

BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MEDIA RELEASE

JERRY W. SMITH
SHERIFF-CORONER



DATE : 02-05-11

SUBJECT : Chico Robbery

RELEASED BY : Sergeant Derek Bell

CONTACT # : (530) 538-7321

On February 4, 2011 at 10:37 p.m. The Butte County Sheriff's Office received a report of a robbery that had just occurred at the Tower Mart located on W. East Ave. and Hwy 32 in Chico. According to clerks at the store, an adult male suspect approached a cash register, told the clerks he had a gun and demanded money; however, no weapon was seen. After obtaining an undisclosed amount of cash, the suspect fled the store running toward Hwy 32. Witnesses advised that the suspect had gotten into a smaller, dark colored vehicle that was parked on Hwy 32 and drove away westbound on Hwy 32.

Shortly after receiving the report of the robbery, officers from the Chico Police Department located a black Honda Accord at the intersection of Kennedy Ave. and Meridian Rd. The vehicle, which had no occupants inside, appeared to have been recently wrecked and was located in a ditch near an orchard. A perimeter of the area was quickly set up. Sheriff's deputies, along with officers and K9 units from Chico Police Department, conducted a thorough search of the area, but were unsuccessful. A FLIR unit (Forward Looking Infrared) was also utilized during the search, but still failed to locate any subject(s) in the area. As of this date, the suspect remains at large and no weapon has been recovered.

The suspect in this incident is described as a dark skinned adult male in his mid-thirties, approximately 6 ft. tall, 180 lbs. wearing a black t-shirt and dark pants. This investigation is still ongoing. Anyone who may have information related to this incident is urged to contact the Butte County Sheriff's Office at (530) 538-7321.