



For Immediate Release: 02.12.07

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Residents Advised to Be on the Look Out for Escapees

Oak Park residents are advised to be on the look out for the remaining four of six inmates who escaped from Cook County jail at 26th Street and California Avenue just before midnight Saturday. Two of the six were captured at around 6:30 a.m. in Oak Park near the railroad tracks by Ridgeland Avenue and South Boulevard. The remaining four escapees possibly may be armed and are considered dangerous. They likely are wearing tan scrub pants that may be turned inside out to disguise the standard jailhouse uniform. Anyone with any information is urged to call 9-1-1 immediately.

The escapees still at large are identified as:

- Francisco Romero, 23, of Chicago, charged with murder. Romero is described as a Hispanic white male, six feet tall, weighing 140 pounds, with brown eyes and hair.
- Tyrone Everhart, 28, of Markham, charged with aggravated kidnapping and attempted escape from the Markham Courthouse. Everhart is described as a black male, five feet, 11 inches tall, weighing 175 pounds with brown eyes and black hair.
- Michael McIntosh, 30, of Chicago, charged with aggravated battery. McIntosh is described as a black male, five feet, nine inches tall, weight 120 pounds with brown eyes and black hair.
- Eric Bernard, 22, of Chicago, charged with armed robbery. Bernard is described as a black male, five feet, 10 inches tall, weighing 155 pounds, with brown eyes and black hair.

Oak Park police arrested Joyner and Earnest following a call from an off-duty West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center dispatcher who reported two suspicious characters near the train tracks. The pair was wearing tee shirts and tan pants turned inside out. Joyner was in Cook County jail charged with theft and escape, and Earnest had been charged with murder.

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Escapees 2-2-2

The arrest of Joyner and Earnest brought Chicago Fire and Police Department helicopters to Oak Park for an aerial search for the other escapees, put 150 officers from Oak Park, Chicago, the County Sheriff's Department, River Forest, Forest Park and the Union Pacific Railroad on the streets for a neighborhood search that closed Lake Street and South Boulevard and temporarily shut down the Green Line.

Police also searched every car of a parked Union Pacific train that stretched from Harlem Avenue to Austin Boulevard, after the two arrested individuals said they had ridden the train into Oak Park after their escape.

Oak Park Police rolled out its mobile command unit truck to coordinate the search. The truck was parked in the Pilgrim Church parking lot at Elmwood and Ridgeland avenues, where on-board equipment allowed police to communicate simultaneously with the many law enforcement units helping with the search.

Police scaled back their search at about 11 a.m. following information from the Cook County Sheriff's Department concerning the whereabouts of the remaining escapees, but are still maintaining a high presence throughout the community, a stance they say they will maintain until the other four escapees are apprehended.

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