Witness appeal after offlicence robbed twice in three days

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A police investigation is underway after the High Spirit offlicense on Slateford Road was robbed twice of three-figure sums on Saturday and Monday.

The first incident took place around 8.40pm on Saturday night when a man entered the shop, walked behind the counter and shoved a 22-year-old male shop assistant to the ground before stealing a three-figure sum from the till.

He is described as white, of medium build and with strawberry blond hair and was wearing a grey hooded top with white bands on the arms and dark colouring on the lower half of the sleeves and front pockets, along with grey jogging bottoms and grey trainers with white soles and a white dust mask.

Officers believe that he may have loitering in the area beforehand.

The second incident happened at around 9.45pm when a 45-year-old male worker was threatened by a man with a knife who then took cash from the till before making off down the steps towards Stewart Terrace.

The suspect is described as white, in his mid to late 20s, 5ft 8in, of solid build and with a pale complexion and slightly blotchy skin.

He was wearing a blue hooded top with dark blue sleeves and white bands on the arms, jeans, grey trainers and a woolly hat with a plastic bag covering the bottom of his face.

Detective Constable Kevin Walls said: "This is the second time in a matter of days this store has been targeted and we are working with the staff to provide all the relevant support and crime prevention advice.

"If you can help us identify the suspect, or remember seeing anything suspicious around the premises on Monday evening, then please contact police immediately.

"In addition, we would also urge those with any further information relevant to this inquiry to get in touch."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.