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Jury Finds Perez Guilty of Second-Degree Felony Robbery; Using Tear Gas
People v. Victor Perez: Kern County Superior Court Case BF201186A

(Bakersfield) - Kern County District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer announced a robbery conviction today. On February 25, 2025, in a case prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Louis Jameson, a Kern County jury found Victor Perez guilty of second-degree robbery. Perez was also convicted of using tear gas on two victims, resisting arrest, and giving a false name to a peace officer. The court also found true that Perez had numerous prior misdemeanor convictions.

On September 12, 2024, Perez entered the Big Lots on Olive Dr in Bakersfield. There he pushed out a shopping cart full of items from the store without paying for any of them. A store employee and a security guard exited the store in an attempt to retrieve the shopping cart and items. One of the employees grabbed the shopping cart, attempting to pull it back. As the employees attempted to retrieve the store's property, Perez pulled out a can of mace and sprayed both of them in the face.

A bystander called 911 to report the robbery and the Kern County Sheriff's Department was dispatched to the Big Lots. Though information provided by the bystander, Deputies were able to locate Perez with the Big Lots items and quickly arrest him. When initially contacted, Perez ran away from Deputies and gave them a false name.

District Attorney Cynthia Zimmer commented: "Thieves are not only harming businesses but also endangering the safety of employees. This incident went beyond a simple robbery, involving multiple criminal acts that now make Perez eligible for prison."

Sentencing is set for March 27, 2025, before the Honorable Eric Bradshaw in Department 5 of the Kern County Superior Court. Perez faces up to 5 years in prison.

Victor Perez:

