



NEWS RELEASE

Date: 11-15-10
Time: 10:30 AM
Case Number: ECPD 10-24260, 10-24261
ECSO 10-7781

Joint Press Release

On 11-14-2010 at 9:15 P.M. The Eau Claire Police Department responded to an armed robbery at The Mega / Holiday store located at 2308 E. Clairemont Avenue in the City of Eau Claire. A lone male subject entered this location and advised the clerk that he had a gun and demanded money. No weapon was displayed. The suspect then stole another customer's vehicle which was left running in the lot. He fled westbound on Clairemont Avenue with an undisclosed amount of cash. The owner of the stolen vehicle was able to provide a detailed description of his vehicle to officers who responded.

14 minutes later, at 9:29 P.M., a second armed robbery was reported at The Mega / Holiday store located at 2920 Craig Road. A lone male subject entered this location and advised the clerk that he had a gun and demanded money. No weapon was displayed. The suspect fled this scene with an undisclosed amount of money.

Shortly after this information was dispatched, an Eau Claire Sheriff's Deputy observed the suspect vehicle traveling westbound on the Short Street bridge. The Eau Claire County Sheriff's Deputy attempted to stop the suspect, but the suspect fled. A chase was initiated that went northbound on Ferry Street and then onto eastbound Menomonie Street. The suspect drove through a red light at Menomonie Street and Clairemont Avenue intersection and, while traveling eastbound, was struck by a southbound vehicle operated by a 27 year old Eau Claire woman who had the green light. The suspect was thrown into the back seat of his vehicle during the crash. He was not wearing a seatbelt.

ECPD officers were able to do chest compressions on the suspect through a broken out rear window, while extrication was being performed by the Eau Claire Fire Department. Resuscitation efforts continued on scene and the suspect was transported to Luther Hospital. The suspect was ultimately pronounced deceased by Luther ER staff. --- CONTINUED ---

Eau Claire Police Department
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The woman involved in the crash was transported by the Eau Claire Fire Department to Sacred Heart Hospital. Her injuries were non-life threatening and was released from the hospital.

The Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department is the primary agency investigating the traffic crash and fatality. The Wisconsin State Patrol has been requested by the Sheriff's Department to do crash reconstruction of the event. The Eau Claire Police Department is the primary agency investigating the armed robberies and stolen vehicle.

The name of the suspect is:

Wesley G. Phillips

Male / White

34 years old

Altoona Resident

(2004 Photo)



At this point in time the investigation indicates that Wesley G. Phillips is the suspect involved in the two robberies that preceded the traffic crash and fatality. All indications also suggest Mr. Phillips acted alone in these events. A gun was not located during the investigation; however Mr. Phillips did have a large amount of cash in his coat pockets, consistent with what was taken at the robberies. Mr. Phillip's clothing also matches that of the suspect in the surveillance images. There is no indication the Eau Claire robberies are related to the recent robbery at a Mega / Holiday Gas Station in the City of Altoona at this time.

Media Inquiries can be directed to:

Captain Daniel Bresina
Captain of Field Services
Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department
715-839-5162

Officer Jason Kaveney
Community Relations Officer
Eau Claire Police Department
715-839-2910

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