



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Police charge suspect in Island Carousel robbery and assault

Howard County police have arrested a suspect in a robbery and assault incident that occurred at the Island Carousel in the Columbia Mall on Aug. 5.

Through a combination of leads and tips after police posted a witness video of the incident on social media, detectives identified the suspect as Ahleyah Marie Rockwell, 22, of Skyrock Court in Columbia. She was arrested Friday morning and charged with robbery, theft and multiple counts of assault.

Police learned through investigation that at approximately 4:00 p.m., a female carousel employee witnessed Rockwell reach into the register and steal cash. The employee confronted Rockwell, who then shoved the employee. A second carousel employee confronted Rockwell, who then grabbed that employee by the hair, pulled her to the ground and bit her hand. That employee, a 69-year-old female, was transported to the hospital with minor injuries. Rockwell also shoved a witness who attempted to intervene. The suspect then fled the mall through the food court.

Rockwell is expected to be processed through central booking this morning. A photo is not available for release.

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