

JOPLIN

POLICE

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

Lane Roberts
Chief of Police

Date: December 9, 2013

Origin: Department PIO

Contact: Lt. Matt Stewart

Phone: 623-3131 Ext 696

1st Degree Assault—Update 4—Arrest made of Mark Thomas

On December 7, 2013 just before 2PM, the Joplin Police Department received an anonymous tip that Mark A. Thomas who is wanted for a First Degree Assault that occurred on October 30, 2013 at 3216 S. Grand, was at 730 S. Picher. Officers arrived in the area and they were able to take Mr. Thomas into custody without incident. Mr. Thomas was arrested on four Felony Warrants from Jasper and Newton County with a total bond of \$202,500. Mr. Thomas is currently in custody in the Jasper County Jail.

The victim is currently not in the hospital, but is continuing with her recovery from the assault.



A second person has been charged in the assault that occurred at 3216 S. Grand on October 30, 2013. The Newton County Prosecutor's Office filed First Degree Assault charges against Samuel J. Hughes a 24 year old male with an address of 3216 S. Grand Apt. 6. Mr. Hughes was arrested on November 1, 2013 and was later transported to the Newton County Jail.

Mark A. Thomas is still at large and has not been located at this time. Anyone with information on Mr. Thomas' whereabouts are asked to contact the Joplin Police Department or your local law enforcement agency. The victim, Amy Denney, remains in critical condition.

The female victim has been identified as Amy Denney, a 29 year old female from Joplin. She is still listed in critical condition at this time. The Joplin Police Department continues to follow up on leads on the investigation.

Paperwork was submitted to the Newton County Prosecutor's Office this morning on Mark A. Thomas a 28 year old male with an address in Diamond, MO for 1st Degree Assault charges and Armed Criminal Action. The Newton County Prosecutor's Office has issued a warrant for the arrest of Mr. Thomas with a \$100,000 bond. The suspect in this case is currently not in custody and we are attempting to locate him.

If anyone has any information on the location of Mark Thomas, please contact the Joplin Police Department. You can contact us via phone at 417-623-3131, on our web page at www.joplinpolice.org, on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/JoplinPD, or submit a tip to the Heartland Crime Stoppers by calling 417-782-TIPZ or on their web page at www.heartlandtipz.com.

Joplin Police received a call of a disturbance at 3216 Grand at 01:35 hours this morning. Upon arrival officers encountered a 29 year old female with serious head injuries. The victim was transported to Freeman Hospital for treatment.

Investigators are currently processing the scene and following up on numerous leads. At this time no arrests have been made. As the investigation continues, additional information will be made available.
