



CHICO POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

530-897-4900

TYPE OF INCIDENT:	Armed Robbery
LOCATION OF INCIDENT:	Money Saver- 1631 Park Avenue
DATE/TIME OCCURRED:	2/7/2016 1324 hrs
INCIDENT CASE NUMBER:	16-0978
VICTIM:	Money Saver
SUSPECT:	Walcott, Edward James III Age: 30 of Chico

On 2/7/2016 at 1324 hrs, Chico Police responded to a reported armed robbery at the Money Saver market at 1631 Park Avenue. While en-route, Dispatch received reports from witnesses indicating that the suspect had fled into an apartment at 107 W. 16th Street. A perimeter quickly formed around that apartment building. Further investigation revealed that the suspect had entered the market armed with a handgun. He had brandished the gun at the clerk and then taken the entire cash drawer before fleeing.

Officers used a public address system to call to the suspect to leave the apartment building. After approximately 90 minutes with no response from the suspect, the Chico Police Department SWAT team and Hostage Negotiation Team were called to the scene. Initially the teams focused their efforts on evacuating the 4 non-involved apartments and interviewing witnesses.

Chico Police Detectives responded to obtain a search warrant for the apartment where the suspect was believed to be holed up. In the mean-time, Officers continued to try to convince the suspect to exit the apartment to no avail. Eventually, tear gas was deployed into the apartment. Minutes later, at 1222 a.m. the suspect exited and was taken into custody.

Edward Walcott has been identified as the suspect in the robbery. An investigation is still ongoing, but a replica firearm believed to have been the weapon in the robbery has been recovered along with other items linking him to the crime.

The Chico Police Department would like to thank the Butte County Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol, CSUC Police, Butte Interagency Bomb Squad, Chico Park Rangers and Volunteers in Police Service for their assistance in bringing this incident to a peaceful ending.

Supervisor:

Watch Commander: R. Merrifield

Prepared By: R. Merrifield

Date/Time: 2/8/2016, 0215 hrs.