



PETER T. HANSEN, CHIEF OF POLICE

REDDING POLICE DEPARTMENT
1313 California Street, Redding, CA 96001-3396
530.225.4200 FAX 530.225.4553

PRESS RELEASE

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On Friday, November 27, 2009 at 10:07 p.m., police officers responded to a 911 call reporting a man with a knife inside the Wal-Mart Superstore located at 1515 Dana Drive. Redding Police Officer P. Harvey happened to be conducting a patrol check in the parking lot and was still on site when the call was received.

Officer Harvey learned that a plain-clothes security officer at Wal-Mart was detaining a suspect for stealing merchandise. The suspect pulled a knife from his pocket and thrust the knife toward the security officer and other employees while he made an escape. The suspect fled on foot and was last seen running through the south end of the Wal-Mart parking lot.

With the assistance of the California Highway Patrol helicopter, officers began scouring the area for the suspect. The California Highway Patrol helicopter officers spotted the suspect running west behind businesses along Highway 44. Redding Police ground units captured the suspect on Churn Creek Road at the Highway 44 overcross. Employees of Wal-Mart positively identified the suspect as their assailant. The suspect discarded clothing items and other evidence along the path of his escape. These items were recovered by Redding Police Canine "Yari" after the arrest.

The suspect was originally observed loading a shopping cart with numerous items of merchandise totaling more than \$1700. The suspect was pushing the cart out of the store without paying for any of the items when security detained him.

The suspect was identified as Robert Levi Stevens, 28 years, of Redding. He was booked into the Shasta County Jail for robbery and burglary.

Contact: Sergeant Jay Guterding
Field Operations
Redding Police Department
225-4200

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