



Sumter Police Department

107 East Hampton Avenue
Sumter, SC 29150

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



Chase Nelson



Malik Nelson



Marion Rahman



James Simon

4 charged in string of armed robberies

Contact: Public Information Officer Tonyia M. McGirt, (803) 436-2737

SUMTER, SC (Dec. 22, 2017) – Four men are in jail for their roles in a string of armed robberies since August.

Each of the suspects face multiple charges ranging from conspiracy to attempted murder. All are being held at the Sumter-Lee Regional Detention Center where bond was denied this morning.

The armed robberies started Aug. 8 at the Bojangles' on Broad Street. Later in August, Star Barbershop, Gentlemen's Barbershop and Rollerson Package Store were targeted. Peanut Enterprise was then struck by an armed robber on Sept. 13 during which one person was assaulted and injured.

The last incident happened Dec. 5 when a man was robbed and shot in the parking lot of Miller Arms apartments. The 31-year-old victim is recovering.

Since then, officers were able to develop information that tied all four men to the Miller Arms case and their individual roles in the other cases. One of the suspects acted alone in two of the previous armed robberies.

Items reported stolen in all of the cases included cash, jewelry and cell phones.

Charged are:

- Chase Bernard Nelson, 19, of 448 Robney Drive – armed robbery-five counts, attempted armed robbery, conspiracy-five counts, possession of a weapon during a violent crime-six counts, assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature and attempted murder.
- Malik Elijah Nelson, 18, also of 448 Robney Drive – armed robbery-three counts, attempted armed robbery, conspiracy-four counts, possession of a weapon during a violent crime-three counts and attempted murder.

- Marion Shakur Rahman, 20, of 1013 Marilyn Drive – armed robbery, conspiracy, possession of a weapon during a violent crime, attempted murder.
- James Earl Simon Jr., 29, of 803 W. Bartlett St. – armed robbery-three counts, conspiracy-three counts, possession of a weapon during a violent crime and attempted murder.

Additional charges are expected.

“The greatest contributing factors in solving these crimes have been the hard, dedicated work of the Investigative Services Division and the strong partnership the department has developed over the years with the citizens of the Sumter community,” Chief Russell F. Roark III said. “The support displayed through community involvement has helped tremendously in solving crimes that would otherwise have been difficult to do so.

“This is an example of how trust between the community and the police can solve crimes,” Roark said. “Thank you for supporting the Sumter Police Department.”

-END-

Approved for media release by Chief Russell F. Roark, III

Follow us on social media:

