



St. Petersburg Police Department News Release



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For Immediate Release

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Suspect Arrested for Shooting at Security Officer

Arrested Suspect: Jaron Alphonso Crowell, B/M, 07/18/94 of 1329 62nd Avenue South

Charges: Aggravated Assault with a Firearm, Delinquent in Possession of a Firearm & Violations of Conditional Release (First Degree Armed Robbery).

Victim: Joel Turner, 46, employed by CIS Security. Point of Contact for CIS Security is Amy O'Rourke 727-462-3521.

At about 6:30 p.m. yesterday evening officers responded to The Mariners Point Apartments at 1175 Pinellas Point Dr South regarding a call of shots fired.

Upon arrival officers made contact with CIS security officer Joel Turner. Turner reported that he was standing near the front of the apartments when he heard the sound of gunfire emanating from the rear of the complex.

When Turner went to investigate, he was confronted by a subject later identified as Jaron Crowell who was armed with a handgun standing outside the rear gate of the complex. Crowell pointed the gun in Turner's direction and fired two rounds, neither of which stuck him. Crowell then fled the area.

Prior to the security officer's arrival on the scene, Crowell had been involved in a physical dispute with several individuals in the complex.

It appears that after the initial dispute Crowell left the area, but then returned with a gun a short time later. The issues involved in the dispute are not yet clear, but it does appear a number of threats were made.

Investigating officers spoke to several witnesses in the complex and were able to identify the Crowell as the shooter.

Crowell was later located at his home address and taken into custody without incident.

A search of Crowell's home reveal that he was in possession of two handguns, one being 38 cal. and one being a 44 magnum. In addition he was found in possession of ammunition of various other calibers of handguns.

Crowell spoke to detectives and admitted firing in the direction of security officer, but claimed he did not intend to shoot him. He stated he was actually firing at other individuals standing near the security guard with the intention of just scaring them.

Crowell was subsequently transported to the Juvenile Detention Complex.

Information provided by Mike Puetz