



NEWS RELEASE

Chris Magnus
Chief of Police

Contact: Pete Dugan
Sergeant / Public Information Office
520-791-4852
On-call PIO: tpdpio@tucsonaz.gov
<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/police>

Date: 11/17/2016
TDD: 791-2639

ARMED ROBBERY 3918 SOUTH 6TH AVENUE

On November 16, 2016, just after 7:00 p.m., officers from Operations Division South responded to a church located at 3918 S. 6th Avenue (Ministerios Dios Es Mi Fuerza) for a report of an armed robbery. The suspects involved fled the scene prior to police arrival.

Detectives from the Tucson Police Department's Night Detective Unit responded to continue the investigation. They were able to determine that the church was hosting a "Women's Group" meeting with approximately 35 to 50 individuals, including children. The meeting was faith-based, but involved individuals from many different religions. During the meeting, approximately five suspects entered the church armed with handguns and wearing masks. The suspects pointed their guns at the group and demanded that everyone get on the ground. Some of the victims were forcefully shoved to the ground and received injuries from the assault. The suspects then took purses from multiple victims before fleeing from the church in unknown vehicles. The suspects were speaking primarily Spanish, but were also using English at times. They are described as young males in their late teens to mid 20's.

Several of the victims left the church immediately after the robbery and before officers arrived. Robbery Detectives are asking those individuals to please call the Tucson Police Department as soon as possible. A special phone number has been established to take those calls in both Spanish and English. The phone is not monitored 24/7, but a detective will return your call if you leave a message. The phone number is (520) 589-8846. As always, if you have information about the incident, you are encouraged to call 88-CRIME. You CAN remain anonymous.

Additional information will be released as it becomes available.

####