



Blaze Catania
Chief of Police

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP

3515 BARGAINTOWN ROAD
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Press Release

Incident: Armed Robbery/Aggravated
Assault
Date of Print: 06/20/08
P.D. Case Number: 08-36432

On 06/20/08, at approximately 06:04 am, the Egg Harbor Twp Police Department responded to Heathercroft Condos in the Bargaintown section of the Township in reference to an armed robbery and aggravated assault. Officers Louis Poletis, John Dowd and Richard Vogt responded and located the victim, Thomas Freeman (27 yrs old from Egg Harbor Twp) , who stated he was pistol whipped by an male suspect. Freeman was staying with the Lisa Whelan (24 yrs old) at her condo in Heathercroft when he heard the doorbell ring and the door was answered by Whelan. A white male forced his way past Whelan and assaulted Freeman. Freeman was pistol whipped by the male several times with a handgun and his cell phone was taken from him by the suspect. Freeman suffered minor injuries due to the assault but refused medical attention.

Investigation by Det. Fred Spano and Det. Heath Per identified the suspect as a James Growalt, 25 yrs old who resides in Atlantic City. A warrant was issued for his arrest and on 06/21/08 he turned himself in at the Egg Harbor Twp Police Dept. Growalt has been charged with Aggravated Assault with a weapon and Armed Robbery. Bail is to be set. At this time a second male suspect involved in this incident has yet to be identified.

Anyone having any information regarding this case should contact the Egg Harbor Township Police Department, Detective Division at 926-4051, Det. Fred Spano at 926-4010, Det. Heath Per 926-4125 or contact the Atlantic County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-658-8477. The Atlantic County Crime Stoppers program offers a cash reward up to \$2,000.00 and callers can remain anonymous.

**FOR ANY CLARIFICATION NEEDED FOR THE ABOVE NEWS RELEASE
CONTACT: SERGEANT ROBERT GRAY, PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
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