



# Winter Haven Police Department

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## Media Release

Date: May 20, 2009

Time: 11:00 am

Contact: Sergeant Brad Coleman  
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On May 19, 2009 at about 12:43 AM Winter Haven police responded to a home invasion robbery in progress at 1421 Ave. H SW in Winter Haven. Bryon Bryant (b/m, age 26), Vontresa Lewis (b/f, age 22), Tiffany Lewis (b/f, age 33), Shareka Lewis (b/f, age 22), and Vontresa Lewis' 2 year old son were at home (1421 Ave. H SW) when Shareka Lewis answered a knock at the door. Myron Hardee (b/m, age 18) and Benjamin McKenzie (b/m, age 18) forced their way into the home, demanded money and held Shareka Lewis, Vontresa Lewis, Tiffany Lewis, and the two year old child at gun point. Bryant heard the commotion and hid in a closet where he called 9-1-1.

As officers arrived and surrounded the house, Sergeant Kevin Dibbern knocked on the front door. Shareka Lewis answered the door and mouthed the words "They're still here". Sergeant Dibbern entered the house where he saw McKenzie run down a hallway and enter a bedroom while Hardee jumped out a window to escape.

Sergeant Dibbern located McKenzie hiding in a closet and placed him under arrest. Officer Dan Gaskin located Hardee in a yard at 1452 Lake Howard Drive SW Hardee attempted to flee. Officer Gaskin deployed his TASER and placed him under arrest. Officers recovered two of the three handguns reportedly used during the robbery.

Myron Tyrone Hardee, who lives at 2204 9<sup>th</sup> Court NE in Winter Haven, was charged with:

1. Home Invasion Robbery
2. Depriving Another of Use of 9-1-1
3. Petit Theft
4. Resisting Arrest Without Violence
5. Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
6. Possession of Marijuana

Benjamin Damone McKenzie, who lives at 2400 Swan Drive NE in Winter Haven, was charged with Home Invasion Robbery.

At this time no other suspects have been identified, however detectives continue to investigate. Anyone with information about this crime is asked to contact Detective Eric Outlaw at (863) 291-5752.

Anyone with information who wants to remain anonymous and be eligible for a CASH REWARD is asked to call Polk County Crime Stoppers at 1-800-226-TIPS.

In accordance with Florida public records laws, redacted copies of case reports from this incident may be available to the media. Requests for reports should be made through the WHPD records division at (863) 291-5649.

WHPD Case #09-7652

\*\*\*\*\* End of Media Release \*\*\*\*\*