



OFFICIAL MEDIA RELEASE

KENT COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT



Date: December 2, 2015
Complaint Number: 15-160393
Type of Incident: Unarmed robbery
Assigned Detective: Bill Marks
Supervisor Approval: Sergeant Heather Martin

UPDATE – DECEMBER 2, 2015:

As a result of the media coverage, the Kent County Sheriff's Office received a tip on this case that identified a possible suspect as Samuel Sterling, 17 years old, from Kentwood. Based on the tip and additional investigation, our department lodged Sterling on probable cause. On December 1, 2015, the Kent County Prosecutor's Office authorized the charge of unarmed robbery.

On December 2, 2015, Sterling was arraigned in front of Judge Smolenski of the 63rd District Court. He is currently lodged at the Kent County Correctional Facility on a \$5,000 Cash Surety Bond.

ORIGINAL:

On Saturday, November 28, 2015, at approximately 6:00 am, the Kent County Sheriff's Department responded to a report of an unarmed robbery in the 1500 block of Eastport Drive, SE.

Upon deputies arriving in the area, they spoke with the victim who reported being assaulted and having personal items taken from his person. Deputies established a perimeter and requested a canine to track the suspect, but were unable to locate anyone in the area.

The victim described the suspect in this incident as a black male, wearing dark clothing, black knit hat who was on a bicycle.

While completing their investigation, deputies located video surveillance footage of a person who may have information reference the robbery.

The video surveillance was from a local business the victim had visited just prior to the robbery.

Deputies are requesting the assistance of the public to identify the subject seen in the footage to assist deputies with their investigation.

If you have any information reference this incident, please contact the Kent County Sheriff's Department at (616) 632-6100, option #1.