News Release

For Immediate Release
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Deputies Arrest Man in Connection with Attempted Robbery in Pueblo West

Pueblo, CO: Pueblo County Sheriff's detectives arrested a 47-year-old man in connection with an attempted armed robbery of the Pueblo West Dairy Queen Monday afternoon.

Deputies responded to the Dairy Queen, 118 S. Tiffany Drive, at about 4:30 p.m. on the report of an armed robbery. When deputies arrived, they learned that a man had entered the business and passed a note to an employee demanding money. The man took out a gun from his waistband and showed it to the employees, but then he quickly left the business without any money. Witnesses said the suspect was seen getting into a white truck with U-Haul decals and leaving west on West Spaulding Avenue.

A short time later, deputies saw a truck matching the description of the suspect vehicle traveling more than 100 mph northbound on Interstate 25 near mile marker 108. Deputies initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle. The driver pulled over and a man riding in the truck got out. The driver took off northbound on Interstate 25 into El Paso County, where he was later stopped by law enforcement. The man that got out of the truck, identified as Jay Hemphill, was quickly taken into custody by Pueblo County Sheriff's deputies.

Hemphill was questioned in connection with the attempted robbery and arrested for complicity to commit aggravated robbery. He was booked into the Pueblo County Jail.

A preliminary investigation determined that a suspicious person that was reported by employees at a nearby bank about an hour before the attempted robbery matched the description of the driver of the suspect vehicle. In that incident, the man was reported to have gotten into a white truck with U-Haul decals and leaving the bank parking lot about an hour before the attempted robbery.

The Pueblo County Sheriff's Office is working with authorities from El Paso County and Colorado State Patrol on this ongoing investigation. No further information will be released at this time.

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