



Matthew Doughney
Chief of Police

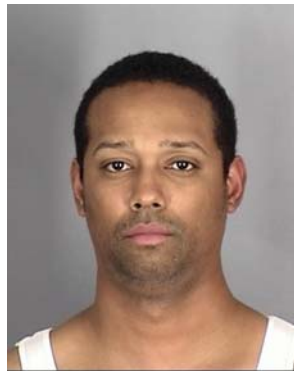
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MEDIA RELEASE

ROBBERY SUSPECT ARRESTED



The City of Avon Park Police Department is pleased to announce the arrest of the perpetrator responsible for the robbery of the Winn Dixie liquor store that occurred on Saturday, January 31st, 2009. This same perpetrator was also responsible for the robbery of the A1 Discount Beverage convenience store on Wednesday February 4th, 2009 as well as the robbery of the Highlands Apartments complex manager on Thursday February 5th, 2009.

The arrested perpetrator (pictured above) has been identified as W/H/M William Perez Costoso, 9-17-1976 of 237 West Shoreline Drive in Avon Park. Costoso was released from Florida State Prison on January 10, 2009 after serving a two (2) year sentence for robbery and he (Costoso) has cooperated with Detectives in the recent robbery investigations.

During his arrest, Costoso was found in possession of a device used to smoke crack cocaine. The smoking device tested positive for the presence of cocaine, which resulted in Costoso also being charged with possession of cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Detectives from Avon Park, working in conjunction with Detectives from the Polk County Sheriffs Office worked diligently on the case, and as a result of their efforts, Costoso was additionally charged by Polk County Sheriffs Detectives with two (2) separate robberies of a

Kangaroo convenience store located in South Lake Wales. The arrest of the suspect in these violent crimes and the clearance of these cases are a direct result of the diligent efforts of the Detectives involved in these investigations. Their dedication, attention to detail and teamwork was exemplary and resulted in the removal of a violent felon for our respective communities.