August 06, 2010

News Release

For Immediate Release

Robbery Suspect Targeting the Elderly

The Springfield Police Department is currently investigating three strong armed robberies that occurred yesterday. In each of the robberies the target victims were elderly females, including one victim in a wheelchair. In all three robberies the lone suspect either stole or attempted to steal the victim’s purse.

The first robbery occurred shortly after 12:30 p.m. at 712 W. Commercial St. (Price Cutter) when a black male suspect attempted to steal the purse of a 75-year old female. The victim was able to hold on to her purse and the suspect fled. The photographs attached to this release are from that attempted robbery. At 12:54 p.m., a 63-year old female in a wheelchair had her purse grabbed by a suspect matching the description of the earlier attempted robbery. This incident occurred at the Womack’s located 1130 N. Grant Ave. Later in the afternoon, an 81-year old female had her purse taken when the suspect pushed the victim and escaped with her purse. That incident occurred at 2:24 p.m. at the Aldi’s located at 1645 E. Kearney St. The suspect in that robbery also matched the previous incidents.

The suspect is described as a black male, 6-0 200 lbs, 20-30 years old. The suspect may be in an older full size van two toned with brown and beige paint. Anyone with information should call the Springfield Police Department at 417-864-1810 or 869-TIPS.

SPD Case Number: 10-33951, 10-33957, 10-33973