



Third Teen Charged in Armed Robbery, Carjacking in Lakeland

A Lakeland teenager is accused of using a sawed-off shotgun to rob a check-cashing business of an estimated \$55,300 with three others and escaping in an employee's vehicle.

LAKELAND | A Lakeland teenager is accused of using a sawed-off shotgun to rob a check-cashing business of an estimated \$55,300 with three others and escaping in an employee's vehicle. Tyren Malik Sanders, 18, told detectives Friday about his role in the March robbery, according to his arrest report. Lakeland police officers have also charged brothers Don'Tae and Da'Vonta Williamson, also teenagers, in the crime.

While speaking to detectives at the Polk County Jail, Sanders identified himself in security video stills taken from the business, Check Cashing & More at 425 W. Memorial Blvd, his arrest report says. He pointed himself out among four men — all masked in bandanas — who entered the shop the night of March 6 and robbed it at gunpoint.

Surveillance video shows Sanders approaching a man, identified as a Check Cashing & More employee, in the parking lot and putting the sawed-off shotgun in his face, according to the report. The teenager grabbed the employee by the shirt and pulled him into the business. After the suspects took the money, they demanded the employee's car keys. Police found the vehicle at Atline Road and West Ninth Street in Lakeland.

According to his arrest report, Sanders told detectives he used the shotgun because he "wasn't thinking right." Sanders told them he got about \$7,000 to \$8,000 from the robbery. Detectives charged Sanders, who lives at 111 W. 14th St. in Lakeland, with grand theft, car jacking and possession of a short-barrelled shotgun, among other felony charges.

The Williamson brothers were charged March 12 after police searched their bedrooms. Da'Vonta Williamson, 17, had \$17,720 in cash on top of and under his bed, according to Sanders' arrest report.

Don'Tae Williamson, 16, had a loaded sawed-off shotgun and clothing officers think was worn during the crime.

Days before the search, officers found Don'Tae Williamson riding a dirt bike that had been purchased in cash from Fun Bike Center in Lakeland, the reports says.

The business had posted a photo of him with the bike on Facebook, and he wore a hoodie like that worn in the robbery.

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