



## BREMERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MINNESOTA MAN ARRESTED FOR ASSAULT AND STOLEN FIREARM**

Shortly before 8:00 am Tuesday morning, Bremerton Police officers were called to a report of an assault at the 7-11 Store at 802 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Police located a woman and her two children, along with an adult friend of the woman. The mother is a 37 year old from the Shelton area. She had been struck in the face by the suspect and suffered significant injuries. The male friend of the mother came to her aid and was subsequently also assaulted by the suspect. The male victim is a 35 year old man. The suspect had struck the male victim in the face with a handgun. The man had lacerations to his face which required medical treatment. Both victims were transported to Harrison Medical Center in Bremerton.

The suspect was located by officers a short distance away. He was identified as a 31 year old transient from Minnesota. Officers found blood evidence on the suspect's clothing and also found a handgun which had been listed as stolen. The suspect was arrested for Unlawful Possession of a Firearm; two counts of felony Assault in the Second Degree, and Possession of a Stolen Firearm. The suspect was booked into the Kitsap County Jail and is being held on \$750,000 bail.

The female victim reported having confronted the suspect as he walked by her on 6<sup>th</sup> Street this morning. She said she recognized him as the person who had stolen her phone the previous day. When she confronted the suspect, he allegedly struck her in the face with a closed fist. After the male friend of the victim witnessed the assault and attempted to come to her aid, the suspect then turned toward the male victim and reportedly struck the male in the face with a handgun. The children witnessed the assault and assisted the police with the suspect identification. The children were then reunited with their mother at Harrison Medical Center. Chief Steve Strachan credited responding officers with arresting the transient quickly, and taking him safely into custody.