



**Shelby Police Department
311 South Lafayette Street
Shelby, North Carolina 28151**



Press Release

To: Local Media Outlets
From: Jeff Ledford, Chief of Police
Date: March 27, 2015
Re: Armed Robbery

On March 27, 2015 at approximately 12:50 p.m. the Shelby Police Department responded to an Armed Robbery in progress at the CVS Pharmacy located at 1830 West Dixon Blvd. As officers were responding it was reported that a male suspect got into a blue in color mini-van driven by a female that was traveling west on Hwy 74. Officers quickly located the suspect vehicle as it was turning onto Old Boiling Springs Road off of Hwy 74. As officers were stopping the vehicle a male subject jumped from the vehicle and ran west into a field where he was taken into custody. Also taken into custody was the female driver of the van. Officers transported the two to the Shelby Police Department where they were interviewed regarding this Armed Robbery as well as another Armed Robbery that occurred at this same location on February 12, 2015. During both of these robberies the male suspect indicated he was armed and demanded narcotics from the pharmacy. No injuries were reported during either robbery.

The male suspect was identified as 52 year old Keith Allen Blanton of 103 Ramsgate Drive, Shelby, NC. Mr. Blanton was charged two counts of Robbery with A Dangerous Weapon and placed in the Cleveland County Detention Center under a \$40,000.00 secure bond. At this time no charges have been filed against the female driver of the van. This investigation is continuing with further charges possibly pending.

If you have any questions or information pertaining to this case, please contact Lieutenant Wray Hamrick at 704-484-7151 or the Shelby Police Department at (704) 484-6845.



Keith Allen Blanton – 52 years of age