



The City of Palo Alto
Public Information Office

250 Hamilton Ave
Palo Alto, CA 94301

09/11/2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #091108

Subject : Two Victims Robbed in Three Days

Contact : Agent Dan Ryan, Palo Alto Police Department 408-406-1330
Anonymous-tip line, Palo Alto Police Department 650-329-2190

Palo Alto, CA - Palo Alto police responded to two robberies over the course of the last three days; both occurred near the 100 and 200 blocks of North California Avenue.

The first incident occurred at approximately 10:35 p.m., on Monday, September 8, 2008. A woman was walking eastbound in the pedestrian undercrossing from California Avenue to North California Avenue, when she noticed a man walking ahead of her. As she emerged from the undercrossing, the man turned about and confronted her. He demanded money and her cell phone, and the victim complied. He left on foot, eastbound on North California Avenue.

The suspect was described as a black male adult, approximately 45 years old, 5'6" tall and weighing 160 pounds. He wore a white towel wrapped around the top of his head. The victim reported this incident on Tuesday morning, and no other witnesses were located.

The second incident occurred at 9:35 p.m., on Wednesday, September 10. The victim was walking on North California Avenue, passing Bryant Street, when she saw a figure sitting in a parked vehicle on Bryant Street. After she passed the vehicle, the robber approached her from behind, and grabbed her purse forcefully from her shoulder. After struggling, the robber fled with the purse back to the car, and then drove westbound on North California Avenue.

The subject was described as dark-skinned, 5'10" to 6' tall, and weighing approximately 170 pounds. The robber wore a dark colored hooded sweatshirt and dark colored pants. The vehicle was described as a dark-colored, smaller, square-shaped sedan. An immediate area search proved fruitless in locating the suspect.

Police are actively investigating both incidents, and consulting with other nearby police agencies for other similar incidents. Anyone with any information about these crimes is asked to call our anonymous-tip line at 650-329-2190.

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