



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

San Diego Police Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 22, 2012

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“RED BEARD BANDIT” SOUGHT IN GAS STATION ROBBERIES

(San Diego) San Diego Police Department Robbery Unit detectives continue to investigate a series of gas station robberies in Kearny Mesa, Grantville and University City that began earlier this week.

The series began on March 10, 2012 when the suspect committed an armed robbery at the AM/PM at 3700 Murphy Canyon Road. The suspect pulled a black handgun from his jacket pocket and demanded money. The clerk handed over cash from the register. The suspect walked out of the store in an unknown direction.

The series continued with two more cases on March 11, 2012. At about 7:15 p.m., the Arco gas station located at 6400 Mission Gorge Road was robbed. Later that night, at 10:00 p.m., the suspect entered the AM/PM located at 8800 Clairemont Mesa Blvd and began to commit the same robbery; however, he was interrupted by another customer. The suspect finished the robbery when the customer left.

On March 12, 2012, just before 10:30 p.m., the suspect robbed the United Oil gas station at 3800 Governor Drive. He displayed a handgun and demanded cash from the clerk. The clerk handed over money and cigarettes and the suspect left the store on foot.

On March 13, 2012, just before 9:30 p.m., the suspect robbed the Shell gas station at 7700 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. The suspect fled toward the parking lot but he was chased down by the clerk. The two struggled and the suspect left his handgun and the cash in the parking lot. He was seen getting into the passenger side of an older maroon Chrysler Sebring.

The suspect is described as a white male, in his 40's to 50's, 6'0" tall with a medium to heavy build. He wore a dark jacket or "hoodie" with "Viejas" on the front, a dark or red baseball cap and jeans. The suspect was described as having red hair and a red beard in two cases, but he was also described as having reddish hair and beard that were peppered with gray. He was armed with a black handgun in each case.

The latest case was captured on surveillance video. Copies of the video are available at the San Diego Police Department Headquarters Broadway customer service counter.

Anyone with information concerning this case is asked to contact the San Diego Police Department's Robbery Unit at (619) 531-2299.

AM/PM at 8860 Clairemont Mesa



ARCO at 6404 Mission Gorge



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