Police Investigate Suspicious Incident as Juvenile Walks Home from School

Incident Location: Sophia Drive, Gloucester Township NJ

On Friday, February 2nd, 2018 at 3:25 pm, the Gloucester Township Police Department responded to the area of Sophia Drive in the Somerdale section of Gloucester Township, for a report of a man in a vehicle pointing a firearm at a juvenile.

The juvenile reported that as he was walking home from his bus stop, a vehicle pulled up to the curb alongside him. Through the open passenger window, the driver asked him to come over to the vehicle. The juvenile then saw what he believed to be a handgun, at which time he ran home and contacted his mother.

Officers located a resident who saw the juvenile run past his home but did not see any vehicles in the area at the time. Officers also conducted an extensive check of the area and were unable to locate the vehicle.

The driver was described as a light skin black male, approximately 17-20 years of age and wearing a black long sleeve shirt. The vehicle was described as a black four door, older model vehicle, with a possible damaged passenger side rear door window.

At this time, we believe that this is an isolated incident. The investigation is being conducted by Detectives from the Gloucester Township Police Juvenile and Family Services Bureau. School Resource Officers will also be monitoring the area school bus stops to ensure that our children feel safe to and from school. We recommend that parents take a moment to speak with their children about the dangers of approaching people they don’t know. In this case, the juvenile did the right thing by running away and telling his parents. For information on child safety, please contact the Community Relations Unit at 856-228-4011 or communityrelations@gtpolice.com or visit http://www.kidsmartz.org.

If you have any information pertaining to this incident, please contact Gloucester Township Police at 856-228-4500. You may also contact our Anonymous Crime Tipline at 856-842-5560 or send an anonymous tip via text message by texting the keywords TIP GLOTWPPD and your message to 888777.

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Media Release By: Capt. B. McKendry