



Five teens arrested in violent robbery and carjacking; at least two will be charged as adults and face life in prison

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For 45 minutes, a Flint couple was "terrorized," according to police, after five teenagers ransacked their home and threatened to kill them.

During a press conference this morning, Genesee County Sheriff Robert Pickell and Flint Police Chief Al Lock, announced charges against the teens stemming from the Aug. 5 incident on Stevenson Street.

Police said a Flint couple were getting into their van about 11:30 p.m. when they were approached by five teenagers.

The teens forced the couple into their home at gunpoint, tied their hands and made them close their eyes.

For the next 45 minutes, Pickell said, the teens robbed the couple and beat the male victim over the head before stealing the couple's van. The man did not have serious injuries.

"It was a 45-minute reign of terror," Pickell said.

Five days later, police spotted the stolen van at Gundry Elementary School where several teens that are part of a street gang called the Hot Boyz, had met up with another gang to fight.

As police pulled up the teens fled, some of them in the stolen van, which police stopped nearby.

Several people were apprehended and during the next three days, police identified five teens, ranging from ages 14 to 16, who had been involved in the Aug. 5 robbery and carjacking.

Two of the teens have been charged as adults and face up to life in prison for charges such as carjacking, armed robbery, first-degree home invasion, larceny from a person and the use of a firearm during a felony. Officials have not yet released the names of those charged.

Police said they expect to charge the other three teens as adults with the same felonies.

"This is a sign of our times," Lock said of having such young suspects commit violent crimes. "Look at the games they play on video games and the music they are listening to."

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