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RESTAURANT ROBBERIES

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott announced today the investigation into a series of armed robberies spanning June 6, 2009 to August 1, 2009 and two states.

Sheriff Leon Lott stated that armed robbers have laid in wait until closing time and at gunpoint forced managers of seven restaurants to re-enter the businesses -- stealing money from the businesses and personal valuables of the employees. Sheriff Leon Lott stated that the robbers drive up to the location, as the manager is approaching their car to leave, and block the manager in with the suspect vehicle. Sheriff Leon Lott stated that all of the armed robberies occurred at closing time but involved different suspect vehicles - believed to be rental cars. Sheriff Leon Lott stated that it is believed that three suspects, all described as black males, are involved in the string of robberies.

Sheriff Leon Lott added that the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division Forensic Artist has been able to provide a sketch of what the suspects are believed to look like and that one of the robberies was captured on video surveillance (showing one of the suspects inside the business). Both the sketches, suspect vehicles and still photograph are shown below

Sheriff Leon Lott stated that anyone wishing to earn up to \$1000 cash reward for information leading to the identity of those responsible should call, texts or email your anonymous tips to Crimestoppers.

1-888-CRIME-SC

www.sccrimestoppers.com

Text "TIPSC plus your message" to CRIMES (274637)

POINT OF CONTACT: crimestoppers, 1-888-CRIME-SC, www.sccrimestoppers.com Sgt Kevin Isenhoward, Richland County SD 803-576-3073 (UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY//LAW ENFORCEMENT SENSITIVE)

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Sheriff Leon Lott added the time line for the robberies and specific vehicle descriptions:

- June 6, 2009 Chuck E Cheese 1775 Burning Tree Drive, Columbia + Red Hyundai Elantra
- June 20, 2009 Chuck E Cheese Dark Green Kia Rio ✦
- June 30, 2009 Chuck E Cheese + Dark four door sedan
- Kennesaw, Georgia

10102 Two Notch Road, Columbia

Columbiana Drive, Columbia

Augusta, Georgia

- July 4, 2009 Applebee's
- White Pick-up Truck
- Extended cab
- July 11, 2009 Texas Roadhouse
- White Chevrolet Malibu
- July 17, 2009 Chili's Lexington, South Carolina
- White Pick-up Truck
- Extended cab ✦
- August 1, 2009 Chili's
- Red Four Door vehicle ✦

Augusta, Georgia









The suspect on the left is the one who deputies say went inside the store. The one on the right is the person officers say drove the getaway car.





Lexington police released these sketches of the suspects

Similar vehicle to the one used in the crime.

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