

Senior hailed for strength, determination following violent robbery

By Brock Weir

A 35-year-old Sudbury man has been charged with a violent robbery of an 81-year-old woman at a local Bank of Montreal. Terrence Rocks faces robbery charges and was due at Newmarket's Ontario Court of Justice as The Auroran went to press this week. He was arrested Wednesday, August 2, at approximately 9.30 p.m. at a residence in Aurora.

On Monday, July 31, York Regional Police were called to a robbery at the Yonge and Wellington bank. The following morning, Police released images of the suspect captured on security cameras, with the video footage released the next day in the hopes of identifying the accused.

In the aftermath, York Regional Police Chief Eric Jolliffe described the victim as an inspiration.

"I am inspired by the strength and determination of this 81-year-old woman who experienced such a traumatic event but remained so calm and focused," he said. "The entire police service and the community is behind her and, through this teamwork, the man responsible can be held accountable for his actions."

Over the course of the case, investigators have determined the woman was using an automated teller machine to withdraw money. When the transaction was complete, Police say an unknown man approached the victim and tried to grab her money. The victim resisted and the man pushed her to the ground and stole her money.

The suspect fled the area on foot.

She was taken to hospital suffering from non-life-threatening injuries.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau at 1-866-876-5423 x7141, Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS, leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222TIPS.com, or text your tip to CRIMES (274637) starting with the word YORK.