



Township of Maplewood

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1618 SPRINGFIELD AVENUE

MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 07040-2414

TELEPHONE: 973-762-3402

FAX: 973-762-3513



ROBERT J. CIMINO
CHIEF OF POLICE

December 19, 2015

PRESS RELEASE

To: All Media Outlets
From: Captain Dawn Williams

On the December 18, 2015 at approximately 8:55 am, the Maplewood Police Department received a call from the Maplewood Middle School reporting a possible attempted Robbery involving a student.

The victim, a 13 year old male 8th grade student, reported he was approached by a male in the area of Valley Street and the Crescents who had asked him for money and to borrow his cell phone. When the victim refused, the actor threatened to injure him. The victim then fled to Maplewood Middle School and reported the incident.

The victim was able to provide a description of the actor and Maplewood Police Officers James DeFazio and Sean Gearren subsequently observed a subject matching the actor's description on Prospect Street. The individual was stopped by Officers and was subsequently positively identified as the actor and placed under arrest.

The actor, 18 year old Christopher Zapata from Belleville, NJ was arrested and charged for the Attempted Robbery. In addition, Zapata was found to be in possession of several bags of marijuana and charged with Possession of CDS (controlled dangerous substance) and Possession of CDS with the intent to distribute. Zapata was subsequently transported to the Essex County Correctional Facility.

There were no weapons involved in the incident and the victim was not injured.
There is no further information available at this time regarding the incident.