

CCSO requests public assistance in identifying robbery suspect

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Columbia County Sheriff's deputies are requesting assistance from the public in identifying a masked man who robbed a country store of an undisclosed amount of money over the weekend. Two in-store videos of the robbery have been released to the public to aid in determining the identity of the suspect.

On Saturday Deputies responded to the Alston Country Store and Video, 25239 Alston Rd., Rainier just before 7 p.m. after the store clerk reported that an unknown male robbed the store. The suspect told the clerk that he had a gun, but one was never seen. He was described as being in his late teens to early 20's, wearing a dark colored hooded sweatshirt, black knit mask, black shoes, and dark blue pants.

The suspect is thin, between 5'-10" - 6'00", white, male.

The suspect was last seen walking in the direction of Highway 30, toward the Alston Church.

A Portland Police K9 responded over an hour after the incident, but was not able to locate a suspect. The sheriff's office also obtained assistance from the Rainier, Clatskanie and State Police departments. Deputies and assisting officers cleared the scene at 1:17 AM.

"We are releasing the videos from the in-store cameras in hopes someone will recognize the dress and mannerisms of the suspect," said Sheriff Jeff Dickerson. Anyone with information regarding the suspect in this robbery is encouraged to call the sheriff's office citizen call line at (503) 369-4698 and leave as much detail as possible.

The investigation is ongoing.