

Facebook Friend Request Leads to Robber's Arrest in New Bedford



Last night at approximately 6:30pm there was an attempted armed robbery at the Tienda Centro American store at 1527 Acushnet Ave. The suspect fled without stealing anything.

The lone male entered the store and brandished a small firearm. He demanded money from the register and the 15 yr. old clerk began screaming for her mother who was in the back room. She came out and both females began screaming at the suspect.

He attempted to gain entrance into the register but was unsuccessful. He then attempted to take the entire register but was unable to do so. It was at this time that he fled the business empty handed and was last seen running on Acushnet Ave.

Officers David Jorge and Thomas Chevalier were able to view surveillance video and immediately recognized the juvenile as

someone they have had dealings with in the past.

The 15 year old clerk also recognized this male as he had recently sent her a friend request on Facebook.

Approximately one hour later, members of the gang unit found the male walking in the area of Acushnet Ave. and Coffin Ave. wearing different clothing. He was brought back to the scene and positively identified by the victims.

The 16 yr. old juvenile will be arraigned this morning in New Bedford District Court for Attempted Armed robbery and Assault by Means of a dangerous weapon.

The alleged firearm has not been recovered.

Source: New Bedford Police Department