

Armed Robbery Suspects Arrested

Newark - Two male suspects, an adult and a juvenile, who allegedly committed an armed robbery last night were apprehended almost immediately after the crime by Essex County sheriff's officers.

Sheriff Armando Fontoura stated that officers from his department's Patrol Division were conducting quality of life operations at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday in the area of Weequahic Park when they received a Newark police radio broadcast of an armed robbery which had just occurred at the intersection of Elizabeth and Custer Avenues.

One minute later, Fontoura said that the patrol officers observed an adult male, later identified as Isaiah Diggs, age 18 of Newark, and a 16-year-old Newark juvenile male matching the description of suspects walking south on Elizabeth Avenue.

When the suspects spotted the sheriff's officers they ran from the scene. During a brief foot chase, Diggs threw one item into nearby bushes and a second item over a fence into Weequahic Park. Both suspects were quickly apprehended.

The sheriff added that a KWC Smith & Wesson replica 9mm pellet gun was recovered from the bushes and the female victim's cell phone was found in the park.

Both suspects were charged with possession of a weapon for unlawful purposes, the unlawful possession of a weapon, armed robbery, conspiracy and resisting arrest.

Judge Roslyn Holmes Grant ordered Diggs held at the county jail in lieu of \$95,000 cash bond only. He will be arraigned on yesterday's charges later in the week.

The juvenile was remanded at the Essex County Youth Detention Center and he will appear in Family Court at a future date.