

Robbery suspect got more than expected

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A man police say was trying to rob a Mountain View liquor store asked the cashier for money, but instead was handed the entire cash register and a pummeling with a baseball bat.

Police Friday arrested Frederick N. Jones, 31 of Anchorage, on charges of robbery and criminal mischief and two charges of assault.

Jones pleaded innocent to the felony charges Saturday in Anchorage Superior Court.

Police said the incident was reported at 10:58 p.m. by Uwe Kalenka, who was helping his brother Ralf, tend his side-by-side businesses, the Family Restaurant and the Plaza Liquor Store at 3519 Mountain View Drive.

Uwe Kalenka, a 46-year-old law student, had just stopped by

to visit and play cards when the suspect pulled up to the liquor store, said his brother Ralf Kalenka.

Ralf Kalenka was tending bar at the restaurant. He said he asked his brother to go see what the man needed.

The man asked for all the \$20 and \$50 bills in the cash register. He then put one hand in his pocket and threatened to pull a gun on Uwe Kalenka, his brother said.

Police said Uwe Kalenka was either too flustered or too crafty to open the cash register and fork over the bills. Instead, he handed the man the entire register, police said.

The suspect darted for the door, police said, but did not get far before he was jerked back by the register's electrical cord, which was still plugged in. The

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cord also jerked the cash box out of his hands, police said.

Meanwhile Uwe Kalenka had grabbed a baseball bat from beneath the counter, and set on the robber while his back was turned, his brother said.

Before long, Ralf Kalenka joined the fight, police said, and the two managed to wrestle the man to the ground.

Ralf Kalenka said his brother told him he knew how to operate the register, but pretended not to in order to trip up the suspect.

Only Ralf Kalenka reported an injury, and he said it was minor.

A state magistrate set Jones bail at \$11,500.