

# MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT



Public Information Office  
400 N.W. 2 Ave., Room 220, Miami, Florida 33128  
(305) 603-6420



Subject: **MIAMI POLICE APPREHEND SUSPECT  
INVOLVED IN STRING OF JEWELRY THEFTS  
TARGETING ONLINE SELLERS**

The Miami Police Department's Robbery and Tactical Robbery Unit has apprehended David Fontanez-Gutierrez, D.O.B. 5/16/1991 who is being accused of victimizing multiple individuals by arranging meet-ups under the guise of purchasing jewelry through a popular mobile application, only to flee with the items without payment.

The suspect's modus operandi involved using a disposable phone number to contact sellers who advertised jewelry for sale on the app and would then arrange in-person meetings to inspect and potentially purchase the items. Once face-to-face with the victims, the suspect would seize the jewelry and flee the scene, leaving the sellers threatened and empty-handed.

Authorities are urging anyone who may have been targeted by the suspect to come forward and assist in the ongoing investigation. Sellers who have fallen prey to similar schemes are encouraged to exercise caution and prioritize safety when engaging in transactions with unfamiliar buyers.

It is highly recommended to utilize the Miami Police Department's safe exchange zone located in front of the headquarters station located at 400 N.W. 2 Avenue when conducting transactions with unknown individuals for buying or selling items.

Miami Police Chief Manny Morales commends the collaborative effort of the victims involved in providing valuable information that led to the suspect's apprehension. The diligent work of detectives and officers involved in this case highlights the commitment to ensuring the safety and security of all residents.

For more detailed information, please see the attached *redacted arrest affidavits*.

Anyone with information is urged to contact the Miami Police Department's Robbery Unit at (305) 603-6970. Those with information that wish to remain anonymous can contact Miami-Dade Crime Stoppers at (305) 471- TIPS (4877), visit [www.crimestoppersmiami.com](http://www.crimestoppersmiami.com) and select "Give a Tip" or Send a text message to 274637. Enter CSMD followed by the tip information and press send.

Prepared by: Ofc. K. Delva

Reviewed by: Capt. F. Cruz II and Asst. Chief Richard Perez

Case: 240517-0034310 / 240514-0033503 / 240428-0029287 / 240503-0030554

Transmittal Date: May 20, 2024

Manuel A. Morales, Chief of Police

NEWS RELEASE