



Winter Haven Police Department

125 North Lake Silver Drive, NW
Winter Haven, Florida 33881

Telephone 863/291-5858
Fax 863/298-5217



Media Release

Date: December 24, 2008

Time: 12:00pm

Contact: Sergeant Brad Coleman
(863) 291-5734

On December 24, 2008 at or about 12:20 am, Winter Haven Police responded to a shooting in the area of 1725 E. Lake Cannon Dr. NW in Winter Haven. Officers arrived and found Robert Johnson (w/m, 05-18-49), who had been shot.

Johnson stated that he was walking his dogs when he saw two unknown b/m suspects attempting to break into a neighbor's house. Johnson confronted the suspects, at which time at least one of the suspects fired a handgun at him. Witnesses reported hearing between six and eight shots fired. The suspects then fled the area on foot.

Johnson was transported to a medical facility to be treated for a gun shot wound. The name and location of the medical facility and the extent of Johnson's injury will not be released at this time.

A Winter Haven Police K-9 unit was able to track the suspects to a dumpster where multiple items of physical evidence, including a handgun, were recovered. The K-9 track eventually concluded without the apprehension of the suspects. Along with the physical evidence, multiple witnesses have been identified and interviewed.

Anyone with information about this case is asked to contact Detective Steve Rusich at (863) 291-5620.

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 #08-52533

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