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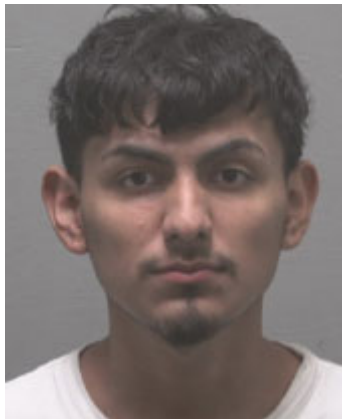
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Shooting and Attempted Robbery of THC Cartridge Lands 18-year-old in Prison

On December 17, 2025, Rodrigo Torres, age 18, pled guilty to Attempted Robbery with a Dangerous Weapon and Attempted Discharging a Firearm into an Occupied Dwelling. Judge Ricardo Jensen sentenced Torres to 64-101 months in prison.

On March 25, 2025, deputies with the New Hanover County Sheriff's Office responded to 5140 Carolina Beach Road in reference to a shooting. When deputies arrived, they located four spent shell casings outside of the residence and seven bullet holes on the side of the home. Through their investigation, detectives learned that one of the residents in the home agreed to sell Torres a THC cartridge. When Torres arrived at the home, he was accompanied by two masked men. Torres brandished a firearm and attempted to steal the THC cartridge. The victims retreated inside of their home and called 911. Torres and the other masked men fled the scene in a vehicle and, as the vehicle left the scene, multiple gun shots were fired from the vehicle, striking the residence. Torres was 17 years old at the time of the offense.

District Attorney Jason Smith commented, "Anytime a young person picks up a gun, the consequences can be life-altering – for the victims, the offender, and the community. Our office remains committed to addressing youth violence early and decisively, holding individuals accountable while working to prevent the cycle of violence that puts lives at risk."



Rodrigo Torres