



St. Petersburg Police Department News Release



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For Immediate Release

November 2, 2011

Woman Arrested for Attempted Homicide after Striking a Child and Two Adults with her Car

Arrested Suspect:

Nikki Moneque Caldwell, B/F, 06/13/80 of 1219 James Avenue South, St. Petersburg

Victims:

Joel Thomas, B/M, 02/18/82 of 305 Belcher Road, Largo FL

Mabel Thomas, B/F, 03/1/64 of 2129 Walton Street South, St. Petersburg (Joel Thomas' Aunt)

Bobby Crawford, B/M, 11/26/06 of 2321 13 Avenue South, St. Petersburg (son of Joel Thomas' girlfriend Kimberly Oliver)

On November 1st, 2011 at about 4:00 p.m., the three victims were walking down the sidewalk near the corner of 18 Avenue South and Walton Street when they were approached by the above listed suspect Caldwell who was driving a 1993 Maroon Toyota Camry. Caldwell stopped the car near where the victims were walking and got out of the car which was also occupied by an unidentified B/M passenger.

Caldwell was irate and began accusing Joel Thomas of having assaulted her on some occasion a week or two earlier. Thomas, who claimed he did not know Caldwell, denied her allegations and said she must have the wrong person.

At some point Caldwell threatened to run Thomas over with her car after which she got back into the driver's seat of the Camry and began to gun the engine. She then drove straight at the three victims, who were still on the sidewalk, jumping the curb and striking all three.

Joel Thomas was thrown up on the hood of the car while Mabel Thomas and the 4 year old were pinned between the front bumper and a tree. The Camry then backed up and was last seen proceeding heading north bound on Walton Street.

Police and fire rescue personnel responded to the scene and the three victims were transported to two local hospitals for treatment. None of their injuries were deemed serious. The 4 year old did suffer a number of lacerations and contusions to his head, arms, chest and hips.

A tag number was obtained for the Camry and after speaking with the registered owner of the car, officers were able to identify the suspect as Nikki Caldwell who is the girlfriend of the registered owner's son. She was located at about 7:00 p.m. at her home address of 1219 James Avenue South where she was arrested on a charge of attempted homicide.