

NCDJ Editing Exercise No. 2

PRINT COPY:

A robber confined to a wheelchair stole \$600 from a Phoenix woman this morning.

The robber, apparently suffering from cerebral palsy, pulled a knife on the woman as she was taking money out of an ATM, according to Phoenix police.

Shirley Wallace, 38, of Scottsdale, was getting the money out of the ATM for car repairs when the man approached her on his wheelchair.

“He looked like a regular handicapped man until he pulled out the knife,” Wallace said. “You wouldn’t expect a cripple to attack you like that.”

The robber was spastic and waving the knife around, Wallace said, and she decided to just give him the money.

“I didn’t know what he was going to do,” Wallace said.

After she handed over the \$600, the wheelchair-bound robber slowly wheeled himself away.

Police later caught up with the crippled man just a few blocks from the scene of the robbery. They identified him as 28-year-old John Waters of Tempe.

Phoenix police Sgt. Ron Brown said it's unclear why Waters robbed Wallace, and that he's not sure if his affliction had anything to do with it.