

Razor-wielding man arrested in Walmart theft

by Cheryl McDermott

REDMOND, Ore. — A 36-year old man thought to be a California resident was arrested Friday afternoon after allegedly pulling a utility razor blade on employees as he attempted to leave the Redmond Walmart store without paying for a computer. He fled the scene on foot but was later apprehended, police reported.

Jason R. Melcado - DCJ photo According to Redmond Police Captain Dave Tarbet, Jason R. Melcado, possibly from Velleja, California, allegedly fled the store at 300 NW Oak Tree Lane on foot, and was followed by store security personnel who updated 911 dispatch operators with the suspect's location.

Melcado was observed discarding the weapon over a fence, Tarbet said. It was later recovered, and the computer was returned to the store.

Melcado was arrested and lodged in the Deschutes County Jail with bail set at \$448,734. He is charged with four counts each of first-degree robbery, unlawful use of a weapon and reckless endangering; first-degree theft, resisting arrest, and two outstanding warrants.

Captain Tarbet stated in a news release that police would like to speak with a Caucasian male, 50-60-years of age, who was wearing a red ball cap, tan coat and blue jeans as he stood near the main entrance doors at the time of the theft. This man may have been a witness or victim, Tarbet said. He, or anyone who may be able to identify him, is asked to contact Officer A. Wells at 541.504.3400.

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