

Woman steals beer, rampages in local Allsup's store

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A confrontation between a convenience store clerk and a woman wielding a knife has led to aggravated battery charges against an Albuquerque woman.

Amber Yazzie, 23, has also been charged with concealing her identity.

The incident began about midnight on June 27 when a clerk at the Allsup store, 112 Arnold St., said a woman came in and grabbed a pack of beer and began to leave the store without paying.

The clerk, Josiah Yazzie, refused to let her leave and finally she dropped the beer. But before she left, she reportedly punched the clerk in the jaw and then left.

The clerk said he saw three men get out of a car as Amber Yazzie walked back to the store, carrying a brass knuckle knife. She began punching the windows of the store. Josiah Yazzie said he felt the woman was no longer trying to steal beer, but was directing her anger toward him and he became afraid.

Josiah Yazzie said he went outside and the three men grabbed him and pushed him against the car as Amber Yazzie began slashing her knife back and forth in front of him. Josiah Yazzie said he defended himself with a trash can lid as Amber Yazzie said to the others to kill him.

One of the other men, however, said "let's go" and they all got in the car and left.

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Police began searching for the vehicle and soon found it with Amber Yazzie inside. When she was arrested, she gave police several different names and it took several hours before her true identity was confirmed. When that occurred, she was found also to have an outstanding warrant for her arrest.

Police said they also found a firearm in the vehicle close to where Robert Johnson was sitting. Johnson was reportedly intoxicated and was taken to the Gallup Detox Center.