

**Press  
Release****The City of Palo Alto**  
Public Information Office250 Hamilton Ave  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

10/17/2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #10/17/2008

**Subject : Strong-arm Robber Snatches Purse Downtown****Contact :** Agent Dan Ryan 408-406-1330**Palo Alto, CA --** Palo Alto police responded to purse-snatch robbery Sunday night, October 17, at approximately 8:44 p.m., in the 200 block of Emerson St.

A 22 year-old woman was walking home from her Downtown work address when she was contacted by a black male subject riding a small, BMX style bicycle. After a brief conversation, the woman continued walking. The suspect rode up to her again, grabbed her by her blouse and then grabbed her purse. The robber fled around the corner and was last seen pedaling east on Hawthorne Avenue

The subject was described as a black male adult in his twenties, with an average height and build. He had no facial hair, wore a black hooded sweatshirt to conceal his face, and was in blue jeans.

A similar subject was detained within minutes of the robbery at 280 East O'Keefe, in East Palo Alto, by Palo Alto Police Deputy Chief Dennis Burns, after a brief foot chase. The man matched the suspect description from the recent robbery, but has not been positively linked to the robbery; however, the investigation is continuing. The man, identified as Anthony "Tone" Miller, a 30 year-old resident of East Palo Alto, was booked into the Santa Clara County Main Jail for resisting arrest..

Police are working around the clock to arrest those responsible for the recent string of street robberies in Palo Alto. Extra uniformed officers are patrolling the streets, as well as plainclothes officers. Additionally, deputies from both the Santa Clara and San Mateo County Sheriff's Offices are assisting local police with extra patrols and operations.

Police ask the public to be extra vigilant and also to immediately report any suspicious behavior or suspicious persons. Callers can phone 9-1-1, from either a cell phone or a land-line, within the City limits.

Anyone with a tip about the identity of these robbers may call Palo Alto's anonymous tip line at 650-329-2190.

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