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Melbourne women carjacked on run to bank

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The victims of a violent carjacking in Melbourne were taking cash from their small business to the bank when their car was attacked, police say.

A woman suffered a broken nose when she and a companion were forced from their four-wheel drive in the attack at Springvale in the city's south-east.

Detective Senior Constable Andrew Spooner said the women were stopped at the corner of Springvale Road and Stephenson Street, about 1pm (AEST) on Tuesday, when a masked man opened the driver's door, punched the driver and pulled her from the car.

The man, who wore a balaclava, then ordered the female passenger from the vehicle, a gold Commonwealth Games edition Mitsubishi Pajero, before driving off.

Det Spooner said he was surprised by the violence of the attack, which left the driver with a broken nose.

"It's certainly not an ordinary run of the mill thing that would occur in Melbourne," Det Spooner said.

He said the women had been taking cash from her small business in Springvale to a nearby bank when the attack happened.

"It was a bank run," he said. "The exact amount of money that has gone missing we are unsure of."

He said police were unsure whether the attacker knew the women.

"It seemed quite strange that it occurred at one o'clock in the afternoon in Springvale," he added.

"Springvale being fairly busy and this person has been able to commit the offence at that time of the day.

"Hopefully, some passers-by who may have witnessed it (will come forward)."

Det Spooner has warned other business owners in the area to be vigilant when taking cash from their premises to the bank.

The attacker was described as being 180cm tall.

Anyone who witnessed the attack or who saw the Pajero, registration UQU 654, in the Springvale area between 1pm on Tuesday and 10.30am on Wednesday is asked to contact police.