

Suspect Photo Released in Armed Robbery

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Monday, 28 October 2013 06:03

Wilkesboro Police have released a still image—and a description of the suspect who robbed a Wilkesboro convenience store Thursday night, a man who fled into the night on foot. Police say they are looking for the white male with large build, about 40 years of age, with long straight black hair and a medium-length full black beard. The clerk described the suspect as a white male with a beard, wearing a baseball cap, gray hoodie and blue jeans. Getting the description, police searched the area of the Red Carpet Inn, where two witnesses had seen the suspect just after the robbery, but after interviewing several men at the Collegiate Drive inn, they determined they did not match the description of the suspect. Police say the suspect escaped with a white plastic bag that the clerk put the money into. The incident occurred at about 7:40 Thursday night at the College Park CITGO station on River Street, the clerk telling responding Wilkesboro Police that he had seen the man for the first time ever earlier in the evening when the suspect came in and went into the restroom an hour or two before the robbery. When he returned, he selected a two 24-oz beers, asked for two packs of cigarettes, and as the clerk opened the cash drawer, he produced a silver semi-automatic handgun and demanded the cash from the now open register. The suspect ordered the clerk to the floor, and after complying, the clerk waited for the sound of the door closing before hitting the hold-up alarm, then running to the door, locking it, then called 9-1-1.