



LODI POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jerry J. Adams, Chief of Police

215 West Elm Street
Lodi, CA 95240
209-333-6727 (Dispatch)
209-333-5515 (Fax)
www.lodi.gov/police

PRESS RELEASE

Release Date and Time: 08/07/06 1300

Subject #1: Armed Robbery

Subject #2: Rape Suspect in Custody

Contact: LPD Officer Dale Eubanks cell number (209) 329-3496.

Details #1: On 08/07/06 at approximately 0840 hours the Lakewood Drug Store (115 Lakewood Mall on N. Ham Lane) was robbed at gunpoint by a solo white male adult. The suspect entered the rear of the store and wandered around the pharmacy area. Shortly thereafter, he entered an "employees only" area behind the pharmacy and brandished a pistol. He put the gun to the back of one employees head and demand "Schedule 2" drugs. The employee told the suspect the schedule 2 drugs had not been delivered to the pharmacy. Meanwhile, another store employee saw the incident occurring so he pushed the panic button and called 911. The suspect remained in the drug store during his conversation with police, but fled out the back door approximately 2 minutes prior to the arrival of officers. No property was taken and none of the employees were injured. They were traumatized by the incident and assistance was offered. The suspect was described as a white male adult, height range of 5-10 to 6-00, approx. 175 pounds, age range of 20-25 years old. Last seen wearing a dark colored hooded sweater and dark colored pants.

Details #2: On 08/06/06 at approximately 1100 hours police officers were dispatched to the 400 block of E. Locust Street on a report of a man threatening to kill his family. Officers arrived and contacted several family members and the suspect, who still at the residence. The wife of the suspect said her husband, Faustino Mendoza, threatened to kill the family. As officers began to question suspect Faustino Mendoza he jumped off of a second story balcony and attempted to flee on foot. Officers chased the suspect approximately six blocks over fences and through back yards. Mendoza was hiding in a back yard as police approached. He tried to flee again, but was shot by a less lethal weapon on his right leg. The weapon was a bean-bag shotgun that discharges a small golf ball size bag that is designed to strike with blunt force. Mendoza sustained two broken ankles and several contusions as a result of the jump from the balcony.

Further investigation into the incident revealed that Mendoza raped his estranged wife the night prior by threatening her with a knife. Mendoza was taken into custody and charged with making terrorist threats, resisting arrest, disabling a telephone line, rape, domestic violence and brandishing of a knife. It was discovered that Mendoza was in the United States illegally so Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agents place an immigration hold on him.

Persons with information on this or any criminal case or activity are encouraged to call Lodi Area Crimestoppers at 209-333-6771. You may remain anonymous and be eligible for a cash reward.

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One Lodi Police Officer sustained an injury to knee while pursuing suspect Mendoza.



Faustino Mendoza

Anyone with information regarding the Lakewood Drugs robbery is urged to call the Lodi Police Department and ask for Detective Fritz. (209) 333-6727.

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