



Warren C. Evans
Sheriff

News Release

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Deputies nab carjacking suspect during college class teaching him how to remove ignitions

You can't make up this stuff.

Wayne County Sheriff's Deputies, with an assist from staff at the Wayne County Community College District, this week arrested a 19-year-old Detroit man on a carjacking warrant - at the very moment he was learning how to remove vehicle ignitions as part of a mechanic's class he was taking, Sheriff Warren Evans announced today.

Officers working out of the Sheriff's training center, which happens to be located on WCCCD's downriver campus, made the arrest on Tuesday after being contacted by a fellow deputy who works with a joint Sheriff-US Marshal fugitive apprehension team. That officer informed the training unit deputies that the suspect, Osbie Jackson, was believed to be in a vehicle repair class at the campus that would let out before they could arrive. The training unit officers, working with college staff, confirmed Jackson's attendance, located the classroom, identified possible exits and quietly took him into custody, Evans said.

"This is one very clear benefit of the working partnership we have with the college," Evans said. "If we did not have officers at that location, the suspect could have gotten away, at least on this day, which would have allowed him to victimize someone else."

Jackson is alleged to have approached two women as they left the Cadieux Café on Detroit's east side on December 28th, rob them at gunpoint and drive off with one of the women's white Mercedes. Evans said that Detroit Police, who are investigating the carjacking, believe Jackson may be responsible for as many as two similar cases in recent weeks.

Evans said that circumstances of the arrest should not overshadow the severity of the crime.

"The details of the arrest make for a somewhat humorous story, but being the victim of a carjacking is no laughing matter," Evans said. "Far more significant than the irony within the arrest is the peace of mind the community can now have knowing that the suspect is in custody."

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Evans said it is unknown at this point whether Jackson may have been using the training he has received to dismantle the stolen cars and sell the parts, but it makes sense.

“Here is a guy who allegedly is stealing cars and at the same time learning how to take them apart,” Evans said. “It seems to point to a case of an individual using the proceeds of his illegal activity to pay for an education, only to further his illegal activity.”

Jackson is being held at the Wayne County jail and has been remanded without bond.