



Fresno County Sheriff's Office

Margaret Mims, Sheriff **April 23, 2009**

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MEDIA ADVISORY: Victim Fights Off Would Be Robber

Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims today announced the arrest of a 24 year old southern California man in connection with an attempt robbery that occurred in Courthouse Park. Arrested was 24 year old Hugo Ernesto Samayoa.

The incident occurred yesterday afternoon just before 4:00pm when deputies responded to Courthouse Park regarding a robbery call.

The 63 year old female victim, who operates a food vendor cart on the west side of the park, reported that she was approached by [Samayoa]. She advised that Samayoa was holding two cell phones and asked if she wanted to buy one. She declined whereupon Samayoa rushed her and attempted to grab her apron which contained her daily sales cash. The victim was able to fight off Samayoa and keep him from taking her money. Samayoa then grabbed a bottle of water off of the cart and started to walk away. The victim then grabbed the bottle of water from Samayoa at which time he struck her in the head. The subject then fled the area.

A description of Samayoa was broadcast to responding deputies and County Security. A short time later, County Security spotted Samayoa on the Fulton Mall & Fresno St. The security guard was able to detain Samayoa until deputies arrived.

Samayoa was arrested and later booked into the Fresno County Jail on charges of robbery. The investigation also revealed that

Samayoa was on probation in Orange County for narcotics related charges. He was also charged with a probation violation.

The victim was not injured in the attack.