

Loud car stereo sets off incident that ends on sour note

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By Brad W. Gary of the Tribune

Police say one suspect pulled gun, three arrested at Lewiston's Justice Apartments

It's a situation that may give pause to those who complain about the volume of their neighbor's music.

Lewiston police said Courtney Taylor confronted her neighbor Tuesday morning when he reportedly pulled up to the Justice Apartments with his car stereo blaring above a certain decibel level. A few minutes later, police said the 21-year-old woman had a gun pointed in her direction.

No one was injured, and the woman accused of brandishing the .380-caliber semiautomatic pistol was arrested on a pending charge of felony aggravated assault when Lewiston police and Nez Perce County sheriff's deputies arrived a short time later.

"If you have a problem with people playing loud music sometimes, be careful how you approach them," Lewiston police Sgt. Ted Piche said, "and don't hesitate to call law enforcement."

Tuesday's incident began at about 8:45 a.m., when police said 27-year-old Tony Haskel pulled up to the apartments on the 200 block of New Sixth Street and was confronted by Taylor over the volume of his stereo. Police believe Haskel then went into an apartment and told his girlfriend about the discussion, when she emerged from the building and allegedly pointed the firearm toward Taylor.

The girlfriend, identified by police as 27-year-old Miranda Robinson, was arrested a short time later after other residents of the building dialed 911.

Multiple police cars and officers swarmed the area, across the street from the Community Action Partnership food bank, because of what Piche called the volatile nature of the call.

"We were on scene within a minute and a half of the call, it unfolded pretty quickly," Piche said.

Detectives recovered the firearm and ammunition following the dispute. Robinson was being held in the Nez Perce County Jail without bond Tuesday night. Haskel and Taylor were also arrested on warrants unrelated to the dispute Tuesday, police said, though Haskel was no longer in custody later in the day.

Police could not immediately identify the music that was playing on Haskel's stereo.

Anyone with any information on the incident is asked to call the police department at (208) 746-0171.

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