303E. 3rd Street * Joplin, MO 64801-2274 * 417-623-3131 * Fax 417-624-9820 Jason Burns

Chief of Police

Date: September 3rd, 2015

Origin: Investigations Bureau

Contact: Captain Charla Geller

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NEWS RELEASE

Joplin Police Detectives arrested Taylor Neils Harper (24 years of age) yesterday afternoon in reference to the armed robberies from 8-20-15 at two Joplin convenience stores.

At approximately 0300 hours on 8-20-15, Harper entered the business located at 1832 S. Maiden Lane, Joplin MO, (Kum N Go) and threatened the clerk with a large fixed blade knife and asked for the money in the drawer. After the employee gave Harper the money from the register, Harper fled the scene on foot.

At approximately 2145 hours on 8-20-15, Harper entered the business located at 1302 S. Schifferdecker Ave, Joplin MO, (Hortons Convenience Store) dressed the same as earlier and threatened the clerk with a knife. Harper "shook" the knife at the clerk as he demanded the money from the register. After the employee gave Harper the money, he fled the scene on foot.

A Statement of Probable Cause has been forwarded to the Jasper County Prosecutor requesting charges be filed for: First Degree Robbery (RSMO 569.020) and Armed Criminal Action (RSMO 571.015).

Harper's photo is attached.

On 8-31-15 Matthew Ladue was arrested for the 8-25-15 armed robbery of Casey's, at 2604 N. Range Line Rd, Joplin MO. Ladue was charged with Robbery in the 1st Degree (RSMO 569.020) and Armed Criminal Action (RSMO 571.015) and was issued a \$50,000 cash or surety bond.

On 8-24-15 Anthony Parker was arrested for the 8-24-15 armed robbery of The Gas Trip at 928 North Goetz, Joplin MO. Parker was charged with Robbery in the 1st Degree (RSMO 569.020), Assault in the 1st Degree (RSMO 565.050) and Armed Criminal Action (RSMO 571.015) and was issued a \$50,000 cash or surety bond plus an additional \$25,000 cash only.



Harper, Taylor