects exited the Nissan on the second floor of the parking garage and ran in different directions. Police Officers Piccirillo and Robert Gibbons arrested Knowles, who they found lying under a parked vehicle on the bottom level of the parking garage after an extensive

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extensive search of the Medical Center's grounds by uniformed Police Officers from various commands, K-9, Bureau of Special Operations, and Emergency Services Unit. Police Officers Duigan and Hickman located Gibson by the Activity Center and placed him under arrest.

Knowles was charged with Robbery 1st Degree (C Felony) and Criminal Use of a Firearm 1st Degree (C Felony). Gibson was charged with Robbery 1st Degree. Both defendants will be arraigned in First District Court, Hempstead, on Saturday, 6/21/2008.

Details by: D/Sgt. Giambrone/Robbery Squad

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