



# BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY



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## PRESS RELEASE

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### MAN SENTENCED IN CONNECTION WITH CHICO GAS STATION SHOOTING

A Chico man was sentenced today to 11 years and 8 months in state prison for charges stemming from a shooting at a Chico gas station last year.

Patrick Dowell-Rollins, 32, had previously pleaded no contest in Butte County Superior Court to counts of assault with a semiautomatic firearm, felon in possession of a firearm, and dissuading witnesses.

Butte County District Attorney Mike Ramsey said the charges stemmed from an incident on November 7, 2022, when a woman and her husband called 911 and reported they had just witnessed a shooting at a Mobile gas station on Longfellow Road and East 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue where they were filling their car tire with air.

Dowell-Rollins was seen on surveillance video pulling up to a fuel pump and filling the tank. At one point, Dowell-Rollins walked away from his car and out of view of the video. The couple was able to describe what was not captured on surveillance – that Dowell-Rollins walked up to a male when they heard a “pop.” Surveillance then showed Dowell-Rollins calmly walk back to his vehicle and drive away. When Chico police arrived at the scene, they located a 28-year-old male victim suffering from a gunshot wound to his left arm and a spent .45 caliber casing on the ground near where the couple heard the “pop.” The victim was uncooperative with the police.

The Chico Police SWAT team located and arrested Dowell-Rollins standing outside of a Chico residence on November 23, 2022. In a holster strapped to Dowell-Rollins’ chest, police located a loaded semiautomatic .45 caliber handgun. It was later forensically determined the spent casing at the gas station came from that handgun.

While in custody at the Butte County Jail awaiting a preliminary hearing where the reporting couple was expected to testify, Dowell-Rollins made a phone call to an outside associate requesting the witnesses and their relatives be contacted. A Chico Police detective intercepted the call and talked with the associate, foiling Dowell-Rollins' plan.

In sentencing Dowell-Rollins to the upper term, Judge Corie Caraway noted the seriousness of the present crimes and Dowell-Rollins’ previous criminal history of two prior felon-in-possession of firearm convictions along with numerous fleeing and resisting arrest convictions.

The crimes of assault with a firearm and dissuading witnesses both constitute “strikes” under California law. In any future cases, Dowell-Rollins will be subject to sentencing under California’s three-strikes law. The crime of dissuading added two years to Dowell-Rollins’ sentence.

Ramsey noted his office considers attempts to dissuade witnesses to be priority offenses and always vigorously prosecutes such attempts.

Since the plea, the victim of the shooting has died due to causes unrelated to the shooting.



Patrick Dowell-Rollins