

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **San Diego Police Arrest Man in Connection with String of Armed Robberies in San Diego, El Cajon**

**San Diego** - The San Diego Police Department (SDPD), along with the El Cajon Police Department, have arrested a man in connection with a string of armed robberies which occurred in both cities last week.

Investigators from SDPD worked closely with the investigators from the El Cajon PD to identify and arrest 22-year-old Anthony Caleb Johnson of Lakeside on July 13 for four cases that occurred in the early morning hours of July 10. A search warrant was served at a Lakeside residence to potentially recover evidence in connection with the crimes.

Thanks to alert patrol officers and dispatchers working on July 10, they quickly recognized one of the suspects that may be related to the four cases based on information from victims and witnesses. Investigators were able to obtain the vehicle and license plate number and enter it into the Automated License Plate Recognition system. The ALPR system showed the vehicle was in the area of all four cases around the time the crimes were committed.

### **CASES**

The four incidents in the string of robberies include:

- The first case occurred around 2 a.m. around 4500 Mission Blvd., in the Pacific Beach area. Two victims were waiting to be picked up when two suspects drove up to them and robbed them at gunpoint. The victims described distinctive tattoos on one of the suspect's faces, and said they fled in a gray Ford Taurus.
- The second case occurred a short time later at the 7/11 located at 3090 Clairemont Dr. A male suspect entered the store and robbed the clerk at gunpoint before fleeing to an unknown vehicle. The suspect was wearing a mask and a hooded sweatshirt.

- The third case occurred around 2:45 a.m. at the 7/11 located at 7801 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. The suspect entered the store and robbed the clerk at gunpoint before fleeing on foot. The suspect was wearing a mask and hooded sweatshirt.
- The fourth case happened at approximately 3:00 a.m. at the 7/11 located at 2270 Fletcher Parkway in El Cajon. The suspect description and actions were similar to the previous cases in the City of San Diego.

This case is an excellent example of multi-agency collaboration in the County of San Diego. The investigators are still working to identify the second person in the suspect vehicle and their level of involvement.

These cases have been submitted to the San Diego County District Attorney's Office for prosecution. Any further questions regarding these cases will be referred to them. Anthony Johnson is currently in the San Diego County Jail and is scheduled for arraignment on July 17, 2024.

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