



NEWS RELEASE

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND



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For Immediate Release:

BURGLARY SUSPECT APPRHENDED

On Saturday, October 11, 2008, Ocean City Police responded to a burglary in progress occurring at the "Cloud Break II", skate shop, 5801 Coastal Highway.

While responding to the scene, Officers were advised by a witness that the suspect had fled the area of "Cloud Break II" and was heading in the direction of the near-by 7-Eleven convenience store, located just north of the scene on 59th Street.

Officers saturated the area and located a male inside the 7-Eleven who matched the description of the suspect reported to have been attempting to break into the "Cloud Break II" skate shop. While investigating, Officers recovered a screw driver and folding knife from this subject.

OCPD Officers met with a witness who positively identified the male in the 7-Eleven as the same person who attempted to break into the "Cloud Break II". The male was arrested. During the initial arrests, the suspect attempted to provide Offices with false identification, Officers eventually identified the suspect as; Martinique Steffan Chase, (19) years old of Baltimore, Maryland.

OCPD investigators learned that Chase may have been involved in a previous burglary that occurred on Sunday, October 5, 2008, at about 4 am, at "Chauncey's Surf Shop" (5309 Coastal Highway, Ocean City).

During the subsequent investigation, surveillance video had been recovered. Investigators noted that Chase and the suspect from the Chauncey's burglary shared similar physical characteristics.

Police were able to construct a photo line-up which included Chase. Witnesses from "Chauncey's Surf Shop" who had previously viewed the store surveillance tapes of the suspect during the burglary were able to note that the person who committed the burglary on October 5, 2008, had actually come into the store on October 4, 2008 when the business was open. As a result, two of Chauncey's Surf Shop employees identified Chase as the person seen committing the burglary captured by store surveillance cameras.

Chase has been charged with:

- two counts of 2nd Degree Burglary (MD CR 6-203 (a) - Felony
- two counts of 4th Degree Burglary (MD CR 6-205 (a)(b) - Misdemeanor
- one count of 4th Degree Possession of Burglary Tools (MD CR 6-203) - Misdemeanor
- one count of Theft greater than \$500 (MD CR – 7-104) - Felony
- one count of Theft less than \$500 (MD CR – 7-104) - Misdemeanor
- once count of False Statement to a Police Officer (MD CR 9-502) – Misdemeanor
- once count of Malicious Destruction of Property under \$500 (MD CR 6-301) - Misdemeanor

Since Chase's arrest, Police have recovered several items stolen from the "Chauncey's Surf Shop" burglary.

Chase is being held at the Worcester County Jail on \$25,000 bond.

October 14, 2008

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Quite often, citizens' hunches turn out to be valuable information to us. If you have information that you feel we should know, we encourage you to leave us e-mail. OCPD@ococean.com