

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

11/16/2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #111608

Subject : Strong-Armed Robber Attacks Woman Downtown**Contact :** Agent Dan Ryan, Palo Alto Police Department 408-406-1330

Palo Alto, CA - Police responded to the scene of a strong-arm robbery at 6:05 p.m. on Saturday night, 15 November, 2008. The robber accosted the woman, who was walking alone in the 600 block of Webster Street, and grabbed her backpack. He forcefully pushed the victim to the ground as he pulled the backpack from her shoulders. He fled on foot, and was last seen running east bound on Forest Avenue. A thorough search of the area failed to locate the suspect.

The robber was described as a black male, in his early forties. He is approximately 5' 10" tall and around 160 pounds, with brown eyes. He was bald, clean-shaven, and wore a quilted "puffy" black jacket and blue jeans. Police are still staffing extra patrols downtown, in the wake of an increase of recent street robberies, and are asking for the assistance of our citizens. Anyone who sees someone matching the appearance of the man in the attached sketch is asked to call 9-1-1, or 650-329-2413, immediately. Those wishing to leave an anonymous tip may call our tip-line at 650-329-2190.

The victim described his appearance to a police sketch artist, and the sketch is below.

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