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## Man abducts driver after stealing beer

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A man abducted a young driver to escape the scene of a failed theft at a liquor store outside Melbourne.

The man, believed to be in his 30s, stole three slabs of beer from a Safeway Liquor store in Werribee, southeast of Melbourne, about 5.30pm (AEDT) and put them in a waiting taxi, police say.

Store employees, who had tried to stop the man leaving the store, told the taxi driver not to move.

The failed thief ran off and unsuccessfully tried to stop a white VT Commodore in the car park, Victoria Police spokeswoman Marika Fengler said.

He then threatened the young driver, telling him he had a sharp weapon down his pants.

Police said no weapon was sighted.

The man abducted the 20-year-old driver and forced him to drive to Hoppers Crossing railway station and then fled.

The man is described as 183cm tall, with dark hair and wearing a black jacket, blue jeans and white shoes.

Police wish to speak to the taxi driver and the driver of the white VT Commodore.

Witnesses to the theft and abduction are urged to phone Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

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