



Chelan County Sheriff's Office

Brian Burnett, Sheriff

Law and Justice Bldg ★ 401 Washington Street #1 ★ Wenatchee, WA 98801
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For Immediate Release

Contact: Undersheriff Jason Mathews

Incident #: 16C08038

Phone: 509-667-6832

Date: July 14, 2016

<http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/sheriff>

Sheriff Brian Burnett reports on Wednesday, July 13 shortly before 10:30 p.m. Chelan County Deputies responded to a robbery in the parking lot of BeeBee Springs rest area in Chelan Falls, Washington. The victim reported he was hit over the head by a male suspect with an AK47 style rifle and then robbed of his wallet, phone, and vehicle. The suspects were last seen fleeing the scene toward Highway 97 in both the suspect's and victim's vehicles. The victim was transported by ambulance to Lake Chelan Community Hospital and treated for his injuries.

While conducting the initial interviews Deputies advised surrounding Police agencies of the incident and suspect's description, to include vehicle descriptions. A short time later Okanogan County Sheriff's Office called to notify us they located and detained the female suspect, Amber Hernandez, and her vehicle. Hernandez, a 30 year old female, is a resident of Omak, Washington. Hernandez was interviewed by Chelan County Sheriff's Deputies and later booked into Chelan County Regional Justice Center for Robbery and taking a motor vehicle without permission.

A short time later Okanogan County located the second suspect, Jose A. Lara Mendez, a 25 year old male also from Okanogan County, Washington. Mendez was also interviewed by Chelan County Sheriff's Deputies and he too was booked in jail for Robbery and taking a motor vehicle without permission.

During the investigation Deputies learned the victim made previous arrangements to meet with Hernandez in Chelan for a date. After two met, the victim got into Hernandez's vehicle and they drove to BeeBee Springs rest area. While there Hernandez activated the trunk release of her vehicle where Mendez was hiding. Mendez got out of the trunk with the rifle and confronted the victim. The victim was struck in the face with the rifle and then robbed. Both suspects then fled the area toward Okanogan County.

Integrity ★ Teamwork ★ Excellence

Jason Mathews
Undersheriff

★ **Dave Helvey** ★
Chief of Special Operations

Rick Johnson ★
Chief of Patrol

★ **Valerie Secrist** ★
Chief Civil Deputy

★ **Jan Brincat** ★
Executive Assistant



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Chelan County Sheriff's Detectives are still actively working the incident and executing a search warrant to locate the suspected rifle used in the crime. At this point in the investigation we believe all suspects are in custody.

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