News Release

Attempt to ID Buddha Bowls Robber

Isla Vista, Calif. – On Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 4:25 p.m., a man entered Buddha Bowls at 901 Embarcadero Del Mar in Isla Vista and asked the clerk for change for. When the clerk opened the register, the suspect demanded money and lifted his clothing to show a handgun tucked in his waistband. The suspect reached over the counter and grabbed cash from the register before running out of the store and southbound on Embarcadero Del Mar.

Surveillance video shows the suspect casing the area for several minutes prior to the robbery. In the video, the suspect walks with a wide gait, swinging his arms dramatically in a strutting manner. He was wearing dark tennis shoes with white trim, a dark zip-up hooded sweatshirt with a white undershirt, and a dark distinctive “bucket hat.” He is described as being Hispanic, Black, or Pacific Islander, 25-40 years old, with a large build and weighing around 220 pounds.

The Sheriff’s Office is requesting anyone that has information about this crime, or that can help identify the suspect, email Detective Maxwell at mrm4949@sbsheriff.org. You can also contact the Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s anonymous tip line at 805-681-4171 or visit our website.