

Police investigate not so merry pharmacy robberies

Investigators with the York Regional Police Hold-Up Unit are seeking public assistance in identifying suspects in a pair of pharmacy robberies in King. Suspects tarnished Santa's name in the process.

On Monday, Dec. 12, shortly after 7 p.m., officers attended a pharmacy located in the area of King Road and Banner Lane, following reports of a robbery. A lone male suspect entered the pharmacy where he went to the prescriptions counter and demanded cash and prescription medication. The employee complied and the suspect fled the store on foot. No one was physically injured. Responding officers searched the area but were unable to locate the suspect. He's described as male, white, 20 to 30 years old, 5' 8" with a medium build. He was wearing a Santa hat and white beard and carrying a red duffel bag.

The investigation is ongoing.

On Wednesday, Dec. 7, at approximately 1:05 p.m., officers were called to a pharmacy in the area of King Road and Highway 27, following reports of a robbery. A lone male suspect entered the pharmacy via the rear door, where he went to the prescriptions counter. He indicated he had a gun and removed a quantity of prescription drugs, then left the store. No one was physically injured. Responding officers searched the area but were unable to locate the suspect.

The suspect is described as male, white, dark beard, 25 to 30 years, 5' 8" with a medium build. He was wearing a Santa hat and white beard, grey sweater with coloured stripes, green pants, gloves and construction type boots.

Investigators from the Hold-Up Unit remind business owners of the importance of maintaining and updating video surveillance equipment. Quality images help to identify suspects, can aid in arrests and have a tremendous impact during court proceedings. Anyone with information is asked to contact the #2 District Criminal Investigations Bureau at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7241; Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS, or leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com. You can also text your tip to CRIMES (274637) starting with the word YORK.