

**DEPARTMENT of
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**PUBLIC
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For Immediate Release

May 3, 2021

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Police Arrest Two Juveniles after Violent Crime Spree

Newark Public Safety Director Brian A. O’Hara said police have arrested two 17-year-old juveniles – one from Avenel and the other from Newark -- after their two-day violent crime spree in February that included a robbery, aggravated assault, carjacking, and a shooting.

The juveniles, who are in custody at the Essex County Juvenile Detention Center, started out on February 4, 2021, when they punched a Newark resident in the face and robbed him around 12:03 a.m. at New York Avenue and Pacific Street.

Two weeks later, on February 17, 2021, the same juveniles continued with their violent crimes, when they attacked residents in three separate incidents in just over an hour. At 3:16 a.m., they robbed a Newark man at gunpoint, striking him with the weapon during the assault at New York Avenue and Pacific Street.

Fifteen minutes later, the two juveniles jumped out of a black Infiniti reported stolen out of Kearny and punched a city resident in the face before carjacking his vehicle at 3:30 a.m. in the 100 block of Delancy Street. By 4:30 a.m. the pair had fired three shots from an SUV at a Newark resident, who was struck in the leg when the juveniles chased after him and his friend on Verona Avenue.

They’ve been charged with robbery, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, and possession of a weapon for an unlawful purpose.

“Detectives from our Major Crimes Division did a great job apprehending and tracking down these two individuals who terrorized our residents for two days,” Director O’Hara said. “I commend them for their dedication to the people of our city.”

These charges are merely accusations. The suspects are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.