

Bank Robbery Suspects Caught After Caldwell Car Chase and Crash

Written by Steve Frank
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Granite Falls--6:38am With lots of help from Caldwell citizens following a bank robbery Friday, two suspects are now in custody facing charges.

The First Citizens Bank at 27 Falls Avenue was held up at 4:30 p.m. Friday afternoon when a man walked into the bank, claimed to be armed and demanded money. He didn't show a weapon, but bank employees obeyed him, and he left with an undisclosed amount of money, according to Granite Falls Police. Police say a dark blue 2001 Oldsmobile Aurora was waiting for him, a woman inside, and the pair fled. The Hickory Record says a Hudson officer spotted the car on U.S. 321 and tried to make the traffic stop, but the driver took off and the officer gave chase.

The Oldsmobile crashed into another car near the intersection of Mission Road and US 321-A and the suspects ran.

Hudson Police officers caught Elizabeth Anne Greene, 47, of 33rd Street NE in Hickory and charged her with armed robbery but the driver got away.

Officers set up a perimeter and brought in Lenoir Police K-9 units to search for him.

Then came the tips from citizens that gave officers a play-by-play of the suspect's location and direction.

At about 9:45 p.m. officers from the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office, Granite Falls Police Department, and the Hudson Police Department caught Dontro Davon Powell, 31, of Gastonia, in the woods off US 321 near Mission Road.

He was arrested and charged with armed robbery and locked up in the Caldwell County jail under a \$500,000 secured bond.

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Greene's bond was set at \$75,000 secured.

Both suspects are scheduled to be in court Monday for their first appearance.