



O'FALLON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Colonel Roy Joachimstaler
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE FORM O'FALLON POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMPLAINT NUMBER: 201606034

DATE: 07/10/2016

WATCH COMMANDER'S SIGNATURE: Sergeant Bill Stringer DSN 062

Just before 0200 hours this morning, we received a 9-1-1 from Circle K at Hwy K and Feise Road for an Armed Robbery. The victim, a pedestrian nearby on Feise Road, described four occupants of a black BMW. A responding officer observed a similarly occupied BMW southbound on Hwy K leaving the area of occurrence. The officer stopped the BMW on the CVS lot at Routes K and N, where an occupant tried to discard a handgun out of the vehicle.

Four suspects were identified, and taken into custody. Further investigation revealed that there have been similar armed robberies in St. Louis City, County, and St. Charles County MO over the last couple of days with a similar vehicle being described by other victims.

The suspects were using a newly released "Pokemon Go" app released in the United States on Wednesday. Pokemon, or Pocket Monsters, is a video game and TV series that allows people to catch, collect and train animated creatures of all shapes and sizes to win battles against other trainers.

Taken from: <http://www.azcentral.com/story/entertainment/kids/2016/07/07/pokemon-go-app-gains-arizona-following-1st-day/86822872/>

Pokemon made its world premiere in Japan in 1996 but didn't come to the United States until 1998. Pokemon Go is a way for fans to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the phenomenon.

The app encourages players to get off the couch and outside. Players connect their smartphone's camera to the app, which makes Pokemon appear in front of you on your screen.

Pokemon Go looks like Google Maps — local landmarks such as museums, schools and churches are checkpoints where players can get free items like Pokeball devices that catch the Pocket Monsters or an Egg that hatches into a Pokemon after the player walks for a certain time.

Players progress through levels. At level 5, they can join teams and battle each other at gyms, which are also local landmarks.

The Pokemon, graphics and sound effects are computer-generated, but seeing a Pikachu on the sidewalk in front of you is a fan's digital dream come true.

"PROTECT WITH PRIDE – SERVE WITH HONOR"



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Using the geolocation feature of the "Pokemon Go" app the robbers were able to anticipate the location and level of seclusion of unwitting victims.

The suspects range in age from 16 to 18 years of age and all reside in the St. Charles County Area.

For any questions you may contact Sergeant Bill Stringer today until 6:30 PM CDT. After that the Watch Commander on duty may be able to field calls. Tomorrow after 8:00 AM CDT you may contact PIO Diana Damke at 636.240.3200

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