



**City of Branson**  
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## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

**Date:** November 27, 2017  
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### **Attempted Armed Robbery & Carjacking – Suspects in Custody** **Additional Details Released by the Branson Police Department**

The Branson Police Department has released the names of two suspects taken into custody late Saturday night in a failed attempted robbery and carjacking. Arrested in the victim's car was Raymond Johnson Tatum (23) of Buffalo, Missouri. Minutes later the suspect who fled the scene and was captured and identified as Joshua Taylor Acord (25) of Springfield, Missouri. Both men have been charged with Robbery – 1<sup>st</sup> degree, Armed Criminal Action, and Unlawful Use of a Weapon. They are being held in the Taney County Jail on a \$100,000 bond.

Late Saturday night Branson Police received an initial call from a citizen reporting a subject trying to get into the passenger side of her vehicle. "As our police officer arrived in the area they actually rolled up on a carjacking in progress," stated Assistant Police Chief Eric Schmitt. The victim, an 18 year old female from Harrison, Arkansas, stated she was driving on Main Street when the suspects stepped in the driving lane in front of her vehicle. They pointed a handgun at her and demanded her vehicle. She was allowed to exit the vehicle, and the suspects both entered the vehicle. "A brave Samaritan pulled up behind and attempted to render assistance to the victim. He also fell victim as the handgun was pointed at him and the suspects then demanded his vehicle," stated Schmitt. Officers arrived on scene and one suspect fled the scene while the other was taken into custody.

Officers from the Branson Police Department, Taney County Sheriff's Office, and Missouri State Highway Patrol flooded the area with all available police units in efforts to find the armed suspect who had fled into a residential area. "Our police K-9 'Tygo' was deployed and tracked the suspect to the rear of a home where he

was found hiding under a deck,” stated Schmitt. The handguns were located and determined to be BB guns which were replicas of real handguns. No one was injured in the incident.

### Armed Robbery and Carjacking Suspects



Raymond Johnson Tatum (23) of Buffalo, Missouri



Joshua Taylor Acord (25) of Springfield, Missouri