

Security Officers Subdue Erratic Suspect at Division 2

(Nov. 10) It was a bizarre scene that greeted two MTA Security officers when they were summoned to the Division 2 transportation building.

A 6-foot, 300-pound man wearing carpet padding over his head was beating his head against the wall. The man, who appeared to be a transient, was non-responsive, uncooperative and incoherent. He told the officers he was hiding from people who were out to get him.

Senior Officer Rene Lopez and Officer Ronald Allen eventually walked the man, later identified as Ryon Alan Hill, 21, out of the building and tried to persuade him to leave the property. But, when Hill started to run into the path of a bus, the two officers detained and handcuffed him with the assistance of Senior Officer Miguel de la Cruz.

Turned over to the LAPD, Hill was identified as the leading suspect in a robbery and auto theft. Although documents found on Hill indicated he had once been a responsible person, according to Transit Security, he apparently had been on a rampage since sometime in October.

"Without the prompt actions by our security officers this incident could have become a lot more serious," said Daniel Cowden, director of Security. "With all the movements of our buses and other vehicles within our operating divisions this individual could have been seriously injured. Well done to the three officers."

Cowden encouraged employees to immediately call security at 922-7600 for assistance in such situations. MTA security, the LAPD or Sheriff's deputies will be dispatched to handle the incident.

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