Carjacked Tow Truck, Stolen Cars & Stolen Gun Recovered

Newark – A carjacked flatbed tow truck, two stolen cars and a stolen gun were recovered this evening by Essex County sheriff’s officers.

Sheriff Armando Fontoura stated that officers from his department were on quality of life patrol near Weequahic Park at 5:45 p.m. last night when the electronic car theft device in their marked unit indicated a stolen vehicle in the area.

The sheriff’s officers located a 2013 Porshe, reported stolen out of Secaucus, parked in front of 179 Pomona Avenue. Twin Towing was called to haul the vehicle to the impound lot.
Enroute to the impound lot, the driver of the tow truck was cut off by a late model Mercedes Benz S-class vehicle at the intersection of Hecker and Orange Streets. Two armed suspects with their faces covered with white shirts jumped out of the Mercedes and smashed open the driver’s window.

The tow truck driver was hit in the head with the weapon carried by one of the gunman. He was then thrown to the ground. During the attack the suspect lost control of his handgun which was recovered at the scene by sheriff’s officers. The gun, a loaded, .38 caliber, Rossi Interarms M68 Special was found to have been stolen during a burglary in Florida.

One suspect drove off with the tow truck carrying the Porsche and the other suspect followed in the Mercedes.

Sheriff Fontoura said that a short time later another Essex County sheriff’s officer spotted the carjacked tow truck and the Mercedes stopped on Interstate 280 west near the Garden State Parkway.

The two suspects were on top of the tow truck and were attempting to unload the Porsche. Upon seeing the officer, the suspects ran to the Mercedes and fled the scene. After a brief pursuit, the Mercedes was lost in East Orange.

Later on Wednesday evening, the Mercedes was found parked on Pomona Avenue in Newark. The suspect vehicle was found to have been stolen out of Fort Lee.

The two suspects remain at large and an investigation with the Newark Police Department continues.