



CITY OF CLEARWATER

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MAN AND WOMAN ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH 12 ROBBERIES

WHO: Ricky Thomas Fields (Arrested)
DOB: 5-30-86
Alexandra, VA

Stephanie S. Malatesta (Arrested)
DOB: 4-15-87
Tampa, FL

WHAT: Robbery/Aggravated Battery/Attempted Robbery
SEIZED: 2004 Black Nissan Xterra

WHEN: June 20 – 29, 2010

WHERE: Clearwater and the Tampa Bay Area

SUMMARY: From June 20 to June 29, Ricky Fields and Stephanie Malatesta targeted six Hispanic males in the Clearwater area for the purposes of robbery. In each case, the suspects located a single Hispanic male walking or riding a bicycle and the female suspect pretended to have car trouble to lure the victims to the vehicle. Once at the vehicle, the victims were threatened with a firearm and their property was stolen.

On June 29, 2010, Officers and detectives responded to a similar reported robbery with the same suspect descriptions in the area of 116 South Duncan Avenue. A Clearwater Police Detective located the suspect vehicle on Gulf to Bay Boulevard and requested patrol assistance. Officers responded and initiated a felony traffic stop at the intersection of Arcturas Avenue and Gulf to Bay Boulevard.





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Both suspects were arrested without incident. A replica firearm was recovered within the vehicle along with stolen property from five of the Clearwater victims.

Clearwater Detectives working in conjunction with Tampa Police Detectives were able to link the suspects to a total of twelve (12) robberies in the Tampa Bay area that occurred since June 1st.

