



Hernando County Sheriff's Office

A STATE ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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Media Release

From: Corporal Wendy McGinnis
Public Information Officer, 352-754-6830

Re: Robber Snatches an Elderly Woman's Purse in Lakewood Plaza Parking Lot

Date: September 7, 2011

Case#: 2011-29884

On September 5, 2011, at approximately 5:10 pm, a 76 year-old female was walking from the Publix in Lake Wood Plaza toward her vehicle when someone snatched her purse. An unidentified white male, approximately 20 years-old, ran up from behind the elderly women and snatched her purse from her shoulder, knocking her to the ground. A witness advised that the suspect ran towards the east end of the plaza where he lost sight of the suspect who may have possibly gotten into a parked car and fled the area. The victim was checked by EMS and, although she had bruises from the fall, she felt that she would be okay.

The suspect was later observed on a store surveillance video. Please see photos below. The Hernando County Sheriff's Office is requesting help from the public in identifying this brazen criminal. If anyone recognizes this suspect, they are encouraged to call Detective George Loydgren at the Hernando County Sheriff's Office at 352-754-6830.

"This is a cowardly act, and we will not tolerate violent crimes against our citizens, especially our senior citizens" said Sheriff Al Nienhuis.

If you wish to remain anonymous or to be eligible for a reward, call the Hernando County Crime Stoppers toll free number 1-866-990-8477 or you may email your tip by clicking below.
<http://www.hernadosheriff.org/Tips/> **You may be eligible for a reward up to \$1,000.**

