

## Student Budget Protester Arrested for Robbery

Newark – After leaving school early to join thousands of other students in protesting Governor Christie's school budget cuts, Essex County sheriff's detectives today arrested a local high school student and charged him with robbery. Sheriff Armando Fontoura stated that sheriff's officers observed a large group of West Side High students surrounding a 54-year-old male who had been knocked to the ground near the intersection of 16th Avenue and South 6th Street shortly after noon.

A 15-year-old male suspect was standing over the victim demanding his cell phone and money. When the suspect spotted the officers he ran from the scene but was tackled to the ground.

"The suspect apparently used his time away from school not to protest school budget cuts but to participate in other, more nefarious, extra-curricular activities," Sheriff Fontoura noted.

The young suspect was charged with strong-armed robbery and resisting arrest. He was lodged in the Essex County Youth Facility where he awaits a hearing in Family Court.