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Sheriff's Office Charges Suspect in Drug Store Robbery

Birmingham, Alabama 1/14/2010 - This past Sunday, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office patrol deputies responded to the 6500 block of Chandler Road in Clay and discovered 30 year old James Matthew Hobby of Pinson who reported he was shot by an armed intruder that fled after shooting him.

While the crime scene was being processed the deputies observed items leading them to believe there was a clandestine drug lab in Hobby's House. Narcotics Deputies responded and seized the dangerous items that were found to be components of a Clandestine Lab for manufacturing MDMA (Commonly Referred to as Ecstasy). In addition numerous Pharmacy Pill Bottles were located. The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Criminal Division identified these as being taken during local Pharmacy Robberies. Detectives discovered that Hobby has an extensive criminal history including theft and drug charges. Detectives believe that the shooting was in relation to the multiple drugs Hobby had in his house.

A Search Warrant was obtained and executed by the Sheriffs Office Criminal and Narcotics Divisions at the residence on 01-11-10. Investigators found and seized additional evidence related to the pharmacy robberies, and evidence of the clandestine lab.

Today the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office obtained an arrest warrant on Hobby for Pharmacy Robbery 1 with a \$50,000 Bond. In addition, further charges are expected from the drug evidence seized pending confirmation from Toxicology reports. Fultondale PD and the Shelby County Sheriff's Office are also seeking charges on the suspect for Drug store robberies in their jurisdictions and it is believed Hobby is responsible for as many as five Drug store robberies in various jurisdictions. Hobby who remains in the hospital due to his injuries will be transferred to the Jefferson County Jail upon release from the hospital. Following is the information on the robbery Hobby was charged with today.

Just after 12 noon on October 30, 2009, a w/m suspect dressed in a tan corduroy jacket, tan toboggan and aviator style sunglasses entered the Rite Aid Pharmacy on Alabama 75 in Pinson and robbed it at gunpoint of 10 bottles of Hydrocodone pills and fled the store on foot. it is unknown what kind of vehicle the suspect fled in.

About Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

The Jefferson County, Alabama Sheriff's Office is headed up by Sheriff Mike Hale. Sheriff Hale is committed to keeping communities and neighborhoods safe in Jefferson County.

For additional information or a sample copy, contact:

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