

MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT



Public Information Office
400 N.W. 2 Ave., Room 220, Miami, Florida 33128
(305) 603-6420



Subject: **MAN ARRESTED FOR ARMED KIDNAPPING and ATTEMPT SEXUAL BATTERY**

The Miami Police Department's Special Victims Unit has arrested 32-year-old, Rodney Joseph for Armed Kidnapping, Attempt Armed Sexual Battery along with other violent charges.

In the early afternoon of Monday, November 6th, 2023, at approximately 12:30 pm, the victim was approached by the offender around 3rd Avenue NW 16th Street and offered a ride to the homeless shelter. The victim accepted the ride and realized the offender was not driving towards the shelter and attempted to exit his vehicle but was violently assaulted. During the assault, the offender was armed with a firearm and threatened to kill the victim. The victim struggled and was able to exit the vehicle around NW Miami Court and 19th Street and alert police.

The Special Victims Unit's investigation and Tactical Robbery Unit search resulted in the offender's arrest on Wednesday, November 8th, 2023, in the area NE 10 Avenue and 142 Street. The investigation is still on going. The detectives believe there are other vulnerable, homeless female victims that may have been preyed upon by the offender offering help to get them to a homeless shelter while wearing medical scrubs type clothing.

The Miami Police Department Special Victims Unit urge any victim or anyone that works within the homeless community with information to come forward.

Anyone with information is urged to contact the Miami Police Department's Special Victims Unit at (305) 603-6300. Those with information that wish to remain anonymous can contact Miami-Dade Crime Stoppers at (305) 471- TIPS (8477), visit www.crimestoppersmiami.com and select "Give a Tip" or Send a text message to 274637. Enter CSMD followed by the tip information and press send.

Prepared by: Ofc. M. Vega
Reviewed by: Asst. Chief R. Perez
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Manuel Morales, Chief of Police

NEWS RELEASE