



Borough of State College  
"A Home Rule Municipality"

## STATE COLLEGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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JOHN F. GARDNER  
Chief of Police



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### MEDIA RELEASE

September 12, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 12, 2016

UPDATE: Bilal McGruder turned himself in to the State College Police Department on Saturday, September 10, 2016. McGruder is in Centre County Correctional Facility; his bail was set at \$250,000 straight.

### ROBBERY ARRESTS

On September 5, 2016, at approximately 3:35 AM the State College Police responded to the area of the 400 block of East Beaver Avenue near the intersection of Hetzel Street for an armed robbery that just occurred.

Officers arrived on scene and met with two male Penn State University students that reported they were just robbed at gunpoint. The two victims stated they were walking eastbound on East Beaver Avenue and just crossed over South Garner Street when they were approached by a black male that was initially walking toward them westbound. The suspect male changed directions and started walking with the two victims and attempted to engage in conversation. As the victims continued eastbound on the sidewalk on East Beaver Avenue they became alarmed at the suspect's behavior and crossed East Beaver Avenue near Park Hill Apartments at 478 East Beaver Avenue.

Once the two victims crossed to the north side of Beaver Avenue the suspect followed them and stopped the two victims demanding they empty their pockets while pulling out a semi-automatic handgun and displaying the gun toward the victims. The victims provided the suspect with their property from their pockets and the suspect ordered the victims turn around and walk away. The victim stated as they started to walk away they heard a gunshot and ran off.

Video evidence was reviewed in the area which revealed that there were two suspects involved in the Robbery. The first suspect, who was driving a white Honda, was identified on September 8, 2016, as Penn State Student Toure Williams (20). Williams was charged with Criminal Conspiracy to Commit Robbery and was arraigned before District Justice Carmine Prestia and placed in Centre County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$25,000 bail. The individual with the handgun was identified as Bilal McGruder (21) of

Philadelphia. An arrest warrant was obtained charging him with Robbery, Simple Assault, Reckless Endangerment, Theft and Access Device Fraud. McGruder is not a Penn State Student and his whereabouts are unknown. He is considered armed and dangerous. McGruder has been entered into the National Criminal Information Center (NCIC) as a wanted person. Anyone who comes in contact with McGruder or knows his whereabouts should contact their local police department. A photo of McGruder is attached to this release.

We are urging anyone who may have information regarding this incident to contact the State College Police Department at (814) 234-7150, by [email](#) or submit an [anonymous tip](#) through our website.

**SCP201606827**

**Lt. Keith C. Robb #3280**