



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Eureka Man Faces Up to Six Years in Violent Attack

On March 30, 2011, Nathan Tyler Trujillo, 18, of Eureka, pleaded guilty to second degree robbery and admitted to inflicting great bodily injury upon Herbert Bruner, a 49-year-old homeless man. Bruner suffered facial and skull fractures in the attack.

Per the plea agreement, Trujillo faces up to 6 years in prison and is scheduled to be sentenced by Superior Court Judge Timothy Cissna on May 4, 2011.

At approximately 7:15 p.m. on December 31, 2010, Eureka Police Officers were dispatched to the Target store after Bruner reported being assaulted in his homeless camp in the greenbelt area of Eureka. Bruner told officers that two subjects battered him with a piece of wood and that the pair stole his backpack, which contained approximately \$200 and a debit card.

Bruner had suffered a previous attack on December 23, 2010. After that incident he was contacted by Eureka Police, also at the Target store, and provided officers and Target security personnel with a description of the assailants. Target employees were then able to use still photos from their security cameras to tentatively identify Nathan Trujillo as an assailant. Target security was familiar with Trujillo due to a prior shoplifting related offense.

Eureka police suspected Trujillo in the second incident and arrested him on January 1, 2011. Following questioning, Trujillo admitted his role in the December 31, 2010 robbery.

This case was successfully prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Ben McLaughlin.